



The Wirral Area

NEWSLETTER OF THE WIRRAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

SEPTEMBER 1979

From the Chairman...

Welcome to Season 1979/80 - new clubs this year (15th Boys Brigade, Birkenhead Land Registry, Mountwood, Victoria Hotel) swell our numbers to 84 teams in 7 divisions.

Insufficient entries for the new 3 a-side Premier division were received and it is with reluctance that we are forced to retain the 4 a-side 1st division again this year.

Will Secretaries kindly check that they have a copy of the current League Rules and preferably display a copy on Club Room Notice Boards. Requests for copies to Stan Wilkinson please.

A Rules sub committee will be reviewing the Cup Rules and it is hoped to put their recommendations en bloc to this year's AGM.

Any enquiries or suggestions to committee members please (details of whom are on page 1 of your handbook).

You may like to know that we meet monthly, usually on the first Monday in the month.

Any teams who do not wish to be entered for the Bill Lowe Shield please let me know before the end of September.

Good Luck,

ALAN TIMEWELL

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HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

1st Division: The (a) fixture will be filled by Birkenhead YMCA2.
Match night Tuesday.

ST. PETERS: Playing arrangements will be circulated as they become available.

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From the Secretary...

Once again it is the start of a new season, on your behalf I must welcome our new Chairman and the newly elected Committee Members. I reiterate the feelings of the Management Committee by thanking our retired Chairman, Don Collister for all his past services to the Wirral League, spanning many years. I'm sure we will be still meeting him on the other end of a table now and then.

As you will notice we have a full 7 divisions this year, we even have a waiting list of 1 club wishing to join our League, so all we want is another 9 or 10 teams and we can start division 8, any offers...

You will also notice that Norman Berry has taken back his former job as Fixture Secretary, for which I am very grateful, please help him with this unenviable job by sending your scorecards in promptly, also I must stress when registering players, this must be done in writing.

May I stress again that this is your Newsletter, if you have any news or comment, please forward it to me at 'Cherry Trees', Benty Heath Lane, Willaston, South Wirral, or ring me - 051-327 4221. The League has now a quantity of T.S.P. Table Tennis balls for sale at a discount price. Please contact Alan Timewell for your requirements.

We as a League have entered a team in the National League Championships, also a team from Upton Victory Hall are taking part in the National Club Championships. We will circulate details as they come to hand, we wish them well.

The Wirral League has again entered 2 men's teams, 1 junior team and 1 ladies team in the Lancashire & Cheshire League for this season, dates for these matches will be published throughout the season. We as a League are also competing in the 'Norman Cook Memorial Trophy', this is a handicapped event run by the Lancashire & Cheshire League. We also hope to run the 'Hard-bat' tournament again later in the season, as well as our own 'Closed Tournament' and the Cheshire Junior Open Tournament, so we are set for a busy season. We hope that there is something for everyone, so let's have your support to make it a successful and enjoyable season.

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LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE LEAGUE

1st Team - September 28th: at Capenhurst v Ashton-U-Lyme
October 19th: away v St. Helens 'A'

2nd Team - October 3rd: away v Oldham 'A'
October 26th: home v Widnes/Runcorn

Junior - September 28th: home v Manchester 'A'
October 26th: away v Blackburn

Ladies - September 28th: away v Ellesmere Port
October 19th: away v Bury

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ITEMS FROM E.T.T.A. BULLETIN No. 1/79/80

APPROVED BALLS

The following brands and grades of ball are the only ones which are licensed for the 1979/80 season:

Dunlop Barna Super 3-Crown and 2-Crown
Halex 3-Star and 2-Star
Peace 3-Star and 2-Star
T.S.P. 3-Star and 2-Star

(It is anticipated that application will be received for approval of the Nittaku 3-Star and 2-Star ball)

Members are reminded that only a brand and grade of ball licensed by the E.T.T.A. may be used in play within, between or organised by any organisations which are affiliated or in Good Standing.

B.R. RAIL CONCESSION

May we remind all organisers of Open Tournaments, junior County matches, area Coaching panels, etc., that the E.T.T.A. are able to provide Certificates of Identity which will allow members who are between 14 and 18 years of age to obtain fares at the Child (under 14) rate when travelling to events arranged under the auspices of the E.T.T.A. We need to know the name of the traveller, the departure and arrival station, and dates of travel. The certificate must then be signed by the traveller and handed to the booking clerk at the time of purchase. All enquiries to the E.T.T.A. office please.

PERMIT MEMBERS

Now known as Permit Holders, the system of registration has changed in that all members who were registered as a Permit Member for the 1978/79 season will remain in membership without any further payment of fees. In future, the registration fee will be £5.00 but annual renewal will not be required as the permit will remain in force so long as the holder is in membership with the E.T.T.A.

The Rule still remains that any member earning money from his skill at table tennis, such as coaching, should hold a permit so to do. Application forms are available on request.

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HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS (Contd)

4th Division: Please delete Birkenhead YMCA2
Pinewood 4 will take over Birkenhead YMCA2 fixtures

7th Division: F.I.L. will take over 15th B.B. fixtures
F.I.L. Dock Road South, Bromborough.
Sec. F.J.Roberts, 89 Willmer Road, Higher Tranmere.
(Home) 652 1835. Match Night Tuesday.

6th Division: A new club VICTORIA HOTEL will take over
Pinewood 4's fixtures, details as under:
Victoria Hotel, Leasowe Leisure Centre,
Twickenham Drive, Leasowe.
Sec. T.Higgins, 16 Alexandra Court,
Wellington Road, New Brighton.
(Home) 639 6875. Match Night Wednesday.

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The Wirral Association

NEWSLETTER OF THE WIRRAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

OCTOBER 1979

This month's issue is going to be notable for the number of Handbook amendments. Some of these are only corrected 'phone numbers and the like... BUT ALL OF THEM ARE IMPORTANT so please enter them up NOW, even if they do not seem to affect you at the moment. Come a cup draw and it might save you and your opponents a wasted night.

The first two results I heard this season were five all draws in the prelim. cup rounds. Draws can be very inconvenient in cup matches, owing to the very tight schedule of rounds. It will be brought up at the next committee in October. I will propose that we should play for a result, that is count games and if necessary count points to achieve a result. This of course would be a temporary measure until the next A.G.M. I will report on what happens.

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ALF SNELSON

It is with regret that I report the death recently of Alf. He has until a few weeks ago held the position of Secretary of the N.A.L.G.O. Table Tennis section. My knowledge does not go back this far, but some say he has run the N.A.L.G.O. teams for 25 years; whether this is so or not it is certainly a long time. I had in my possession at the time of his death a tribute from the N.A.L.G.O. club on his retirement, sadly, events overtook us. We extend our sympathy to his family and are left to say rather belatedly, Thanks Alf.

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HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

2nd Div. St. Peters, Scout Hut, 80 Mark Rake, Bromborough.
Sec. N. Wilkinson, 8 Storrsdale Road, Liverpool 18.
724 2479 (H) 427 3120 (B). M/N Mon.

4th Div. Pinewood 4, match night changed to Friday.

5th Div. Egerton House Club Room back to...
22 Egerton Park, Rock Ferry.

4th Div. Wirral Gas 3. Match night changed from Tuesday to
MONDAY.

5th Div. Wallasey Y.M.C.A. to take over N.A.L.G.O. 4 fixtures.
Details as under:
Wallasey Y.M.C.A. Manor Road, Wallasey.
Sec. Steve Cox, 19 Burton Avenue, Wallasey.
639 1765 (H) 639 5733 (Club). Match night Friday.

6th Div. Pinewood 5. Match night changed to MONDAY.

7th Div. English Martyrs 4. Match night changed to MONDAY.

6th Div. Upton V. Hall 4. Sec. Mrs. R. Jones. 617 8109

CIVIC F. Sorrentino - 'phone number should read:
652 8766 (H) 647 7000 ext. 316 (B).

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MOSSLANDS & G.R.P.C.

As you may well know, these teams are mainly comprised of youngsters, as was mentioned last season they have to be out of their premises by 10 p.m. which is late enough for them to be out anyway, so could visiting teams please arrive in good time, preferably by 7 p.m.

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RESULTS

Lonsdale Cup Prelim.

BUSWAYS 2	3	ALDERLEY 3	7
M.F.B.	8	ENG. MART.	2
EGERTON	5	NESTON 4	5
F.I.L.	10	G.R.P.C.	0 W/O

CALDY

Please note that the 5th Team Captain (4th Div.) is...

Graham Ridgeway
52 Grammar School Lane
West Kirby 625 5857 (H)

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CONGRATULATIONS...

to Rob Bevan ranked No. 7 Junior in CHESHIRE

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We cull the following from '21 UP'

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR TABLE TENNIS

TWENTY-ONE POINTS TO SUCCESS

1. Remember first and foremost you are the most important player in the World. Nobody else matters.
2. Always play to win - at ALL costs.
3. Never turn up smartly dressed at matches. Only cissies do that.
4. If you are given a point which should be your opponent's, say nothing. The umpire is scoring, not you. If it is your turn to serve, it is as well to serve again as swiftly as possible, before the umpire has time to rectify the error.
5. If your opponent is given a point which in your opinion should be yours, let the umpire know in no uncertain manner. Under no circumstances should you allow yourself to be swindled.
6. If you are experiencing any trouble with your opponent's service, implore the umpire to watch it more carefully. Whether he is foul-serving or not doesn't matter. By your action you are sure to have unsettled him.
7. If you have a good foul-service, use it often. If the umpire has the nerve to pull you up, argue. If the umpire happens to be a player, remind him you may have the opportunity later on of umpiring one of his games, pointing out that you feel his service is open to question on its fairness.
8. Sometimes a point will occur which is open to question. Whether it was edge or side etc. These should be your points. Argue over them until you get them. Remember two or three points (or even ONE) can turn defeat into victory.

9. If you lose, never hesitate to make excuses. The net, edges, lighting, the floor, ball, table, net, umpiring - anything. Remember your opponent could not possibly have played better than you.
10. If you get a net or edge, grin broadly or laugh out loud. You are NOT sorry. Don't apologise. Then you are not a liar either.
11. If your opponent gets a net or edge - scowl, look at the lights or do anything you can to make him feel thoroughly uncomfortable.
12. Always turn up late for matches - it makes you look more important. But never turn up too late for refreshments.
13. Never attend any meeting to which you may be invited. But never hesitate to criticise any decisions which are made there.
14. Never play inferior players if you can avoid it. Remember playing them doesn't improve YOUR game.
15. When table tennis is the topic being discussed, monopolise it by talking about the only player who is of interest - you. Even if table tennis isn't being discussed you can soon switch it round.
16. If you aren't selected for any match tell all and sundry you have to be in the clique.
17. Never bother to help younger players by coaching or giving advice. Why should you? It is of no benefit to YOU.
18. Never help out by umpiring or anything of that nature. Remember you are a player and they are lucky to have you.
19. In a doubles game always make your partner adapt his game to suit yours. As the inferior player he should be pleased to be allowed to play with you.
20. One player can easily win a doubles - you. Never hesitate to take all the credit. One player can also lose a doubles - your partner. Pointing out his failings in front of everybody can do no harm.
21. Finally, when you win let the World know. A spot of exaggeration can do no harm. Forget your defeats.

(Signed) Sportsman of the Year

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