

NEWSLETTER OF THE VIRAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE
Editor:- Stan Wilkinson.
NOVEMBER 1981

## Secretaries note.

Some clubs have rightly complained to me about the short notice given to play matches in the 2 nd. round Lonsdale Cup.

Fortunately the blame must rest with those clubs who failed to forward scorecards for the previous round quickly and in some cases exceeded the 14 day period allowed in Rule 14B.

Needless to say C 1 fines have been presented to the clubs concerned. This situation is also true with League match score cards.

It would seem that my plea in the september Newsletter has fallen on stony ground in certain quarters and I must ask all to facilitate the smooth running of the League by letting me have the score cards quickly. A prestamped card taken to the match can be posted on the way home quite easily.

I rust also draw your attention once again to Rule 13(n) - postponements. These are only allowed where Cup matches clash with League matches or teams depleted by representative matches, although other reasons will be fairly cosidered by the League. I must be notified in writing (it does prevent a fl fine for failing to forward the scorecard) and the match played within 14 days If the original date.

Norman Berry has received several score cards already this season. If you must use them at least alter the address. Anybody who requires more cards gi jo me a ring - I still have some available.

The Junior Wirral first tean had a good start to the season with a $7-3$ win at home to Runcorn \& Widnes.

The steady attack of Andrew McCready proved too much for the young Runcorn side and Andy won his 3 singles with comparative ease.

John Hardy looked like doing the same after winning his first two and being a game ahead against Runcom's $\mathbb{N o}$ 3, all credit to his opponent though who, with a surprising change of gear, clinched the next 2 games.

Roger Butler won one of his singles and partnered Andy to win the doubles.

All in all a good win for the newly - formed Wirral tean although stiffer opposition is to be expected.
J.A.H.

## QLDHAM JUNIORS $V$ WIRRAL JUNIORS

The prediction of stiffer opposition was proved correct in the Juriors second match away to OIdhan.

John Hardy went on first against 01dham's No 1. Although Hardy played well, he was simply outclassed by a more skillfull and consistant opponent.

Ian Owen played vell in his first representative gene and had a good win over the opposing No 3 .

Although both McCready and Hardy missed chances against Oldham' s No 2, no one complained about the final result.

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\text { oldham 7, Wirral } 3 .
$$

J.A.I.

## MOUNTVOOD $V$ ALD.DRLEY 2

At what is undoubtedly the finest venue in the League, Mountwood played their first hone game of the season versus the young Alderley team. Ray Hayes began against Andy licCready but at the end of a close 3 setter Ray served off at 19-20 (0-1) Steve Green was next for Mountwood v Bob Wylie, and won a. good. tie, again in 3. Wark Bowen faced Paul Wilson and duly won 2 straight.

Wike Kong the left handed penholder opposed Billy Wardle the reigning Wirral and Liverpool Junior Champion, a fineset was eventually won by Billy who just managed to out hit Mike over 3 games. Mark played Bob next going dow 18 and 18 giving Alderley a $2-3$ hale time lead.

First doubles opened the second half with Mike \& Steve $v$ Bob \& Billy the former pairong twice coming back from the dead to win in 2 games (3-3)

Ray comfortably disposed of Paul to hail the tie of the night between the 2 No 1s Steve \& Biliy, a cracking to and fro struggle ensued, Billy eventually wiming in the third (4-4). A second doubles win for Mountwood ensured their first Division One point, and Mike made it two in beating Andy in the third again.

A very competitive encounter with a feir result。

$$
\text { Mountrood } 6 \text { Alderley 2, } 4
$$

## VIIC $V$ AID DRUIIY 4.

Civic first team entertained Alderley 4 in a division two match and first call involved the two number ones, Don Collister v Alan Cummed A steady first game just went Don's way 21-19 and he ran out a winner 21-15 in the second. IVext on were Steve Lunt and Paul Loftus, Following a comfortable finst gane to Steve he lost the second 19-21 but took the decider 21 - 13, Alderley' called Civics Ron Jones against $R$ ger Butler and another tight 3 setter saw Ron home after losing the first $21-23$. In the fourth set Pete Walsh opposed Tony Hughes and the third three geane set out of four went this time to Alderley. To round off the firgt half Steve lost in 3 to Alan (2-3)。 Ron had a good set with Tony and was just the steadier of the two, winning in tho third.

Peter Walsh gained a point for Civic when he overcame Paul Loftus second doubles secured the two points for Civic with Ron \& Don beating Paul \& Tony 2 straight. Pirst doubles saw Steve and Pete winning 10-21, 21-19,21-9 v Alan \& Roger.

To round off Don \& Roger played the best tie of the night, Don winning 21-18 in the third.

The end result being CIVIC $8 \quad \mathrm{~V}$ ALDERLITY $4,2$.

## 4

## B.B.B. 2 V BEBIIGTON Y.C. Division 7. 8.10. 81.

An air of expectancy hung over the room as the gladiators amed for the biggest sporting occasion since the last world cup.

Once we had arranged the seating for the capacity crowd (15 in all) plus piano in corner for half - time entertaiment, the match got under way. First set put P. Kelly and yours truly together which after a hard battle the B.B. won.

Then came our 'ace' the Rev. Melvyn Davies, who slogged through to win, losing another 21 lbs (pure sweat). Yours truly won again against Howillen. Then came one of the B.Bs master strokes, the introduction of the flashing blade of ' Hair Bear ' Smith, all 12 years of him together with 'Hot' (yours truly) by now thankful for 'Phylosan' playing, as a tean put the B.B. 4 up.
P. Fughes then proceeded to demolish Robbie ( $\mathbf{F}$ atso) McDonald, 11 fars old. Half - time 4-1 to 'B.B.' . Coffee \& bicuits, wake the Vicar up, Followed by final master stroke, send on Robbie (Fatso) again fed on 200 biscuits, promise of more if he won, YES ! he won, Hot
now out of pocket.
Beb. Y.C. then won 2 sets via P. Kelly, a trenendous battle, splendichny rallies, eventually won in the third against the Rev, and P. Hughes against 'Hair Bear' now the score was 5-3, could the 'B.B.' pulliit
off on were Beb Y.C. to draw level. Thanks to more good doubles play the Rev. \& Hair Bear won to make it 6-3.

The most exciting set was last won by L.Norman 2-1 against
Hair Bear 26-24 in the last gane, trenendous!
Well done ALI, hard lines Beb Y.C. there was very little in it, but a sporting match.

HOT.

PINEWOOD 2 1st. Division.
Home ma.tch night is now Tuesday not Thursday.

WIFRAL CLOSED TOUPNAMENT will be held on Sunday 28 th.

Feb 1982, Juniors please note that this clashes with
the Lancashire 2 star tournament. More nevs of the Closed later of course.

Choice of viewing next Friday 6th. November, WIRRAL first team at home to PRESTON match to be played at D.K.S. 7.30 pm .

WIRRAL second tean at home to BURY to be played at Capenhurst also at 7.30 pm.

WRRAL third tean is also playing at home on Fri
sorry I don't know the venues

Thanks for the contributions to this months letter keep them coming.

## ole a Minnab flong <br> NEWSLETTER OF THE VIRAL TABES PGUISS LIGGUQ

Editor:- Stan Wilkinson.
DECHUBMR 1981
Secretaries note.
Sou will recall that in the September issue I asked teams to cooperate with English Martyrs 3 in re-arranging their home fixtures as they clashed with two of their other teams.

So far all but two of these have been played and they are already scheduled to be completed before Christmas. I have been asked by George Barrow, secretary to thank all the team captains concemed for their co-operation. Well done !

As a consequence of playing the so games early, Inge fart. 3 have quite quite a number of free weeks available and would welcome friendly away matches.

Come on help them out-- only fth. or 7 th. Div. teams are requested to contact George or $\operatorname{Dog}(P)$ Barrow as they feel that they are outclassed in the 5th. as you will see from their record.

Those club (s) who have still not played their postponed matches yet, please note what can be done if you try $:!!$
G.R.P.C. Fth. Div.

Secretary is now Miss $\mathbb{K}$ Omond, details as for G.R.C.C.
CA ${ }^{\top}$ bY 2 and. Div. Team captain is now:- Pos.Sorgeant, 25 Forest Rd CALDY 3 Brad. Div. Team captain is now - - W, Baldwin, 8 Lloyd Drive,

RUIES. Pule $13 j$ - An error has now been discovered 1 st. line -
after 'any'. delete 'one'. This will now read ' in any
competition' which was the amendment passed at the last A.Gomo Apologies !

DUNLOP IANCASHTPE $2-$ SPAR OP CHAMPTONGHTPS 1982. These will be held at BRITISI AEroSPACE Lostock on Sat 6th. February 1982 Entry forms from P. Greenghields.

On a mercifully mild but wet night, at their Kingsway Stadium,
Wallasey Manor played Mountwood in the First Division, MARK BOWN saw wountwood off to a flier in the first set with GRAHAN WALIS, winning 21-5 in the forst game. In the second Graham provided sterner opposition and won 21-18, but Mark edged home 23-21 in the third after being match point down, ( $0-1$ ).

JOHN HARDY the home captain, called ROB BARKZR on $v$ IIIKE KONG the Ellesnere Fort Mens ' $A$ ' tean player. The Carbon Fibre Super Looper bat beat the Double Happiness Defender 21-7 in the first, then Rob started the second rather better with the help of a couple of netss, but Mike struck back with 2 nets in one rally followed by another in the next to make it 10-10, so after a tight set Rob was pipped 20-2 ( $0-2$ ).

Mike called the two No 1s JOHN PMMBRRTON $v$ STEVE GRBEN who is a Wirral Mens ' $B$ ' team player, a humdinger of a first game saw Steve 16-6 ahead and he won 21-9. In the second, although John played better, Steve proved more consistant with his hitting and won 21-13 (0-3)。

JOHN HARDY the Wirral Junior faced Mark, and here we had a duel of the tight bat grippers, both frequently adjusting their firm grip on the handle with their free hand, almost as if each was using a brand new Carbon Fibre and had no guarantee against breakages, Mark took the first and coasted home21-8 in the second (0-4).

RAY HAYPS, who by now was having doubts as to wether or not he was playing tonight, was called on to play Graham, Ray wielded his faithful Chester Barnes paddle to good effect winning the first 21-15 and the second 21-18. So at half-way Manor were trailing (0-5). First doubles was the next call and it saw the 2 Johns $v$ Steve \& Mike, this Mountwood combination, which should do well in this years closed tournaments locally, won by 2 games to $1(0-6)$ second doubles further compounded Manors situation ( $0-7$ ).

A whitewash was now looking a distinct possibility and John Pemberton was the first to try and avert that embarrasing predicament, but little was likes armour dented by John's infrequent forehand winners, indeed Mike hit on more than John and won 21-9,21-9. Next to try was John Hardy v Steve who, as it turned out, literally overpowered John with some prodigious looping \& hitting (0-9).

A last ditch attept was made by Rob against Ray, Rob with some excellent defence took the first 21-14 and a tighter 2nd game also went Robs way 21-16.

So the match went to Nountwood by a creditable Nine sets to One.

## G．R．C．C．V CIVIC 4．

Civic 4 usually an all Ladies tearn，scored their first League victory since their inception，and what a win it was．Placed 4 th from bottom of Div． 7 and havinga sets analysis of $\mathbb{F} .10$ and A． 20 they crushed G．R．C．C．the top team by 9 sets to 1．Admittedly the inclusion of Mr Jimmy Magor，who though confined to a wheelchair is still a force to be reckoned with（ he was world Paraplaegic champion in the nineteen sixties） might have affected the margin of the win，but even without him the Girls would still have scored a most creditable victory．

Remarkably the most emphatic win was scored by Denise Kong over Margie Haigh by 3－21，11－21，and this while Denise was under the handicap
being over 4 months pregnant．Linda \＆Rose Walsh also made magor
Intributions to the victory．A face saving consolation win was achieved by G．R．C．C＇s Brian Rich over Rose，but one camot detract from the Civics teans efforts which were overseen by that wily and useful campaigner Alf Hayes．

So look out you 1st．Division whizz kids，the Ladies are on the march：

## MOUNTWOOD 7 V PINEWOOD 3.

An understrength Pinewood（John Pennah with slipped disc and no Trevor Barraclough）were handsomely beaten by the up \＆coning young－ sters of Hountwood．Pinowood opened by calling on IFark（Clark Kent） Bowen against Gordon Attwell who won a steady game 21－12 in the 3 ra． $(0-1)$ ．liountwood threw caution to the wind and ordered on the two 1s， Where Steve Greens controlled loops proved too much for Gordon Exell Steve won the first game 16 and overcame the Wimal No． 4 21－18 after trailing 10－16（1－1）。

Ray Hayes then beat Fred Hepple in straight games leaving Micky
King）Kong to take on Gordon $\mathbb{E}_{0}$ who was too experienced for Micky and let him make all the mistakes（2－2）．Ray went back on against Bill Lowe（with sponge bat）and again the golden haired boy won．

Hicky got cevenge by overcoming Fred game 5 in the second（ $4-2$ ） and Steve increased the lead by hanmering Gordon A。 game 8 in the second after a close first game（5－2）。 Mark clinched it against Bill （back to hard bat）（6－2）leaving only the doubles for fun．Honours here were shared，though the two Gordons had to go extra time 22－20 26－24．

It must be pointed out that regulations forced Einewood to field． a team much weaker than they would have liked，especially as Rob Bevai was availablo，$A$ point to ponder over is that other sports would take diciplinany act ion against a club that did not field its strongest
team．More Jisoussion at the A．GoM．？

DIVISTON ONE
ALDERLEY
VIRRAL GAS
I OUNTWOOD
PINEWOOD
CALDY
ALDERLEY 2
ALDERLEY 3
NESTON
PINEWOOD 2
WALLASEY MANOR

| $P$ | $W$ | $I$ | $D$ | $F$ | $A$ | $P P S$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 53 | 17 | 13 |
| 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 42 | 8 | 9 |
| 7 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 40 | 30 | 3 |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 27 | 23 | 6 |
| 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 28 | 22 | 5 |
| 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 26 | 24 | 5 |
| 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 25 | 45 | 4 |
| 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 18 | 32 | 3 |
| 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 28 | 3 |
| 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 51 | 0 |

DIVISION TVO

CIVIC
N．C．L．T．C．
W．R．U．F．C．
PINEWOOD 3
ALDERLEY $\angle$
LEVER
N．A。I。G。C。
ST PETERS
TIOSSLANDS
CALDY 2
NEZTON 2

| 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 10 | 12 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 41 | 29 | 10 |
| 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 36 | 24 | 9 |
| 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 31 | 29 | 7 |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 30 | 20 | 6 |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 28 | 22 | 6 |
| 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 30 | 30 | 6 |
| 7 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 33 | 37 | 5 |
| 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 14 | 36 | 2 |
| 6 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 17 | 43 | 2 |
| 7 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 20 | 50 | 1 |

## DIVISIOI BHRHE

WIRRAL IAS 2
UPRON C．J．
N．A．I．G．O 2
ALDERLET 5
CIVIC 2
BUSWAYS
PINEWOOD 4
POSTA
WALI．MANOR 2
CALDY 3
INESTON 3

| 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 53 | 7 | 12 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 43 | 17 | 10 |
| 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 36 | 34 | 9 |
| 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 35 | 15 | 8 |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 34 | 26 | 8 |
| 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 26 | 34 | 5 |
| 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 18 | 32 | 4 |
| 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 15 | 3 |
| 5 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 16 | 34 | 1 |
| 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 13 | 37 | 0 |
| 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 11 | 49 | 0 |

DIVISION FOUR
ITNGIISH WARTYRS
FoI.I.
N.C.L.T.C. 2

CALDY 4
W.R.U.F.C 2

ALDERLEY 6
CALDY 5
POIICE
PINEWOOD 5
UPTON V.H.
ISTON 4

| $P$ | $W$ | $I$ | $D$ | $F$ | $\Lambda$ | $P M S$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 39 | 21 | 11 |
| 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 36 | 14 | 9 |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 33 | 27 | 8 |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 31 | 29 | 8 |
| 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 27 | 13 | 6 |
| 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 28 | 32 | 5 |
| 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 26 | 34 | 4 |
| 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 25 | 35 | 4 |
| 6 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 21 | 39 | 3 |
| 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 21 | 29 | 2 |
| 6 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 23 | 37 | 2 |

## DIVISION FIVE

| MOUNTWOOD 2 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 62 | 8 | 14 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| W.R.U.F.C 3 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 44 | 26 | 11 |
| EMVG。MARTYRS 2 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 48 | 32 | 10 |
| WIRRAL.GAS 3 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 43 | 27 | 9 |
| N.A.L.G.O 3 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 38 | 32 | 8 |
| WALI. YMCA | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 33 | 27 | 7 |
| CIVIC 3 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 29 | 31 | 7 |
| MARIIE | 7 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 33 | 37 | 7 |
| OXTON C.C. | 7 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 36 | 34 | 6 |
| EMG. MARTYRS 3 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 21 | 69 | 3 |
| B'HEAD L.R. | 6 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 16 | 44 | 2 |
| D.K.S. | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 17 | 53 | 0 |

## DIVISION SIX

TALL。 RERRIES

- $\operatorname{mRSEY}$ FIRP BRIG
W.R.U.F.C 4
IV.B.C.C.
B.B.B.

EGERTON
UPPON C.C. 2
CALDY 6
WATI MANOR 4
BEAUFORT
PIIVEWOOD 6
WALI MANOR 3

| 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 58 | 12 | 14 |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 54 | 16 | 14 |
| 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 36 | 34 | 9 |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 34 | 26 | 8 |
| 7 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 36 | 34 | 8 |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 27 | 23 | 6 |
| 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 30 | 20 | 4 |
| 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 30 | 30 | 4 |
| 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 20 | 30 | 3 |
| 7 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 17 | 53 | 2 |
| 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 12 | 38 | 0 |
| 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 44 | 0 |



## WTRRAL ':C' ' TEAM

On 25th. Nov, the ' 6 ' team made the long joumney to Glossop and. enjoyed an evening of fluctuating fortunes. The match started well for the "irral with Steve Green \& Dave Carlisle both wiming their first set comfortably to put Tirral in 2-0 lead. However, Glossop went on to win five out of the noxt six sets to put the score at 5-3 for Glossop.

Steve Green showed great character and determination and eventually beat A.Slinger the opposing No.2, 23-21in the third game and Dave Carlisle finished the evening in fine form to beat the Glossop No. 1 I. Foyle 24-22 and 21-5 to square the match 5 sets all.

## WIRRAL FIRST TEAM.

On Fri. 4th. Dec. Our first team had a conv ncing 10-0 win over a weakened Salford team. Can't really criticise any of them after a result like that, well done.

## UTRRAL 'B' TTAN

Also on this Fridey our 'B' team werc beating a strong Wacclesfield tean 6-4, Mainly due I believe to some outstanding play by Malc Modroy who won his 3 sets, Niel Roberts \& Gord. Exell each winning one set contributing to this good win.

Thanks to all the contributers this month, ploase keep it comings and holp to make the nowsletter more'nowsy'.

## WIRRAL JUMIOR 2nd．TEAM $v$ PRESPON JUNIOR 2nd TEAM．

The Wirral Juniors had a good start to the season by beating Preston 6－4 at home．
The first set invol ved Bemard Wentworth and A．Walmsley．Bernard took the set 2 straight（1－0），Then Ian Thomas lost to Preston No． 1 S，INorcross 9－21，18－21，（1－1）．Next on were Tony Bryan \＆Dolloss following a com－ fortable first game to Tony he lost the second 16－21 then lost the third 10－21．（1－2）．In the fourth set Ian beat Walrasley 21－17，21－19，to pull it back to 2 all．

Then Bemard went on and beat D．Moss 21－16，21－14，（3－2）The doubles nearly always plays an important part in the Lia $C$ League and that was proved right again．Ian \＆Bernard partnered togethr to beat Norcross \＆ Mo， 22 straight（4－2）．Tony Bryan then went on \＆played IVoroross who had the better of him \＆won $17 \& 14$ ．（ $4-3$ ）。

Ian secured a point for Wirral by beating Moss 17 \＆ 11 ．Tony Bryan now had to play Waimsley，Tony lost the first won the second \＆lost the third game $18(5-4)$ ．It all depended on the last game between the 2 ones Bernard \＆Norcross，The Wirral player won convincingly 10 \＆ 12.
WIRRAT JUNIOR 2nd．Team $V$ ETIESMERP PORT JUNIORS．
Ellesnere Port entertained the Wirral Team in a Div。 3 match．The first set involved Bemard．Wentworth v Steve Colclough，Steve took the first game 18 and then the second 24－22（0－1）．

Next on were Ian Owen \＆Steve Terry，after Ian had won the first game comfortably he lost the next 18，but took the decider game 16。（ $1-1$ ） then Wirrals Number 3 Tony Bryan lost to Ian Gerrard 15 c．18，（ $1-2$ ）

Bernard now played Steve Terry，Steve won the first easijy，then bernard hit back to win the set $15 \& 18$ ．（2－2），Steve C Iclozgh then beat Tony 2 straight $(2-3)$ ，in the doubles Ian \＆Bemard＂beat the two Steves in 2 games．

In the seventh set Ian Owen just managed to win over Ian Gerrard 19 （4－4）．third，（4－3）Steve Terry then beat Tony 18 again in the third， straight games．The last set saw Ian Owen go dow narrowly to Steve C． 21－13，21－23．
illesmere Port 6，Wirral 4．A veey exiting match with a fair result． B．W．

## II.A.L.G.O. 8 NESTON 11 2.

By poular request, your intrepid reporter is back agein, well stan Clayton threatencd to thump me if I didn't report this NALGO win, Don Beynon, rejoining the Neston boozers after Cyril Higbys departure to Oxton, dropped the first brick by calling the noble Essjay on before the first drop of his first pint had passed his lips, As regular readers mell know, Essjay doesn't function without at least 3 pints inside and Rich. Jones took full advantage.

Keith \& Ian Owen then had a ding dong battle with $K$. trying very hardto lose the first gamefrom a winning position but failingglosing the second comfortably but making amends by making a right pigs ear of the third, twice at match pointdown, Ianplayed a high rolland each t K. executed an elephantile entrechat and smashed the ball anywhere but on the table. Iangnaturally took his first match point. Don played Art Lampkin and proved that his years absence from the second tean had not robbed him of his most priceless asset- almost (but not quite) winning in the third. No, seriously, Don played well but Art dug out a couple of his specials( backswing begins in Bromborough and follow through ends in Birkenhead) at the vital monents. Robbie Lenihan then showed that ho hadn't lost last years habits, almost (but not quite) losing in the third to Stan Clayton. Fortunately for us, Stans special forchand which you know in going down the the line but your never ready for, wasn't working too well. Essjay, still suffering(only 2 pints down) then comfortably took the first game from Ian, but lost his way in the second, Despite allhis efforts, Ian had the bit between his teeth and took the third reasonably confortable.

Stan Clayton remembering our reaction to last years halves at half?time, then got them in (pints !). This totally unfair bit of gamesmanship took the gallant Neston lads aback and disaster followed disaster, Actually Ritchie beat Robbie (he always does) Stan beat Don (he always does) and K. had a mighty swish against Arthur. K \& Art have this private arrangement in which each wins one game easily and all hell is let loose in the third. Unfortunately K. forgot the seript in the third and let Art win easily. Ko not only lost the game but also his non-swearing record record this season(honest folks). Ritchie \& Stan then saw off Robbie \& Don without much difficulty. Only in the last set did $K \&$ Stan play anything likeVaguely resembling their normal form (sez he optimistically) and proved that a pair who know they are going to run into one another and tread on each others toesgwill beat a pair who do the same things but don't know they' re going to do it, Sorry no roor for part 2 where Neston improved their score to 4-6 in a league match, can be obtained from oditor for small feg....

