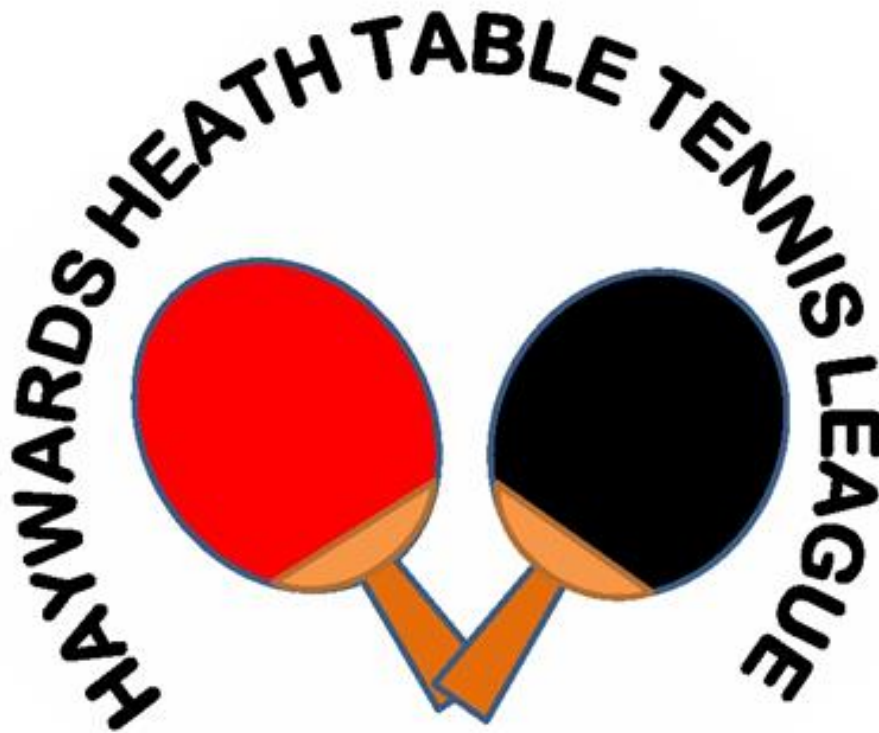


TOP SPIN

The magazine of the Haywards Heath
and District Table Tennis League



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Chairman's End of Season Report 2018 / 2019

The league continues to thrive; operating at the full capacity of the Warden Park main gym, and now has 23 teams across the 3 Divisions. The Premier division in particular has seen the arrival of new strong players increasing competitiveness.

Junior coaching has been particularly strong with several junior players now playing very successfully in the league and representing the County. At a recent County event 4 of the 5 players had been coached by Marc Burman. Keigo Burnham in particular has made substantial progress winning through to the semi finals at a national tournament, eventually losing to the England No 2, 1-3 with some great rallies.

This season the Premier division was won by Hang Em High, a team with strength in depth, comprising John Strang, Michael Bridger, Andrew Sharland and Graham Carter. John Strang, a junior who only started playing in the Premier Division last season ran out Hang Em High's top player with an 86% average. Last season's winners Haywards Heath Assassins, were narrowly edged out of second place by 4 points this season by St Andrews, comprising Michael Robinson, Brandon Bennett, Stuart Vincent and Terry Dean, who had won promotion last year from the First Division. On an individual basis Keigo Burnham was the best performing player with a 96% win rate marginally ahead of Marc Burman's 92%.

Division 1 result saw Thunderbolts, Jeff Triggs, Jim Griffin, David Metcalf and Vincent L'Estrange running out clear winners, 12 points ahead of their nearest rivals Spin Masters. Thunderbolts won 17 of their 21 matches, with Spin Masters, Paul Brinkhurst, Riccardo Bagaini, Claudio Bagaini, & Tommy Worley winning 12 matches. Jeff Triggs was top player in Division 1 with a 91% win rate. It's revealing to see the apparent gulf between each of the divisions, for example last season's promoted winners of the 2nd division were Magiks with a 100% win rate, however this season they struggled to achieve success. It's good to see Riccardo Bagaini, a junior, with an 84% win rate, finishing in 6th place in the division.

Division 2 clear winners were Pingwins, comprising David Polhill, Paul Lewis, Oliver Cattermole and Rupert Browning, winning all but one of their matches. Individually each of their players achieved in excess of a 75% win rate, with David Polhill achieving 98% in the Division, and over 50% in the 15 matches when playing up in the 1st Division. Runners up were Dangermen Tony Pells, Peter Vincent, Colin Cooper and Ron Bailham. It was good to see the steady improvement of the junior players, Johnny Griffiths, Claudia Hough, Josh Cole, Emily Dunsby, Chloe Robinson and Holly Cole which augurs well for the strength of the league going forward.

CONGRATULATIONS to all three teams. While the league is a friendly and sociable place to play, we must all be aware of the need to always show consideration to other players and avoid any ill feelings.

It's great to see so many youngsters coming through into the league and the help and support they are given by parents and other league players. All that wouldn't be possible, of course, without the work Brian and Lyle continue to put in to make the Sunday evening junior coaching sessions so well attended and successful. The standard of the juniors coming through is a credit to our team of qualified coaches, Marc Burman, Dennis Hayden and supported by John Burnham, Keigo Burnham and Andrew Sharland, Thank you to all these and others who have sacrificed their Sunday evenings to help secure the future of our League. It's with regret that we've seen the departure of our coach Tomas Pomej, who has moved to Germany in the light of Brexit.

However, a new coach has joined our team, Amila Thilakarathna ably assisting with Junior coaching.

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Considerable time is always needed to finalise the teams and divisions for the coming season. There's often difficulty to try and ensure competitive matches due to the late submission of final team details. Please can all team captains return their new team details promptly when requested.

During the summer John Bridger helped with our use of social media and advertising to attract new players to ensure we maintained a full match calendar. Thanks are due to all the committee as without their voluntary commitment the league would not function. The ceaseless work of Brian especially junior coaching and press relation is, I hope, appreciated by all. Steve Ive has taken to the role of Treasurer brilliantly and Lyle continues to assist and pass on all his experience and good advice. The remainder of the committee share responsibilities for over-seeing adult practice.

In particular, Jim Skinner and John Bridger, played important roles in managing the recent successful closed championship, which ran very smoothly and to time.

Matthew Caddy manages our web presence both via the free hosting service provided by Table Tennis England, TT365, used by most leagues to keep track of their results. Tony Pells acted as Secretary, and Cathy Seiderer has the crucial role of Social Secretary, among other things arranging the Presentation evening and also has the important role of Child Welfare Officer. John Bridger publishes the Handbook and the Top Spin magazine.

Thank you all for your hard work.

Looking forward, the committee really needs some new blood, so parents of young players and experienced players please take note and put your names forward to assist your committee with the running of the league for the next and future seasons.

I hope that you all enjoyed the season and that you will be back for some more in the autumn, in the meantime, have a good summer.

Colin Cooper, Chairman

Junior Report 2018 / 2019

Coaching Report:

Our league's junior coaching programme has significantly contributed to the development of the next generation of the leagues Table Tennis players. With back up from Brian Taite, Lyle Cyster and the committee, it has been admired across the county and something I am proud to be part of.

This season it has continued at healthy pace. We have had good numbers in the beginners, intermediate and advanced sessions with around 20 to 25 juniors attending every week. This season there have been 15 junior players playing for teams in the League, all of whom have graduated from the Sunday night Junior session.

Of those, Claudia Hough, Emily Dunsby, Keigo Burnham, and John Strang have regularly represented Sussex in the county championships this season.

As a result of the work myself and Dennis Hayden have done, ably assisted by John and Keigo Burnham and others, the future looks very bright with more promising juniors looking to join the league next year.

By Marc Burman

League Tables and Statistics – 2018 / 19

Premier division	<u>Pld</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Hang em High	21	17	1	3	66
Haywards Heath Assassins	21	15	2	4	58
St Andrews	21	13	3	5	58
Ping Panthers	21	12	3	6	53
White Lines	21	7	3	11	37
Dynamos	21	6	2	13	34
Game Changers	21	5	2	14	24
Dark Horses	21	1	0	20	6

Premier Division Player Averages

		<u>Pld</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>%</u>
Keigo Burnham	Haywards Hth Assassins	48	46	95.83
Marc Burman	Ping Panthers	60	55	91.67
John Strang	Hang em High	49	42	85.71
Michael Robinson	St Andrews	61	51	83.61
Brandon Bennett	St Andrews	30	25	83.33
Tom Pomej	Ping Panthers	21	17	80.95
Ben Worley	Haywards Hth Assassins	45	36	80.00
Micheal Bridger	Hang em High	49	36	73.47
Andrew Sharland	Hang em High	38	27	71.05
Sam Clarke	Ping Panthers	24	17	70.83
Sally Hughs	White Lines	54	36	66.67
Graham Beaney	White Lines	30	19	63.33
David Champneys	Haywards Hth Assassins	54	34	62.96
Stuart Vincent	St Andrews	21	12	57.14
Fawzi Yousif	Game changers	39	21	53.85
Richard Caddy	Dynamos	33	16	48.48
Matthew Caddy	Dynamos	51	24	47.06
Graham Carter	Hang em High	32	15	46.88
Jim Skinner	Game Changers	36	16	44.44
Rayar Jean Angelus	Game Changers	24	10	41.67
Richard Cousins	Dynamos	63	26	41.27
Alan Stone	Ping Panthers	24	9	37.50
Stuart Brookes	White Lines	57	21	36.84
Terry Dean	St Andrews	58	21	36.21
Lynne Trussel	Ping Panthers	48	16	33.33
John Burnham	Haywards Hth Assassins	18	6	33.33
Dennis Hayden	Dynamos	36	11	30.56
Charlie Hough	Haywards Hth Assassins	15	3	20.00
Charlie Usher	St Andrews	13	2	15.38
Michael Day	Game Changers	42	4	9.52
Simon Knivett	White Lines	12	1	8.33
Viv Cole	Dark Horses	41	3	7.32
Costas Kyriacou	Game changers	15	1	6.67
Ross Knowleson	Dark Horses	54	3	5.56
Steve Ive	Dark Horses	59	2	3.39
Ben Freeman	Dark Horses	20	0	0.00

Division 1	<u>Pld</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Lindfield Thunderbolts	21	17	3	1	70
Spin Masters	21	12	7	2	58
X Men	21	13	2	6	50
Mavericks	21	7	5	9	41
Happy days	21	6	4	11	37
One hit wonders	21	6	4	11	35
Burning rubber	21	6	2	13	30
Magiks	21	3	1	17	15

Division One Player Averages

		<u>Pld</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>%</u>
Jeff Triggs	Lindfield Thunderbolts	57	52	91.23
Bob Hoare	One hit wonders	51	46	90.20
Angus Ogg	X Men	51	46	90.20
Paul Brinkhurst	X Men	27	23	85.19
Thomas Bradshaw	Burning Rubber	13	11	84.62
Riccardo Bagaini	Spin Masters	57	48	84.21
Jim Griffin	Lindfield Thunderbolts	59	47	79.66
Nikita Kalyazin	Unattached	24	18	75.00
Bob Watson	Happy Days	45	33	73.33
Frank Hanley	One hit wonders	54	35	64.81
John Bridger	Mavericks	48	31	64.58
David Metcalfe	Lindfield Thunderbolts	50	31	62.00
Tom Christophersen	X Men	27	15	55.56
David Polhill	Pingwins	15	8	53.33
Darius Mayhew	Mavericks	54	27	50.00
Peter Caddy	X Men	57	28	49.12
Samantha Stoner	Happy days	55	26	47.27
Claudio Bagaini	Spin Masters	51	24	47.06
Steve Lee	Burning Rubber	63	27	42.86
Tommy Worley	Spin Masters	48	18	37.50
Kevin Deacon	Magiks	51	19	37.25
Blake Davies	Burning Rubber	38	12	31.58
Ian Sanders	Mavericks	30	9	30.00
Tony Turk	Magiks	27	8	29.63
Mel Simms	Magiks	54	15	27.78
Cathy Seiderer	Happy Days	37	10	27.03
Gavin Pitts	Burning Rubber	63	15	23.81
Peter Caddy	X Men	51	12	23.53
Vincent L Estrange	Lindfield Thunderbolts	14	3	21.43
Philip Harvey	Happy Days	38	8	21.05
Alistair Blue	Magiks	43	9	16.67
Alanna Blain	One hit wonders	57	6	10.53

Division Two

	Pld	W	D	L	Pts
Pingwins	18	17	0	1	68
Dangermen	18	12	1	5	51
Mad Batters	18	11	1	6	43
Blade Runners	18	7	2	9	31
New Avengers	18	7	0	11	23
Smashing Pumpkins	18	3	1	14	18
Swifts	18	3	1	14	18

Division Two Player Averages

		Pld	Won	%
David Polhill	Pingwins	45	44	97.78
Lyle Cister	Mad batters	30	29	96.67
Paul Lewis	Pingwins	48	46	95.83
Oliver Cattermole	Pingwins	21	18	85.71
Peter Vincent	Dangermen	27	21	77.78
Tony Pells	Dangermen	44	34	77.27
Rupert Browning	Pingwins	51	39	76.47
Johnny Griffiths	Mad batters	48	36	75.00
Rob Goff	New Avengers	39	27	69.23
Annick Lieuteud	Blade Runners	44	28	63.64
Colin Cooper	Dangermen	44	25	56.82
Keith Johnson	Blade Runners	47	25	53.19
Malcom Norwood	Blade Runners	23	12	52.17
Prevesh Ramnath	New Avengers	48	24	50.00
Claudia Hough	Swifts	45	21	46.67
Josh Cole	Mad batters	39	18	46.15
Ron Bailham	Dangermen	38	17	44.74
Emily Dunsby	Swifts	48	18	37.50
Oliver Howard	Smashing Pumpkins	51	19	37.25
Chloe Robinson	Swifts	45	9	20.00
Simon Howard	Smashing Pumpkins	36	7	19.44
Arthur Sharland	Mad batters	42	8	19.05
Matt Stevens	Smashing Pumpkins	48	7	14.58
Tom Sensier	Blade Runners	33	4	12.12
Martin Gallagher	New Avengers	45	5	11.11
Holly Cole	Mad batters	18	1	5.56
Danielle Sensier	New Avengers	33	0	0

The Haywards Heath Championships - 62nd Annual Closed Tournament –

Thanks go to Colin Cooper and Lyle Cyster with the administration and handicapping etc, help on the day by John Bridger and Brad Holt, and of course tournament secretary Jim Skinner. The Closed Championships held at Warden Park on Sunday 31st March was a fantastically well run table tennis event to end a very successful playing season.

Owing to the committee booking the Wooden Gym, the finals matches for the singles, veterans, and doubles were able to be played in a room with superior lighting facilities.

The Handicap event was as usual a fun sporting start to the feast of the day's table tennis. The eventual winner from excellent handicapping was Jeff Triggs with Michael Robinson runner up.

Top seed Keigo Burnham as expected took the junior singles title. The number two seed John Strang was unable to enter owing to other commitments. Juniors entered were Keigo, Oscar Wiseman, Chloe Robinson, Alanna Blain and Dan Polhill. After a tense and exciting battle it was Dan Polhill who came through to take the runner up spot.

Jeff Triggs gained his second trophy of the day when winning the divisional singles. Bob Watson a worthy runner up. Hopefully following on from this success Jeff will find a place in the Premier next season.

The Veteran Singles was won by the present trophy holder Andrew Sharland, and once again he beat a determined Dennis Hayden in the final.

Owing to more ladies playing in the league, for the first time in a number of years there was a ladies singles competition. It was played in a round robin group of five with Alanna Blain, Annick Lieutaud, Lynn Trussell, Sally Hughes and nine year old Chloe Robinson (*a future top county player?*) all participating. Following many close and exciting matches the eventual winner was Sally Hughes with Lynn Trussell the runner up.

All of these events were well supported with too many close matches to record individual details.

By the time the Ladies event had finished, the Championship Singles had reached the semi-final stage. And it was during the semi's that our champion for the last decade, Marc Burman, was knocked out (but not without a terrific see-saw battle) to an up and coming eighteen year old Brandon Bennett.

In the other semi-final sixteen year old Keigo Burnham had an exciting battle with Michael Bridger. Michael has been a great supporter and player of this league from an early age and has made the semi finals of this event many times, however he came up against the top player in the league who was in terrific form and it was Keigo who made the final.

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This final between Keigo Burnham and Brendon Bennett was a thrilling fast modern game of table tennis played in a very sporting way by both players. Keigo knew he had to be at his very best to win, and this he was, and this he did.

Marc Burman (who has coached both Michael and Keigo from the beginning) said he was glad he lost his title to such a worthy player.

Finally we come to the doubles and with eight pairings of players I must say it was one of the highlights of the day's table tennis. Each and every pair deserved to be the winner. In the final, the experience and guile of Marc Burman and Lynn Trussell could not match the speed and exuberance of the youthful Michael Bridger and Brendon Bennett who came out worthy winners of one of the strongest doubles championships the league has seen in years.

Well done to all players.
Brian Taite



This year we saw the re-introduction of our ladies competition

Senior British League

Two teams represented our club in the Senior British League this year.
Final league positions are shown below.

Seniors National League 2018/19 (C-5)

	Team	P	W	D	L	Points
1	Haywards Heath I	14	13	0	1	26
2	23 Technology	14	9	0	5	18
3	Horsham TTC	14	9	0	5	18
4	Horsham Blades II	14	8	0	5	16
5	Urban II	14	8	0	6	16
6	Ashford	14	7	0	7	14
7	Generation 2 II	14	1	0	13	2
8	Godal Simply 2	14	1	0	13	2

Seniors National League 2018/19 (C-6)

	Team	P	W	D	L	Points
1	Joola Plymouth III	14	14	0	0	28
2	Horsham Spinners II	14	11	0	3	22
3	Waterside II	14	9	0	5	18
4	Ravenscroft II	14	8	0	6	16
5	Foresters III	14	7	0	7	14
6	Newton Abbot ttc	14	5	0	9	10
7	Brighton City III	14	1	0	13	2
8	Haywards Heath II	14	1	0	13	2

Haywards Heath 1st Team British League report.

For those unfamiliar with the British League, for thirty years it's been the UK's foremost league competition and sits above local leagues throughout the country and has the strongest players in the UK playing in it.

Four years ago we entered a team into this premier competition starting in the bottom division. The aim was to give the up and coming junior players and the established premier adults the chance to compete on a national stage. Four seasons later, we now have two teams competing and this season the 1st team became champions of Div C hence earning promotion to Div B. It's some achievement as the standard is extremely high and to win any British League division is something to be proud of.

Both our teams competing in British League bar 1 player, are full of committed Haywards Heath league players and Juniors who have grown up through the league.

By Marc Burman

Roll of Honour 2018/19

Premier Division <small>winners</small> Hang em High Andrew Sharland Michael Bridger John Strang Graham Carter	First Division <small>winners</small> Lindfield Thunderbolts David Metcalfe Jim Griffin Jeff Triggs Vincent L'Estrange	Second division <small>winners</small> Pingwins Rupert Browning David Polhill Paul Lewis Oliver Cattermole
<small>runners up</small> St Andrews Terry Dean, Stuart Vincent Charlie Usher Brandon Bennett Michael Robinson	<small>runners up</small> Spin Masters Claudio Bagaini Riccardo Bagaini Tommy Worley Paul Brinkhurst	<small>runners up</small> Dangermen Colin Cooper Tony Pells Peter Vincent Ron Bailham
Closed Tournament Championship Singles Winner: Keigo Burnham Runner up: Brandon Bennett Divisional Singles Winner: Jeff Triggs Runner up: Bob Watson Veteran Singles Winner: Andrew Sharland Runner up: Dennis Hayden Junior singles Winner: Keigo Burnham Runner up: Dan Polhill Ladies Singles Winner: Sally Hughes Runner up: Lynne Trussell Handicap singles Winner: Jeff Triggs Runner up: Mike Robinson Doubles Winner: Michael Bridger / Brandon Bennett Runner up: Marc Burman / Lynne Trussell		Team Handicap Winners: St Andrews Terry Dean Stuart Vincent Charlie Usher Runner up: Burning Rubber Steve Lee David Polhill Gavin Pitts Doubles handicap Winners: Happy Days Sam Stoner Bob Watson Runner up: Spin Masters Riccardo Bagaini Claudio Bagaini Doubles consolation Winners: Blade Runners Annick Lieutaud Keith Johnson Runner up: Lindfield Thunderbolts Jeff Triggs Jim Griffin Ken Merrett Award Keigo Burnham.



our winners from the closed tournament

