**League Report**

**Courier 14th December**

**Colebridge A retained their lead in Division 1 despite being held to a draw when entertaining Rugby A. The visitors’ Adrian Pilgrim won his three and Ryan Lines added two, including an 11-9 in the 5th verdict over Paul Lenormand. The Brummies bounced back with two wins from Ben Willson and singles from Kate Hughes and Lenormand, Lenormand and Willson tieing the match with a doubles win. Another top clash resulted in Free Church A solidifying second place with a 7-3 success at 4th placed St Georges B. New recruit Sammy Kaye grabbed his second hat-trick from two matches for Church and Sam Weaving matched him. Dave Ramsey beat Ryan Stockham in 5 for the 7th point. Mark Jackson and Ron Vose both accounted for Ramsey in 5 and pocketed the doubles. Free Church B sit 5th and posted a 7-3 win over Wellesbourne. Lee Dorning won his three, Nikit Sajiv two and the pair teamed up for the doubles. Tom Brocklehurst defeated Awais Muhammed in 5 to make the Church win more emphatic. Gary Stewart (2) and John Price scored for the villagers. At the other end of the table Whitnash A sneaked a 6-4 victory at Nomads A with newcomer Tony Deren winning his three. Mark Woolerton won twice and Kevin Arris once. Simon Nolan included a fine straight sets win over Woolerton in his two and paired with Paul Rowan, who beat Arris, for the doubles. County Council B ensured Free Church D wouldn’t clear the relegation places when beating them 8-2. Simon Griew won his three, reserve Chris Brewer added two, as did Nilton Green though Livvy Fletcher took him to 11-9 in the 5th. Green and Griew won the doubles with Tom Hunt and James Robertson replying for Church. However, Free Church C put some daylight between themselves and relegation with a 7-3 success over Phoenix. Sam Wiggins was the star with a treble, Harry Purewal won two, losing in 5 to Taran Dhillon, and Charlotte Spencer took one. Purewal and Wiggins secured the doubles in 5. Dhillon and Mark Rose both beat Spencer. Phoenix had earlier struggled when facing Free Church B losing 9-1. Dhillon beat Nikit Sajiv in 5 but Ricardo Bolanos and Lee Dorning with maximums and Sajiv with two plus the doubles with Bolanos, wrapped the match up for Church. Finally, County Council B enjoyed a 7-3 win over Whitnash, Griew taking three plus the doubles with Green who added two. Reserve Chris Maiden won once. Woolerton (2) and Arris (1) won useful points.**

**In Division 2 the top two sides remain unstoppable. St Georges A turned up a player short against their C team but still grabbed the 7 points on offer through Damon Fenton and Earl Sweeney. They then beat Eathorpe A 8-2 with Fenton posting three, Russell Duncan and Matt Jordan braces and Fenton and Jordan winning the doubles. Mike Bridgman and Brain Hobill won singles for Eathorpe. County Council A are second but with a match in hand. They hammered Free Church F 9-1 with Paul Calloway (3), Pat McCabe (3) and Clive Irwin (2) plus a Calloway/McCabe doubles amassing the points. Lewis Singleton pipped Irwin 11-9in the 5th though Roald Myers was unfortunate to lose 12-10 in the 5th to Calloway and in 5 to Irwin. Eathorpe A are enjoying an up-turn in form which is taking them away from relegation. They slammed Nomads Enigmas 8-2 with Marius Morariu and Pete Titmas winning maximums and the doubles and Bernard Reman chipping in with one but losing to Malc Macfarlane and Steve Proctor. Free Church E are 4th but were held to a draw by Whitnash B despite a hat-trick from Chris Blowey. Emily Beasley and Josh Yarrow added singles but Whitnash forced stalemate with braces from Paul Riman and Greg Swan who also won the doubles. Whitnash B then faced third placed Millennium A but went down 7-3. Jack Shardlow won his three for the Banbury outfit, Peter Harris scored twice and Christian Ward once with Harris and Shardlow sealing the doubles. Paul Riman (2) and Dennis Woodhead (1) responded. Free Church E went on to whitewash Nomads Enigmas who are now bottom. Blowey was joined by Ian Beasley and Eduardo Bolanos to mop up the points. St Georges C are bottom but one but kept in touch with the team above them when drawing with County Council C. Brian Aston was Georges’ hero with a treble and Len Coonan added two. Mark Freeman ‘s two, Tony Ford’s single win in 5 over Colin Aston and Cliff Jackson’s single meant that the winning doubles from Freeman and Jackson guaranteed no winner. Rugby B beat Snitterfield A 7-3. Dan Burgess won his three and combined with Callum Ball (2) for the doubles with Peter Ratcliffe contributing two. Michael Klein’s two saw him beating Ball 11-9 in the 5th and Ratcliffe 12-10 in the 5th. Tim Fell also beat Ratcliffe.**

**Flavels A look increasingly like the team to beat in Division 3. Their most recent fixture resulted in a 9-1 win over Free Church G. Trevor Bradley and Shivam Kapur snaffled 7 of the points and Sam Bradley contributed two. Tom Yarrow scored Church’s consolation. Colebridge B still head the division but have played three more matches than Flavels in second. Their latest encounter was with Rugby D whom they beat 8-2. Michael Credland won his three and Riz Akbar posted two, as did Mike Evetts, Akbar and Evetts taking the doubles. Father and son, Stuart and Joe Mills, notched singles for the losing side. Rugby C are one of three teams level on 57 points after their 8-2 success over Nomads Enigmas. Sarah James and Martyn Lilley returned maximums and the doubles, with Jo Outhwaite making it 8. Les Hoggins and Kim Wong prevented a whitewash.Free Church G eased relegation worries after beating their I team 8-2. Tom Yarrow won his three and Milly Green and Ciara Hancox enjoyed two apiece. Green and Yarrow collected the doubles. Darren Laffey and Joe Shrimpton replied.**

**The runaway leaders in Division 4, Warwick University A, recorded another 10-0 win when facing Free Church K, Arslan Awan, Krysztof Bolhuis and Aaron Yan the trio responsible. Church K had a better time against Eathorpe D, winning 7-3. Mark Singleton starred for Church with three, George Barnes and Phil Booth helping with twos. Thomas Backhouse won two for the villagers and guided Jamaal Iqbal to the doubles. Nomads D overcame County Council E 9-1 thanks to trebles from Catherine McAuley and Mike Weaving and a brace from Jill Weaving who also claimed the doubles with McAuley. Jason Grey scored for Council. This put Nomads on level points in second with Rugby F and the points remained level after they clashed. Alex Bowe and Dan Farrow both won twice for the town team and combined to take the doubles. Janice Rowan and Mike Weaving won two apiece and McAuley added one but it could easily have gone the way of the wanderers with Farrow edging Rowan 11-9 in the 5th.**

**National Cadet League**

**Courier 14th December**

**Four young sides from Lillington Free Church Table-tennis club travelled to Wellingborough to compete on Day 2 of the National Cadet League. The A and B teams were in Division 1 which was dominated by the A team of the Corby Smash club who won all 5 matches 6-0. However, that apart, the Lillington club had a rewarding day. The A side beat Knighton Park of Leicester and Bedford Modern A 6-0 and Corby Smash B and their own B team 4-2 to earn second spot with 20 points. Eduardo Bolanos and Tom Yarrow returned averages of 70% and Eleanor Fletcher, the only girl playing in the top division, 60%. The B side suffered the two losses to Corby A and Lillington A but won their three remaining matches against Corby Smash B (5-1), and Bedford and Knighton Park (both 4-2). This gave them third place with 15 points. Nicholas Ho posted a 40% average, Joe Shrimpton won 30% and number three Chris Ho nabbed a great return of 80%, only losing to two Corby A players.**

**The C and D sides competed in Division 2, D having gained promotion from Division 3 on Day 1. The C team swept away their D side 6-0, defeated Bedford Modern B 5-1 and accounted for WDHA of Wellingborough and Rugby 4-2. Their only minor blemish came in a draw against third placed St Neots A but it did not prevent them from finishing top by 7 points, earning promotion in the process. The match against Rugby was of particular interest to locals. Rugby’s Matthew Burgess won two for his team but Dan Stone’s double reply to beat Jacob Clarke and Ollie Ferguson plus a win from George Barnes over Clarke and from Owain Jones over Ferguson, saw Church home. Jones and Stone recorded 80% averages and Barnes 55%.**

**The D side finished 5th of the 6 teams and will compete in Division 3 on Days 3 and 4. Nonetheless, they enjoyed two wins beating Bedford B 4-2 and Rugby, who finished 6th, by the same score. In the clash between the two local teams Nathan Jackson had an outstanding win over Burgess, allied to a win over Ferguson. Jun Chung and Erin Darwen both beat Clarke. With 9 of the 12 Lillington players eligible for this competition next season, the club was very proud of its players’ performances.**