**League Report**

**Courier 2nd December, 2016**

**The highlight of the week in Division 1 was the top of the table clash between Rugby A and Free Church A which resulted in a draw. England number 7 ranked veteran, Adrian Pilgrim, kept his own 100% record in Rugby’s cause, inflicting a first defeat of the season on 18 year old Lee Dorning. Pilgrim duly won his three and Ryan Lines added two but Church forced the stalemate through Dorning (2), Timmy Cooper (1) and Sam Weaving (1) plus a masterly display from Cooper and Dorning in the doubles. Colebridge A made ground on their two title rivals with a 9-1 defeat of Wellesbourne. Anthony Ellis and Ian Ferguson hit maximums and took the doubles with Mike Rinnhofer winning two but losing out to Alan Cotton. County Council B stayed in the top half with an emphatic 8-2 win over St Georges A. Simon Griew won his three and Martin Hunter and Murray Stevenson posted braces, with Stevenson joining Griew for the doubles. Damon Fenton and Matt Jordan were the Georges’ scorers. St Georges B sit 4th after squeezing past County Council A 6-4. Ron Vose won three, Mark Jackson two and the pair combined for the crucial doubles. Pat McCabe (2), Clive Irwin (1) and Phil Paine (1) kept matters close. At the basement end of the table Free Church B and Phoenix settled for a draw. Martyn Todd took a treble and partnered young Jack Green to the doubles, Green enjoying a single win. The Coventry side responded through Paul Calloway (2), Richard Jardim (2) and Callum Martin (1).**

**In Division 2 second (Whitnash A) played third ( Nomads Enigmas) with the spoils being shared. Ex Men’s Champion Mark Woolerton maintained his perfect start with another hat-trick and Paul Riman and Richard Smith chipped in with singles but the probable title favourites were pegged back through Steve Proctor and Charlie Somerton who had two wins apiece and secured the doubles. Free Church F sit top, though they have played more matches. They were also held to a draw by Rugby B whose Danny Orr posted three. Christine Scaysbrook and Jo Outhwaite added singles with Church bouncing back through Phil Blowey (2) and Nikit Sajiv (2) with the pair taking the doubles. The third result in this very close division was also a draw as St Georges C held Free Church D. Church’s Livvy Fletcher was the top performer with a triple and Chris Blowey and Lewis Singleton grabbed single wins. Brian Aston won twice for Georges and partnered William Fletcher to the doubles and Len Coonan also took two.**

**The main interest in Division 3 was possibly the tussle between Eathorpe B and Rugby E with the villagers seemingly adrift at the bottom after a 2-8 reverse. Freddy Jones and Stuart Mills showed their class with trebles before combining for the doubles. Jack Kuomi was their other point taker. John Ablett and Charlie Wragg notched consolations. Second placed Millennium B came down to earth as lowly Free Church H thumped them 8-2. Emma Kilpatrick claimed an impressive hat-trick and paired with Jenny Singleton, who won twice, to the doubles. With Emily Beasley also taking two it was left to Lewis Cox to reply with a couple of wins. Third placed Whitnash B made up some ground with a 6-4 win at Flavels A. Dennis Woodhead won his three and Greg Swan two, the pair teaming for the doubles. Trevor Bradley (2), Sam Bradley (1) and Dot Macfarlane (1) amassed the home points. Nomads C had their best result so far when beating Free Church G 9-1 with Richard Miles and Kim Wong netting 7 points and Les Hoggins the other two. Eve Briscoe avoided the whitewash. County Council C entered the top half with an impressive 8-2 success over Rugby D. Threes from Doug Lowe and Ian Stevens set them on the road and Steve Poole added two. Harvey Fowler took a single and joined twin brother Oliver for the doubles.**

**Leaders Free Church J deated FC L in Division 4 by a 7-3 margin. J’s Janice Rowan won three, denting Ben Hall’s 100% average in the process. Mike Weaving won twice and Jill Weaving once. Two from Hall and one from Eduardo Bolanos comprised L’s reply. FC K are rapidly finding better form. They drew with high flying FC I their points coming from Richard Pittaway (2), Milly Green (1) and Darren Laffey (1). Laffey and Pittaway took the vital doubles 14-12 in the 5th. Dan Shaw starred for I with a triple and Chris Jones supplied the two other points. FC K also defeated County Council E 7-3. Laffey (3), Green (2) and Pittaway (1) allied to a Laffey/Pittaway doubles win bagged their points with WCC responding through Jason Grey (2) and William Hung (1). Eathorpe C are poised to challenge the leaders and had a 7-3 success over Rugby G for whom Dan Burgess kept his unbeaten record. Joe Hunt, Jamie Sayer and Norbu Sunang-Joret won the remaining 6 singles and Sunang-Joret and Hunt snatched the doubles. Eathorpe D swept aside County Council E 8-2 with Shaun Martin and Michael Rossington in hat-trick form. They also took the doubles with Paul Deavall posting one. Grey and Hung replied.**

**There were two big wins for Free Church M in Division A. Firstly they eclipsed their N team 5-0 with Robbie Fitchford and Milan Sajiv garnering the points and then they overcame Flavels B 4-1 with Milan Sajiv and Sajiv Swamy winning the singles but losing the doubles to Sam Bradley and Steve Lyons.**

**Free Church P stay at the summit of Division B beating their Q side 4-1. Josh Yarrow won two and maintained his unbeaten doubles partnership with Milly Green (8 out of 8) who won once. Mike Weaving pocketed the consolation. Nearest rivals Rugby H whitewashed Eathorpe F with Angel and William Chen in top form. Free Church O also whitewashed an Eathorpe side (E) through Dan Strand and Jay Virdi.**

**In Division C just three points separate the top four sides. Two clashed when Rugby I beat Norton Lindsey B 4-1. Josh Adams retained his perfect average with two victories, Kieran McNicholas won once and the pair took the doubles. It was left to the experienced Vince Ford to respond. Rugby I then overcame struggling Free Church R 4-1 with Adams and McNicholas again taking 2 and 1 respectively and stealing the doubles. Nicholas Ho avoided the rout. Ashorne A just edged out Free Church S 3-2 in another promotion battle. Steve Handsley won twice and partnered Tony Philpott to the doubles with Church replying via Alex Costa and Findlay Douglas. Norton Lindsey B got on the winning trail again by trouncing FISSC B 5-0, Vince Ford and John Walker securing the points.**

**A surprising 5-0 win for Free Church T against an experienced Ashorne B side might well have clinched the title. 14 year old Jake Simmons and 11 year old TomYarrow were ecstatic winners. Free Church U fielded two reserves in their match with County Council F but emerged as 3-2 victors. Joe Shrimpton won two and David Knott one with Richard Haigh winning once for WCC and guiding Steve Maggs to the doubles. Rugby J got home 3-2 on their visit to Eathorpe G. Alex Bowe won twice and took the doubles with Oliver Wilson. John Gymer and Dave Hanson were the home scorers.**

**Rugby H look to have Division E sewn up and beat Free Church V 4-1. Josh Tyagi recorded two wins and George Marshall one, the duo taking the doubles. David Knott won the consolation. Free Church W edged their X side 3-2 despite two excellent wins from Jack Knowles. Erin Darwen and Joe Shrimpton took singles and tasted victory in the doubles.**

**National Junior League Day 2**

**Lillington Free Church TTC enjoyed a very successful day at Wellingborough on Day 2 of the National Junior League. The A team won Division 1 after defeating WDHA (Wellingborough), Milton Keynes and Rugby 5-1. St Neots B were dispatched 4-2 and Great Stukeley of Cambridgeshire were held to a draw. Nikit Sajiv won 9 of his 10 matches, Ricardo Bolanos secured 7 victories playing as the number one and Milan Sajiv 6.**

**Rugby finished as runners-up with local players Sam Cafearo on 87%, Bradley Matthews 75%, Callum Ball 37% and Jack Evans 33%.**

**Lillington C played exceptionally well to retain their Division 2 status following promotion. A 0-6 reverse to Knighton Park (Leicester) and a 1-5 loss to St Neots A did not deter them and they bounced back with draws against Bedford A and Westfield A (Wellingborough) and a thumping 5-1 success over Westfield B. Tom Fletcher led the way with a 50% return, Emily Beasley gained 40% and Jenny Singleton a creditable 30% from the number one berth.**

**Lillington B had been relegated on Day 1 but they gained promotion by finishing as runners-up in Division 3. St Neots C and Bedford B were disposed of 6-0, Cliffedale B by 5-1 andLillington D were beaten 4-2 to leave them facing Cliffedale A, the eventual top placed team, in the final match. They suffered a 1-5 loss in an otherwise close match but promotion was gained comfortably. Eve Briscoe’s win over Helen Turley was particularly noteworthy. Briscoe gained an 80% average, as did Josh Yarrow, and Ben Hall bagged 60%.**

**Lillington D surpassed all expectations with a third placed finish in 3. They lost 1-5 to Cliffedale A, Milly Green beating the older England ranked junior Turley in impressive fashion. Wins over Cliffedale B and St Neots C by a 5-1 margin and a 4-2 success over Bedford B propelled them to the top half of the table. Katie Singleton won 4 out of 6, including a terrific win over Cliffedale B’s Trafford Mason, Eduardo Bolanos 6 out of 10 and Green 5 out of 10. Eleven year old Tom Yarrow deputised in 4 singles and, despite not picking up wins, his play suggested that he will be a star of the future.**