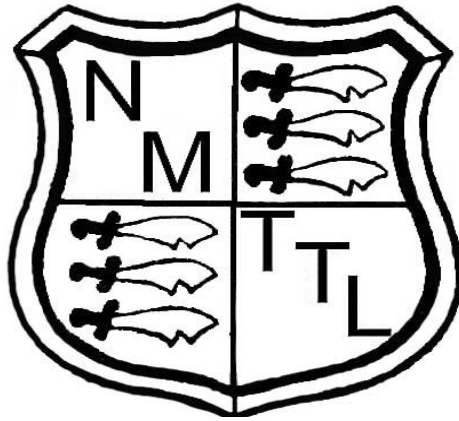


North Middlesex Table Tennis League



Journal

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Season 2016/17

Final – April 2017

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PREMIER DIVISION REPORT

Divisional Secretary: Gordon Greenfield

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	F	A	PTS.
1	TOTTENHAM 1	18	15	3	124	38	139
2	ELLENBOROUGH 1	18	15	3	123	39	138
3	MAYFIELD 2	18	14	4	98	64	112
4	WOODSIDE PARK 1	18	12	6	97	65	109
5	ELLENBOROUGH 3	18	9	9	73	89	82
6	ELLENBOROUGH 2	18	7	11	72	90	79
7	MAYFIELD 1	18	10	8	68	94	78
8	ELLENBOROUGH 4	18	5	13	59	103	64
9	MAYFIELD 3	18	2	16	48	114	50
10	ELLENBOROUGH 5	18	1	17	48	114	49

INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES

PLAYER	TEAM	PL.	W	L	%
Laikram Persaud	Tottenham 1	36	33	3	91.67
Kevin Fang	Ellenborough 3	29	26	3	89.66
Kai Ghazi-Timms	Mayfield 2	47	40	7	85.11
Remy De Lynen	Mayfield 3	30	25	5	83.33
Semi Idowu	Ellenborough 1	51	41	10	80.39
Jonathan Proffitt	Ellenborough 2	40	32	8	80.00
Sameer Patel	Tottenham 1	42	33	9	78.57
Andrei Lapo	Ellenborough 1	39	30	9	76.92
John Lennon	Ellenborough 1	36	27	9	75.00
Casey Cross	Tottenham 1	48	35	13	72.92
Jay Ghazi-Timms	Mayfield 2	50	35	15	70.00
Akash Shah	Woodside Park 1	36	25	11	69.44

It is right and proper that this report commences, as it were, at the end! I refer of course to the match between Ellenborough 1 (Paul Martindill, Semi Idowu and Andrei Lapo) and Tottenham 1 (Casey Cross, Sameer Patel and Laikram Persaud) played on 31.3.17, the last Premier Division match of the season and the decider for the Championship.

Tottenham needed to win by at least 6-3 if they were to overhaul Ellenborough's points total and understandably both teams started the match looking as if they were feeling the pressure of the occasion. On arrival, Tottenham had not even decided who their team were to be and all four players turned up wanting to play. Eventually the three mentioned above played and Paul v Casey kicked off the proceedings. Well, in my view as a spectator, Casey suffered most from the pressure and couldn't get it together, losing the first 3-1. Eventually, when the match score was level at 3-3, Laikrum kept Tottenham in it with his third win of the night against Semi and then Casey found it and produced an excellent win under pressure in straight games against Andrei. So, it was 5-3 to Tottenham and the final match between Paul and Sameer was the Championship decider and of course, yes, it went to a final game. I must say all credit to both players for a superb ninth set, which Sameer won to ensure that Tottenham were champions for the first time. So many congratulations to them and commiserations to Ellenborough 1, who had made the running for most of the season.

A special mention also for Mayfield 2's 3rd place. The highest position ever that Mayfield have achieved in North Mid.

So, back to the beginning and my thanks to all of you for making my job easy. I do appreciate that getting used to a new Divisional Secretary can be difficult but we do all seem to have got on ok, I think. Thanks for your co-operation on reminders for the scorecards. I do like to keep the web site updated as quickly as possible because I am aware of the interest that many of you show in the stats and tables.

Meanwhile I trust that you will all enjoy the summer and I'll see you next season.

Gordon Greenfield

100 Plus Club News from Harold Webb

These are the results of the prize draws that have taken place over the past few months:

PRE SEASON DRAW

FIRST PRIZE	£73.00	100	PAT HALL
SECOND PRIZE	£14.60	81	GEORGE BROWN
THIRD PRIZE	£7.30	65	JEAN UNCLE
FOURTH PRIZE	£7.30	90	JANET HODSDON
FIFTH PRIZE	£7.30	29	ALAN LAMPRELL
SPECIAL PRIZE	£7.30	6	SYLVIA TYLER

CHRISTMAS DRAW

FIRST PRIZE	£73.00	63	ASHLEY SMOKLER
SECOND PRIZE	£14.60	12	COLIN BATEMAN
THIRD PRIZE	£7.30	14	GEORGE BROWN
FOURTH PRIZE	£7.30	81	GEORGE BROWN
FIFTH PRIZE	£7.30	48	DAVE KINGHAM
SPECIAL PRIZE	£7.30	59	IAN HERRIOTT

TOURNAMENT DRAW

FIRST PRIZE	£74.00	43	ANDREW CHEAL
SECOND PRIZE	£14.80	22	EDDIE HOWARD
THIRD PRIZE	£7.40	62	DAVID ISZATT
FOURTH PRIZE	£7.40	31	JON TUNNELL
FIFTH PRIZE	£7.40	59	IAN HERRIOTT
SPECIAL PRIZE	£7.40	48	DAVE KINGHAM

DIVISION 2 REPORT

Divisional Secretary: Michael Miller

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	F	A	PTS.
1	BOUNDS GREEN 1	18	18	0	126	36	144
2	TOTTENHAM 2	18	15	3	122	40	137
3	WINCHMORE HILL 1	18	13	5	107	55	120
4	ELLENBOROUGH 6	18	11	7	87	75	98
5	BOUNDS GREEN 2	18	8	10	77	85	85
6	MAYFIELD 4	18	6	12	70	92	76
7	COOLHURST 1	18	8	10	64	98	72
8	MAYFIELD 5	18	7	11	65	97	72
9	P.BAR FREE CHURCH 1	18	3	15	46	116	49
10	WINCHMORE HILL 2	18	1	17	46	116	47

INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES

PLAYER	TEAM	PL.	W	L	%
Ian Francis	Ellenborough 6	27	26	1	96.30
Dawud Khan	Bounds Green 1	46	43	3	93.48
Fred Burdett	Winchmore Hill 1	53	44	9	83.02
Marcus Long	Tottenham 2	33	27	6	81.82
Madu Ezedinma	Tottenham 2	42	33	9	78.57
John Fitzgerald	Tottenham 2	33	25	8	75.76
Simon Jameson	Bounds Green 1	38	27	11	71.05
Tony Woo	Mayfield 4	27	19	8	70.37
David Wright	Winchmore Hill 1	47	33	14	70.21
Mark Barrell	Winchmore Hill 2	33	23	10	69.70
Ben Link	Bounds Green 1	40	27	13	67.50
Stuart Sweeney	Bounds Green 1	26	17	9	65.38
Michael Miller	Bounds Green 1	26	17	9	65.38

In keeping with the fact that by now most of you have got your heads round the majority of the data that can be gleaned from the website and I am sure most of you keenly check your scores, averages and the new ranking page I will keep my report short.

Congratulations to Bounds Green 1 who after a long season managed to remain undefeated and become champions. The last match against Tottenham 2 was a nail biter but we (Bounds Green 1) managed to secure the title early on in the match taking an early lead 3 – 1, we could then settle down but Tottenham were by no means going to let us win the match without a fight. There were some tense moments and there were more than a few games that looked like Tottenham had in the bag but were unable to secure. In the end Bounds Green beat Tottenham 5-4 but the match proved how close these two teams have been all season. A big thanks to my team mates Dawud, Simon and Ben we have had some great games and we are all looking forward to finally giving the premier division a go, it's been a goal of Bounds Green for some time now.

Congratulations to Ian Francis for coming top in the averages and only dropping a game to Remy before he was drafted into the Premier division.

Thank you to all who have helped get your results in smoothly, I've only had a couple of minor issues and it's been one of the best years in terms of this that I can remember.

Have a great break over the summer holiday and I hope to see some of you around next year.

Michael Miller

DIVISION 3 REPORT

Divisional Secretary: Gordon Greenfield

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	F	A	PTS.
1	ELLENBOROUGH 7	16	14	2	102	42	116
2	St. JOHNS 1	16	12	4	93	51	105
3	MAYFIELD 6	16	12	4	88	56	100
4	WINCHMORE HILL 3	16	9	7	74	70	83
5	TOTTENHAM 4	16	7	9	74	70	81
6	S'GATE COMPTON 1	16	6	10	70	74	76
7	TOTTENHAM 3	16	6	10	61	83	67
8	SPS 1	16	4	12	46	98	50
9	BUSH HILL PARK 1	16	2	14	40	104	42

INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES

PLAYER	TEAM	PL.	W	L	%
Klodian Shaqiri	Tottenham 4	27	26	1	96.30
Alireza Kamrani Masooleh	St Johns 1	33	30	3	90.91
Jonathan Fallon	St Johns 1	27	24	3	88.89
Amin Saibi	Tottenham 3	27	24	3	88.89
Peter Brown	Ellenborough 7	23	20	3	86.96
Ian Webb	Southgate Compton 1	35	30	5	85.71
Clive French	Winchmore Hill 3	33	28	5	84.85
Richard Vowles	Mayfield 6	36	26	10	72.22
Peter Bayman	Ellenborough 7	36	26	10	72.22
Gill Toumbas	Ellenborough 7	27	19	8	70.37
Richard Graneau	Mayfield 6	30	19	11	63.33
Lester Coutinho	Mayfield 6	24	14	10	58.33

Congratulations to the Ellenborough 7 team, who finished clear winners, and to St John's in second despite having to concede a match 0-9. SPS had a better second half and avoided finishing bottom.

With all the detailed information on the website there really isn't too much to add. Thanks to you all for making my job relatively simple. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

So, have a great summer and no doubt I'll see you all next season.

Gordon Greenfield

DIVISION 4 REPORT

Divisional Secretary: Joan Bayman

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	F	A	PTS.
1	ELLENBOROUGH 9	16	16	0	113	31	129
2	BOUNDS GREEN 3	16	13	3	106	38	119
3	ELLENBOROUGH 8	16	12	4	93	51	105
4	WINCHMORE HILL 4	16	9	7	78	66	87
6	MAYFIELD 7	16	8	8	75	69	83
5	SPS 2	16	6	10	67	77	73
8	SPS 3	16	4	12	46	98	50
7	WINCHMORE HILL 5	16	2	14	41	103	43
9	TOTTENHAM 5	16	2	14	29	115	31

INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES

PLAYER	TEAM	PL.	W	L	%
Steven Cumberbatch	Ellenborough 9	30	29	1	96.67
Thanos Morphitis	Ellenborough 9	39	37	2	94.87
Chandresh Vithani	Bounds Green3	30	26	4	86.67
Michael Charvonja	Bounds Green3	24	20	4	83.33
Mirek Jozwiak	Bounds Green3	45	36	9	80.00
Steve Harris	Ellenborough 8	36	28	8	77.78
Brian Price	Winchmore Hill 4	38	28	10	73.68
Jackie Berman	SPS 3	29	21	8	72.41
Ron Smith	Ellenborough 8	39	28	11	71.79
Ashok Shah	Mayfield 7	27	18	9	66.67
Adrian Pini	Mayfield 7	41	27	14	65.85
Charles Izatt	Ellenborough 8	27	17	10	62.96

Having arrived at the end of the 2016-17 season, the teams that were in the 1st – 3rd place positions at the halfway stage have maintained the same order. Ellenborough 9 did better in the second half by adding 68 points to their existing 61 to finish on 129 – 10 points ahead of Bounds Green 3. Bounds Green's second half's performance was similar to their first and the same applied to Ellenborough 8. So congratulations to Ellenborough 9, who have won promotion to Division 3 along with Bounds Green 3.

Not surprisingly, Thanos and Steve (who joined the team in January) from Ellenborough 9 were Player Of the Match 8 and 6 times respectively. Well done to our top lady, Jackie Berman from SPS 3, who was POM 5 times along with Brian Price of WH 4 and Steve Harris of Ellenborough 8. Jonathon Barron, SPS 2 and Chan Vithani, Bounds Green 3 were each POM 4 times in the season.

So what happened when Ellenborough 9 played against Bounds Green 3? The result was 7-2 to Ellenborough, with Thanos and Steve winning 3 sets each and Rosetta Delisle 1. Two of the opponents, Mike Charvonja and Stephen Reiners, won a set each.

Continuing with the statistics above, there were a total of 8 close matches (5-4 or 4-5s) after the Christmas break as opposed to 6 before and 5 outright winners (9-0s) as opposed to 2.

SPS 3 took part in 4 of those close matches, winning 3. When they played against their other team SPS 2 in the first half, they lost 4-5 but in the return match the score was reversed with Jackie Berman gaining 3 sets.

WH 4 v SPS 3 was another closely fought match with Jackie beating Sheheryar Yusuf Mogul in the 1st set. Harold Webb took the 2nd by winning 11-9 in the 5th against Stephen Jacobs. The 3rd and 4th sets went to WH. Jackie took the 5th against Costas Polycarpides and the score was now 3-2 to WH. Harold then won another set for WH in the 4th game followed by Stephen's win in the 7th set, making that 4-3 to WH. The match continued in the same vein, with a one set win on each side making the final result 5-4 to Winchmore Hill. An enjoyable evening's play for both sides!

Was it due to a lack of enthusiasm or winter colds? I don't know but there were a total of 6 matches played with only 2 players, which is quite a high number. It highlights the fact that in division 4 you do need to have enough players registered to cope with unavailability as, for most teams, there are no opportunities to use 'play-ups'. Anyway, at least the matches were played on time!

In addition to the list of the top 12 players in the averages who played at least 50% of the matches, here is an extended list:

Jonathon Barron, SPS 2 – 59%	Ashley Smokler, SPS 2 - 57%
Rosetta Delisle, Ellenb 9 – 57%	Sheheryar Mogul, WH 4 - 56%
Harold Webb, WH 4 – 49%	Stephen Reiners, BG 3 – 48%
Dom Philp, WH 5 – 48%	David Cooper, SPS 3 – 44%
Stephen Lesley, SPS 2 – 37.5%	Anthony Marsh, SPS 2 – 37%

Well done to Henry Rudd-Clarke and Dom Philp of WH 5 who managed to play all their teams' matches, consisting of 48 sets.

Enjoy your summer break and I look forward to seeing you next season.

Joan Bayman

GEORGE HARRIS (1929-2017) **SOME REMINISCENCES by Keith Martin**

To be a friend of George Harris and Margaret Brooks in Surrey in the 1950s was to possess a passport into the post-war world of table tennis. An emerging world where former world champions such as Victor Barna of Hungary and Richard Bergmann of Austria became naturalised members of the British team. Home grown players such as Johnny Leach of Ilford, Essex, won two world singles titles in 1949 and 1951 and the seventeen-year-old Middlesex twins Ros and Diane Rowe won the world women's doubles in 1951 and 1954.

George and Margaret both played and organized the game. In Surrey, at the Graham Spicer Club in New Malden, in the Thames Valley League and in the Central London League for the Bishopsgate Club, both in the Strand and latterly with home matches at the top of a derelict warehouse next to the Thames, where the awesome climb up the outdoor fire escape was worth the first few points against opponents who could imagine the world of Dickens and bodies being thrown down into the river.

This was a world where the revolution in Hungary in 1954 brought a sudden migration to England of their international players, such as Joe Szomogyi, into the Surrey team with Harry Venner and Tony Miller. Middlesex fielded the Rowe twins and Laurie Landry, Essex had Johnny Leach.

The trophy for the Bishopsgate T T Club Men's Doubles (though Margaret was one of the winners) is The Jacques Shield, with metal shields showing, among the winners:

1939 S Gee & S Kirkwood	1947 S Kirkwood & A R Miller
1954 & 1956 R H Brown & K Merrett	1957 G E Harris & F H Mason
1962 G Durie & M Harris	1963 R Bray & A Shepherd
1964 H Brickwood & G E Harris	1967 M Holt & A Shepherd
1972 T Kirby & K Martin	

Even the Laws of Table Tennis were influenced by George, along with Alan Shepherd, Ron Carpenter and others from the North Middlesex League. At an AGM of the West Green Club, a proposal by Ron Carpenter which had been carefully drafted by George was passed. It was subsequently passed at the North Middlesex AGM, then by the MTTA, then by the ETTA and finally by the ITTF. The change was this:

In doubles in the 1950s the order of serving and receiving in the first game remained the same for whole of any deciding game. This meant that the team winning the toss could choose to receive first and thus to decide who would be receiving from whom not just in the first game but in any deciding game, should that stage be reached, thus giving them a distinct advantage. This advantage was particularly pronounced in mixed doubles. If pair A won the toss they would ask their opponents to serve first and could then make sure their man received from opposing man and was serving against and attacking the opposing lady. In the final deciding set that order remained even after one side reached 10 points. This could give a big advantage to pair A. If pair A did not realise that such an advantage was a possibility and decided to serve first then their opponents could have the whip hand by employing the same tactics. The same situation applied where there was one particular player with a vicious service. In a game where some players possessed almost unreturnably spun services, this enabled the toss winners to draw victory from the jaws of defeat. The rule change established that, in a final deciding game, the order of service would change as soon as one team reached 10 points (in a 21 point game), thus eliminating the advantage that had formerly been possible for the team choosing to receive first. This rule still applies today, when the order of serving and receiving changes as soon as either team reaches 5 points in a deciding game.

Tennis was another sport influenced by George and Margaret. In those days the name of the game was Lawn Tennis. In 1962, on returning to London after three years in Brussels, I met them at the Empire Pool Wembley during the professional tennis tournament graced by Ricardo Gonzales, Pancho Segura and Ken Rosewall. George invited me to join his tennis club, Wood Vale in Crouch End, and subsequently to play in the Barking Tennis League for his team Barking College. It was in these matches of men's doubles that I twice partnered Harold Clark against Trevor Brooking, the West Ham soccer international. Trevor was a modest and likeable opponent who enjoyed the company of both his team mates and us. On one occasion his partner asked Trevor how his calf injury was progressing (he was currently rested from the West Ham team). "Don't tell anyone that I'm playing tennis, for God's sake!" said Trevor, "The coach will murder me!" In our two doubles encounters, Harold and I won one and lost one. Trevor is left-handed. How many of you knew that?

Keith Martin

Appeal from the Middlesex Table Tennis Association

Dear All, I am writing to you to ask your help to get a Non-Playing Captain for the Middlesex Cadet 2nd team for the next season. If you are willing or you know of anyone suitable, please contact me or ask them to contact me. Thank you.

Kind Regards

Michael Close

Chairman, MTTA

Note: If you can help then please contact Harold Webb, who can put you in touch with Michael.

NORTH MIDDLESEX ANNUAL TOURNAMENT REPORT for 2017

- by John Fitzgerald

The NMTTL Annual Tournament was held at Ellenborough Table Tennis Club over three days: Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th March, and Sunday 9th April 2017. There were 52 entrants.

Saturday 18th March

Division 2, 3 & 4 Handicap Singles: 15 players took part.

After the group stages were completed, the quarter-finals produced some quality match-play from the players left in. In the first QF Dawud Khan had 3 points start over Klodian Shaqiri and won the first game 21-18. However, Klodian fought back to win the remaining games of a hard fought match 21-16, 21-18. Ben Link, who was having his first experience of the NM tournament, played Madu Ezedinma starting 0-0. This match was also very closely fought with Madu just overcoming Ben 21-20, 21-19. In the third QF, Thanos Morphitis took on Peter Bayman starting 0-0. Peter won in three games. In the last QF, Abdul Olagboyega played Amin Saibi from a level start with Amin winning in three games.

In the semi-finals, Klodian took on Madu, with Peter playing Amin. Madu had a 4 point start over Klodian and produced some dogged resistance to overcome Klodian 21-14, 20-21 & 21-17. Peter had a 5-0 start against Amin, he managed to just stop Amin from getting back the handicap to win 21-18, 21-19. The final saw Madu and Peter coming together. Peter again had a 5-0 start. After winning the first game 21-15, Peter looked like he would overcome Madu. However, such is the way in table tennis, the other player fights their way back into a match. Madu took the second game 21-13. Both players sweated buckets in this long battle as Peter fought to hold off Madu. Gradually Madu began to return more of Peter's hits to take control and then win the final game 21-15 to take the title.

Open to all Handicap Singles: 32 players took part.

On paper it looked like the favourites would be Laikram Persaud and Kevin Fang. However, this was a handicap event so all bets were off. In his QF match, Laikram was up against fellow club member Amin Saibi. Laikram was starting 0-9 down to Amin. This proved too much with Amin coming through 21-17, 21-15. The next QF was another clash between club members: Casey Cross v Sameer Patel (0-0). Sameer, with his comfortable all-round style, came through 21-15, 21-9. In the other half of the draw Atanas Shalev played Fraser Donnelly. This match was defender against attacker. Fraser took the first game 21-19, but as is with most defenders they get used to your game and begin to play better. This is exactly what happened with Atanas coming back to win a very close and exciting match 21-16, 21-20. In the other QF, Reg Allen played his club friend Semi Idowu. Reg had an 8-0 start and took the first game 21-10. Semi tightened up his game to come through 21-18, 21-15. In the semi-finals Amin took on Sameer with a 6-0 start and won the first game 21-16. Sameer is a dangerous player when he is down, he came back to win the second game 21-13 and a very nail-biting final game, 21-19. In the other semi-final, Atanas played Semi. Atanas had a 5-0 start, which in the end proved too much for Semi with Atanas winning 21-18, 14-21, 21-16. The final between Sameer and Atanas saw Sameer having to concede a 3-0 start to Atanas. Sameer had then to be the more aggressive player to get back into the game. However, Atanas fought resolutely with his blocking/pushing game to minimise his mistakes and to win the event 21-9, 21-16.

Open to All Hard Bat Doubles: 6 pairs took part.

With only a small entry, Sameer Patel & Laikram Persaud won the final against Casey Cross & Kevin Fang 11-8, 11-8, 11-8.

Open to All Hard Bat Singles: 13 players took part.

The semi-finals of this event were a taster for what was to come. Laikram Persaud defeated Semi Idowu and Fraser Donnelly won against Casey Cross to set up an excellent final between Fraser and Laikram. It was Fraser who took control of this match by winning the first two games 11-9, 11-6. It must be said the Fraser is one hell of a naturally talented player as, even with a hard bat, he makes it look so easy hitting winners on both wings. Laikram then seemed to switch into another gear by avoiding mistakes and just keeping the ball on the table. Gradually he wore down Fraser's resistance and took control to win the remaining games 11-8, 11-7, 11-8 and to maintain his grip on this event.

Sunday 19th March

Division 3/4 Singles: 10 players originally entered, but only 8 turned up.

Peter Bayman beat Dennis Tossell to set up a semi-final match with seeded player Johnny Faldo. Peter duly won in four games: 11-7, 11-9, 5-11, 11-6. From the other two groups emerged Abdul Olagboyega and Thanos Morphitis. Both of these players have their own unique and effective style of playing table tennis. They produced a worthy match with Abdul coming out on top 11-6, 10-12, 11-4, 11-6. In the final Abdul met Peter. He won in three games: 11-4, 12-10, 11-7.

Over 50s Singles: 14 players took part.

After a series of group games, the QFs took place: Semi Idowu beat Alan Pearse 11-9, 11-9, 11-9. Dick Crockley beat Paul Martindill 11-9, 11-9, 11-7. Rhyan Nelson beat Lech Bogdanowicz 11-3, 11-3, 11-3. Laikram Persaud beat Peter Bayman 11-4, 11-3, 11-4.

The semi-finals saw Laikram Persaud take on Rhyan Nelson and Semi Idowu face Dick Crockley. Being a member of the same team, Rhyan has much knowledge about Laikram's game. The question was, could he put it to good use? Rhyan won a close first game 11-9 and then took the second 11-4 before Laikram hit back to take the third game 11-8. However, Rhyan was in full flow as he won the 4th game 11-9 to go through to his first NM final for a few years. In the other semi-final, Semi won 11-8, 11-7, 11-9 against Dick. It is good to see Dick back playing in the tournament after a lay-off through injury. The final of the Over 50's was quite a memorable match - Semi played Rhyan. Semi was the quickest out of the blocks and took the first two games 11-7, 11-8. When two players are closely matched the flow of a match can easily go one way and then the other. Rhyan is a gutsy, never say die player and fought back to take the next two games 11-8, 11-6. Rhyan was match point up at 10-9 before Semi managed to win the next three points and take the fifth and final game 12-10.

Open Doubles: 14 pairs took part.

At the quarter final stage the results were: S Patel / L Persaud beat K Shaqiri / A Saibi 11-8, 11-6, 11-3; C Cross / K Fang beat A Pant / H Venapusa 11-3, 11-9, 11-3; R. De Lynen / K. Ghazi-Timms beat R. Nelson / A. Pearse 12-10, 11-3, 11-6; S. Idowu / P. Martindill beat J. Faldo / B. Link 11-9, 11-9, 11-6. The first semi-final was S. Patel and L. Persaud v C. Cross / K. Fang. Casey Cross and Kevin Fang got off to a flying start, winning the first two games 11-5, 11-5 before the inevitable fight-back from Sameer and Laikram, who won the next two games 11-5, 13-11. This set up a final game in which Casey and Kevin's relentless attacks got them over the winning line 11-6. The other semi-final also produced a very close fought match which could have gone either way but Remy De Lynen and Kai Ghazi-Timms won the match 14-12, 11-9, 13-11.

In the final, Casey and Kevin were up against the very talented pair of Remy and Kai. Casey and Kevin had managed to cope with the anti-spin of Laikram in the semi-final. The question now was could they cope with the long pimped defence of Remi and the youthful and highly skilled attacking play of Kai. The answer was that they played very well but Remi and Kai won in four games 11-9, 7-11, 11-9, & 11-7.

Ladies Singles: No event this year due to a lack of entries.

Open Singles: 28 players took part.

Competitors were divided into 6 groups of 3 with the top 10 seeded players receiving byes. There were some players who, through injury, didn't turn up and this affected the groups. In the last 16 stage there were two particularly outstanding matches: Amin Saibi took Sameer Patel to the fifth game before losing 6-11, 7-11, 12-10, 12-10, 4-11. The other outstanding match was between Rhyan Nelson and Akash Shah. This was another five-setter, won by Akash 11-4, 9-11, 11-6, 10-12, 11-6.

The QFs were as follows: Laikram Persuad v Remy De Lynen, Akash Shah v Sameer Patel, Semi Idowu v Dick Crockley and Casey Cross v Kevin Fang. It looked like an interesting problem was waiting for both Laikram and Remy in deciding how they would play each other. They are both combination players - one uses anti-spin and the other long pimples. One thing was clear, they could both defend but who would do the attacking? Both players mixed attack with defence, which produced a gripping five-setter with Laikram coming through 7-11, 11-5, 7-11, 11-6, 11-4. Sameer Patel and Akash Shah was a good match-up that produced an excellent contest. Akash took the first game 11-9 before Sameer responded by taking the next three games 11-8, 11-8, 11-3 to win. Semi Idowu came through his game with Dick Crockley 11-2, 11-3, 11-8. Kevin Fang beat Casey Cross 11-9, 1-11, 11-5, 11-3, to complete the line-up for the semi-finals of: Laikram v Sameer and Semi v Kevin. Laikram went two games up 11-7, 11-9 before Sameer staged a typical fightback to take the next two games 11-6, 13-11. However, Laikram, also a fine match player, had a run of points in the final game to take the match 11-2. In the other semi-final match, Semi and Kevin fought to see who would join Laikram in the final. Semi won the first game comfortably enough 11-5, but Kevin got on top to win the next three games and the match 11-7, 11-7, 11-5. The organisers then took a time-out to set up the court for the final. It was much larger playing area than before, with the table now running along the length of the hall. Laikram and Kevin are probably two of the best players in the league but Laikram's style is very difficult to play against for an attacking player. This proved the case for Kevin as he hammered forehand loop after forehand loop at Laikram only to find them coming back onto his side of the table. Laikram won the match 11-7, 11-4, 11-6 to retain his title.

Sunday 9th April

Open to all Junior Singles (U13): Terry Wilson and Nick McKoy (Snr) were on hand help run the tournament and to do umpiring. There was an entry of seven players who were divided into two groups. In group 1, Sid Jennings won all his three matches to top the group. Bradley Shepherd finished in second place with two wins.

In group 2, Charles Caslake won both his games to win the group. Seth Mayuga was runner-up. In the semi-finals Sid Jennings met Seth Mayuga. Both of these players were of equal ability but it was Seth who won a close match 11-7, 4-11, 11-7, 7-11, 11-8. In the other semi-final, Charles Caslake beat Bradley Shepherd 11-2, 11-4, 11-7. So Charles and Seth, after having played each other in their group, would meet again in the final. As it turned out, Charles again beat Seth to win the final 11-4, 11-8, 11-6.

Open to all Junior Singles (U15): With an entry of five, it was decided to have a five player round-robin group. The entries were: Samir Latife, Ye Fang, Charles Caslake, Victor Ostapenko and Jacee Chan. It was quite apparent that, due to his greater match experience, Jacee was on a different level compared to the other players in the group. This said, the others are very good players but Jacee is exceptionally good. Victor Ostapenko finished runner-up.

Open to all Junior Singles (U18): Only two player entered this event. They were Jacee Chan and Jasmine Chan. Their match then became the final. The standard of play was excellent throughout, with the match swinging both ways. Jacee just beat Jasmine 11-8, 12-14, 11-9, 8-11, 11-9.

The standard of play was very good from the juniors who took part. Hopefully one day some of them will play in the NMTTL.

Thanks go to the League Committee, who helped to make the tournament happen. In addition, our thanks go to Richard Graneau for his excellent work on Sunday 19th running the tournament from the control desk. We would like to thank all the players who took part for doing their bit to help the tournament run smoothly and for producing some excellent table tennis. We would also like to thank Ellenborough TTC for once again providing an excellent venue and facilities for the tournament. Thanks to all those who did their share of umpiring. One umpire has to be thanked for his immense experience of not only umpiring, but for dealing with difficult situations when players get upset. We think Terry Wilson is 'the guvnor' when it comes to umpiring. He is calm and unruffled, very good with people but also quite firm when he needs to be. Finally, we would like to say a big thank you to all those other people who provided their support in many different ways, notably by supplying equipment, setting up the hall, umpiring, making a cup of tea, etc., etc.

Many Thanks
The Tournament Team

Handicap Cup Results and Tables

Group 1

Mayfield 6 beat SPS 2 7-2
 Tottenham 1 given a walkover by Ellenborough 8

Table

Tottenham 1	won 3, lost 0	26- 1	Qualified
Mayfield 6	won 2, lost 1	15-12	Qualified
SPS 2	won 1, lost 2	10-17	
Ellenborough 8	won 0, lost 3	3-24	

Group 2

Mayfield 2 beat Winchmore Hill 4 7-2
 Ellenborough 6 beat Southgate Compton 1 6-3

Table

Mayfield 2	won 2, lost 1	20- 7	Qualified
Ellenborough 6	won 2, lost 1	15-12	Qualified
Southgate Compton 1	won 1, lost 2	12-15	
Winchmore Hill 4	won 1, lost 2	7-20	

Group 3

Tottenham 4 beat Mayfield 7 7-2
 Winchmore Hill 1 beat Bush Hill Park 1 7-2

Table

Winchmore Hill 1	won 3, lost 0	17-10	Qualified
Tottenham 4	won 2, lost 1	20- 7	Qualified
Mayfield 7	won 1, lost 2	11-16	
Bush Hill Park 1.	won 0, lost 3	6-21	

Group 4

Mayfield 5 beat Winchmore Hill 5 8-1
 Ellenborough 3 given a walkover by St John's 1 9-0

Table

Mayfield 5	won 3, lost 0	23- 4	Qualified
Ellenborough 3	won 2, lost 1	17-10	Qualified
Winchmore Hill 5	won 1, lost 2	12-15	
St John's 1	won 0, lost 3	2-25	

Group 5

Winchmore Hill 2	beat	Tottenham 3	6-3
Ellenborough 9	beat	Mayfield 3	5-4

Table

Winchmore Hill 2	won 3, lost 0	17-10	Qualified
Ellenborough 9	won 2, lost 1	16-11	Qualified
Tottenham 3	won 1, lost 2	14-13	
Mayfield 3	won 0, lost 3	7-20	

Group 6

Ellenborough 7	beat	Winchmore Hill 3	5-4
SPS 3	beat	Tottenham 2	5-4

Table

Tottenham 2	won 2, lost 1	18- 9	Qualified
Ellenborough 7	won 2, lost 1	16-11	Qualified
Winchmore Hill 3	won 1, lost 2	11-16	
SPS 3	won 1, lost 2	9-18	

Group 7

SPS 1	beat	Ellenborough 5	5-4
Mayfield 4	beat	Tottenham 5	6-3

Table

SPS 1	won 2, lost 1	17-10	Qualified
Ellenborough 5	won 2, lost 1	15-12	Qualified
Tottenham 5	won 1, lost 2	11-16	
Mayfield 4	won 1, lost 2	11-16	

Qualified by being best third placed were Winchmore Hill 5 and Tottenham 3

First KO Round

Tottenham 1 given a walkover by Ellenborough 3

Mayfield 2	beat	Ellenborough 7	5-1
Mayfield 6	beat	SPS 1	5-0
Ellenborough 5	beat	Tottenham 2	5-2
Tottenham 3	beat	Winchmore Hill 5	5-1
Ellenborough 9	beat	Winchmore Hill 1	5-4
Ellenborough 6	beat	Mayfield 5	5-3
Tottenham 4	beat	Winchmore Hill 2	5-4

Quarter Finals

Ellenborough 5	beat	Tottenham 3	5-1
Mayfield 2	beat	Ellenborough 6	5-1
Mayfield 6	beat	Tottenham 4	5-4
Tottenham 1	beat	Ellenborough 9	5-0

Semi Finals

Mayfield 6	beat	Mayfield 2	5-4
Tottenham 1	beat	Ellenborough 5	5-2

FINAL

Tottenham 1	beat	Mayfield 6	5-1
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Ellenborough Table Tennis Club

Craddock Road, Enfield, EN1 3SP

Looking for a club to join?
Looking for a place to practice?
Why not give us a try?

We have the reputation of being one of the best clubs in England, with ten tables, a club bar, competitions and league play every weekday evening. Over 50's section four days per week. Junior and Over 50's Coaching. See website for more details:

www.ellenboroughttc.com

Contact Ron Smith on 020 8363 8643 for details or ring the club on 020 8363 1585 or visit us after 8.00pm any weekday evening.

Annual Fees

Year runs from 1st September to 31st August
(Pro rata monthly reductions apply for those joining mid-year)

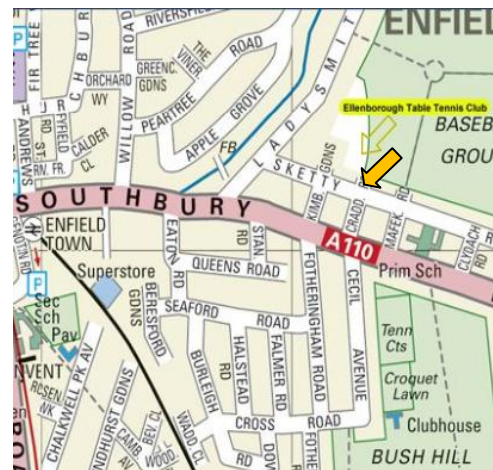
Basic Membership (Practice only)

Juniors (18 & under) and students £ 65
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(Families attract reduced rates)

League Membership (Includes Basic Fees)

Juniors (18 & Under) £77
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Seniors (over 18) £155

Social Membership £ 5
Visitor fee per evening £ 6
Over 50's sessions £ 4 per session for non-members



Members currently also pay a fee of £1 per session (max. £4 in any week)

Call Ron Smith (as above) for further details.