

DIVISIONAL SECRETARY REPORTS

Division 1 and Division 2 report submitted by Matt Sims, 16/4/18

Codicote and Kidston will be playing in the Premier League of the St Albans, Hatfield and Welwyn (SHAW) Table Tennis League next season after occupying the top two positions in Division 1.

Codicote did the double over their closest rivals, with an 8-2 victory during the penultimate week of the season proving decisive in securing the top spot.

However, Kidston were more than deserving runners-up and also had the player with the most individual wins during the course of the season in flat-hitting Fred Burdett.

Meanwhile, the battle to avoid relegation went right down to the wire with the bottom four teams separated by just three points.

Ultimately, it was the two Bricket Wood teams who suffered as a result of injuries and availability, leaving St Albans B and St Michaels C to narrowly avoid the drop.

Codicote A will replace their first team in Division 1 next season as a result of securing second place behind St Albans C in Division 2.

St Albans C lost just one match all season in another keenly contested division, while Codicote A finished comfortably ahead of the third place team, St Michaels D.

With Digswell C cast adrift at the bottom of the table, Potters Bar also finished 11 points short of safety.

Townsend A's Keven Du was the division's most prolific individual player – winning 48 from a full complement of 54 matches – while the recent performances of Ethan Eaketts and Tom Reeve suggest that they are both already capable of playing at a higher level for Shire at Welwyn.

Division 3 and Division 4 report submitted by John Kimsey, 16/4/18

Division 3

Digswell E were the clear divisional champions and will be playing in Division 2 next season. Two of their players, Scott Turner and Rob Davies, achieved 87% and 86% respectively in the averages. The runner-up place was eventually taken by St. Albans D as a result of a walkover award against 3rd place Digswell D who had to concede two matches in very unfortunate circumstances. It has been suggested that the fixtures committee may look at options for promoting 3 teams from this division.

Naresh Magan from St. Albans D achieved a 90% average from 21 games played. The division only had 9 teams for the majority of the season as Kings B were unable to raise a squad and had to drop out, so all tables and statistics reflect that situation.

Division 4

Welwyn were outstanding divisional champions by a wide margin and will be playing in Division 3 next season. Four of their players achieved 100% in the averages although varying numbers of games were played by each but overall they had a very strong squad.

The runner-up position was so close that one of the league's lesser-used rules had to be applied! Both St. Albans E and Radlett finished with the same points value and St. Albans E took 2nd place by virtue of their superior combined score (1 point better!) taken over the two matches played between the clubs. With there being a spare place in Division 3 because of the Kings B situation described above, it is hoped that both these teams can be accommodated in Division 3 next season.

The outstanding individual players were Bill Deem from Radlett and Howard Collins from Harpenden B who achieved 95% and 94% respectively from a significant number of games played.

There were 5 walkovers awarded during the season, so hopefully this can be reduced next season as all teams prefer to play matches if at all possible.

Finally, both Harpenden and St. Albans had unexpected venue problems and so thanks go to their opposing teams for providing facilities to get the matches played.