

# TABLETENNIS

*The Official Magazine of the English Table Tennis Association*



*Daily Herald Picture*

**NARIKAZU "The Cannon Ball" FUJII**, the former Japanese world doubles champion, who is pairing up with Richard Bergmann for an exhibition and stage tour.

**Ivor Montagu discusses the Amateur-Professional Question**

# Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

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## BERGMANN SETS PROBLEM

**R**ICHARD BERGMANN would appear to have set a pretty problem for England's Table Tennis selectors by the way he wiped up the young stars in the "Top Ten" Tournament last month.

He threw himself to the wolves, came out unscarred—apart from one defeat at the hands of top ranking Brian Kennedy—and proved he is still the best we've got.

*Now what are the selectors going to do when they get down to picking the team for the European championships in Budapest in March? Can they afford to leave him out? It looks as though they are back where they were.*

Had Bergmann been beaten up by the eager young players, it is obvious he would have been dropped like a hot brick, particularly in view of his poor record against Continental opposition this season. But he is the best we've got.

No doubt there are many wishing his planned South American tour had not fallen through. It would have made things easier.

### TOUR PLANNED

Maybe Bergmann will settle the problem himself. He has brought NARIKAZU FUJII, of Japan, over here as his partner for a stage act. They plan an exhibition tour of the Continent and possibly some of the Iron Curtain countries.

Bergmann was non-committal when I asked him about plans for the European Championships. "We'll just have to wait and see," he said.

If there is any clash with the championships and exhibitions I know which will come first, and it won't be the championships.

Meanwhile Bergmann has a problem of his own. *Fujii is not an affiliated player and it would be contrary to rules for Bergmann to play with him.*

Japan who have different views to ours about "paid" players, professionalised Fujii when he allowed his name to be used commercially after winning the world doubles in 1952, and he has been out of the tournament scene ever since.

### SUSPENSION RISK

Efforts are being made to "legalise" the position of Fujii, but unless the position is clarified then Bergmann could run the risk of suspension. The point is he is financially committed, having sunk a lot of money in bringing Fujii here and will not want to waste his investment.

Bergmann apart, the task of selectors is not easy, for we have no players who really stand out on their own. Brian Kennedy is beginning to find his form at long last and will undoubtedly have more confidence now that he has again been placed top in the revised ranking list.

Bryan Merrett, with his dour stonewalling game, has the best record of the season, but business commitments have restricted his tournament appearances. Alan Rhodes has not quite lived up to his promise of the early season, while Johnny Leach has been slipping.

*Ian Harrison would appear to have the brightest future and is young enough to concentrate on.*

Fortunately there is no problem among the girls. Ann Haydon and Diane Collins are among the best in the world, and Jill Rook and Joyce Fielder can give them all the backing they need.

**HARRISON EDWARDS.**

## Official News:

### Rumanian Visit.

Following invitations to English players to take part in the Rumanian Championships and a proposal that a Women's International match be played at the same time in Rumania, arrangements have been made for Miss A. S. Haydon, Mrs. D. Collins and Mr. J. A. Leach to travel to participate in the Rumanian Championships. Mr. J. A. Leach to be the Team Captain.

### English "Open" Championships. 1957/58.

Entry forms are now available and applications should be made to the E.T.T.A. office if any player wishes to receive one. May we remind our members that the dates and venues for the Championships are as follows.

MANOR PLACE BATHS, WALWORTH, S.E.17. MARCH 24TH-27TH.

EMPIRE POOL AND SPORTS ARENA, WEMBLEY. MARCH 28TH AND 29TH.

For the final stages of the Championships at Wembley, there are special rates for orders of 12 or more tickets (this number can be made up of any price) as under:—

Saturday, 29th March, 1958.

21/- for 17/6. 15/- for 12/6.

10/6 for 8/6. 8/6 for 6/6.

Friday, 28th March, 1958.

15/- for 12/6. 12/6 for 10/6.

10/6 for 8/6. 7/6 for 5/-.

### E.T.T.A. Representatives.

For the purpose of nominating and electing the Officers of the Association and members of the National Executive Committee, each County Association, League or Local Association is entitled to appoint E.T.T.A. Representatives.

Under Rule 12, it is the responsibility of a County Association, League or Local Association to inform the Hon. General Secretary of the Association in writing not later than **January 31st** of the year in which the election takes place, the full name and address of the appointed Representative or Representatives.

The majority of Associations and Leagues have informed the E.T.T.A. as to the names of their Representatives, but, those who have failed to inform the Association should do so by the last day of this month.

## TABLE TENNIS TABLE FOR SALE

Full size, as new. Now too large for converted house. £16. To see write Mr. Tottenham, 16, Oatlands Chase, Weybridge, Surrey.

### I.T.T.F. Supplements.

The International Table Tennis Federation have now published the 1957/58 Handbook Supplement (English Language). Copies of this can be obtained from the I.T.T.F. Secretary, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Cyncoed, Cardiff, Wales. Price 1/-.

### Official Handbook.

Copies of the Official Handbook for Season 1957/58 are on sale at a cost of 2/5 per copy post free and can be obtained from the E.T.T.A. office.

## English Table Tennis Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen.

President: The Dowager Lady Swaythling, O.B.E.

Chairman: Hon. Ivor Montagu.

Honorary Treasurer: A. K. Vint, O.B.E.

Hon. Secretary: D. P. Lowen.

Administrative Secretary: Mrs. Kathleen Pegg.

Office of the Association: 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2. (Telephone: TRAFALGAR 2165).

### Books and Publications.

The following publications are also available from the E.T.T.A. office:—

(i) *Laws of the Game in cardboard, size approx. 21½ in. x 14½ in. with hanging cord attached, suitable for club rooms* ..... 1/6 each

(ii) *Know the Game Table Tennis*, 2/6 each

(iii) *Modern Table Tennis, J. Carrington* ..... 7/6 each

(iv) *Table Tennis Tips, J. Carrington*, ..... 1/3 each

(v) *Table Tennis Quiz, Alec Brook*, 1/6 each

(vi) *Table Tennis My Way, J. Leach* ..... 2/6 and 5/- each

(vii) *The Twins on Table Tennis, D. and R. Rowe* ..... 8/6 each

(viii) *Laws of the Game in booklet form* ..... 4½d. each

(ix) *English "Open" Championships programme 1956/57 with complete results* ..... 2/3 each

### Official Badges.

A reminder is given that the official badge of the Association is available for sale and can be obtained at 2/3 each or 24/- per doz. from the E.T.T.A. office. It is of attractive design affixed to a pin.

### Official Ties and Triangles.

Official Ties for our male members and Triangles for our female mem-

bers can also be obtained from the Association's office price 12/6 each for the ties and 17/6 each for the triangles.

### International Contracts.

We would like to draw our affiliated members' attention to the Regulation No. 1 covering International Contracts (Page 32 of the Official Handbook) and in particular other Countries' National Open Championships. The regulation reads as follows:—

English Players outside England.

1. Players duly affiliated to the E.T.T.A. may take part in the Open National Championships of other Associations only by permission of the E.T.T.A.

We would point out that the above Regulation applies to players taking part in the "Open" Championships of the HOME countries, i.e., Ireland, Scotland and Wales, as well as to other Associations in the International Table Tennis Federation.

### Television.

It is felt desirable to remind members once more about the position in connection with television — either B.B.C. or Independent. The regulation reads as follows:—

No affiliated player may take part in a televised event in connection with table tennis, unless sanction has first been obtained from one of the Officers of the Association.

### Club Competitions.

The total number of Competitions now arranged to be run and duly permitted is 36. We are most grateful to those members who have again this season decided to run Club Competitions.

It is hoped, however, that more Clubs will return the BLUE Card to the E.T.T.A. office, 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2, asking permission to stage one, two or more Competitions.

The Competitions can take one of 15 different types, singles and doubles, details of which are as follows:—

Men's Singles, Men's Handicap Singles, Women's Singles, Women's Handicap Singles, Mixed Singles, Mixed Handicap Singles, Junior Singles, Junior Handicap Singles, Men's Doubles, Men's Handicap Doubles, Women's Doubles, Women's Handicap Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Mixed Handicap Doubles, Extraordinary Doubles (two men or two women in partnership competing in one event).

If your Club has not run a Club Competition then ask your Secretary to organise one NOW. Alternatively, if your Secretary does not know certain of the details of how the Competitions work then please ask him or her to write to the E.T.T.A. office without delay.

### Wilmott Cup Competition.

The Acton and District Table Tennis League have again made a request to stage the Semi-finals and Final of the Wilmott Cup Competition, and permission has been given. This event will take place on February

22nd, 1958, at the Sperry Sports and Social Club, Great West Road, Brentford, Middx. Further details can be obtained from the Acton and District League Secretary, Mr. R. W. Boorer, 50, Southdown Avenue, Hanwell, W.7.

**International Matches.**

The following International matches have been arranged:—

- v. **Wales** (Mixed Seniors) at Aylesbury. January 24th, 1958. Further details from Mr. C. H. Thorne, 83, Old Stoke Road, Aylesbury, Bucks.
- v. **France** (Juniors) at Rouen. January 25th, 1958.
- v. **Ireland** (Mixed Seniors) at Belfast. February 13th, 1958. (This is a rearranged date owing to the cancellation of the original date due to weather conditions.)

**TABLE TENNIS**

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# Umpires Form Association

## LOCAL BRANCHES MAY FOLLOW

**U**MPIRES from four counties met at the Bonnington Hotel, London, on 1st December, 1957 and formed a new organisation to be known as **The Table Tennis Umpires' Association.**

For some months previous three umpires had worked to bring the Association into being; Frank Bateman of Essex, Norman Baker from Middlesex and Dennis Ingrey of Hertfordshire. Support came from Durham, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, Sussex and Surrey umpires; so a historic meeting came to be convened.

The purpose of the Association is to provide a social background for umpires and persons wishing to undertake the County Umpires' Test.

To achieve this object the committee propose to hold meetings of members, at first in and about London. Later, with sufficient members in the provinces, local branches may be formed and hold meetings of their own.

Speakers are to be invited to give of their experiences in the world of Table Tennis; interpretations of the Laws of the Game will be discussed,

and social gatherings such as dances, dinners, etc. encouraged.

**Another side of the Association's aims is to provide, where needed, advice for prospective candidates for the County Umpires' Examination.**

In proposing the formation of the Association the following minute was passed at the inaugural meeting:

**"The Table Tennis Umpires' Association be formed for social purposes, and work in liaison with the E.T.T.A. in order to promote better services to the game."**

While working in liaison with the E.T.T.A. the **Table Tennis Umpires' Association** is an entirely separate body, it is not intended that it be regarded as a "Trade Union" of any kind.

The Association invite qualified umpires and persons intending to take the County Umpires' Test to apply for membership. The subscription is five shillings per annum and is payable with the application.

The Hon. Secretary is D. R. Ingrey, Esq., 4, Cumberland Court, Hatfield, Herts.

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## SAM KIRKWOOD'S World Round Up

# WORLD CHAMPIONS CRASH

## New Japanese Stars

WORLD champions and ex-world champions were "slain" in the all-Japanese Championships recently decided in Tokyo. And new stars emerged.

SEIJI NARITA, a young University student, is the new Men's Champion. In the semi-finals he kayoed world champion Toshiaki Tanaka, and in the final recorded a three-straight win against a fellow student, Shoichi Sakai.

On the women's side, KAZU YAMAIZUMI, also a University student, competing in her first major tournament and using a rubber bat, beat 1956 world champion Tomi Okawa in straight games in the final.

The reigning world champion, Fujie Eguchi, was beaten earlier on, and easily, by 21-year-old Yoshie Nakajima, a clerk. Japanese sports writers forecast that the defeats of the recognised international stars may force the selectors to recast the next Japanese national team.

\* \* \*

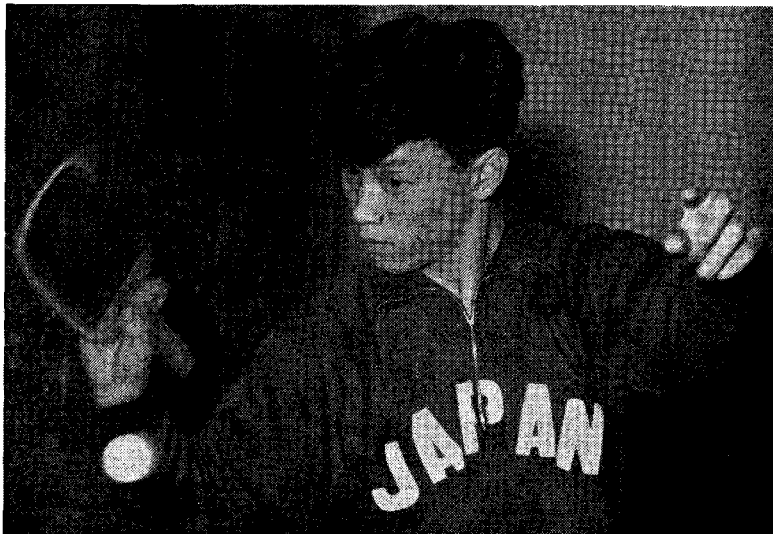
Interesting quote by "Tosh" Tanaka: "Europeans are too large in stature generally and have to play defensively . . . I don't think they can ever beat us." (The world champ stands 5ft. 3in. and weighs around 8st.)

He refutes the idea that sponge is responsible for the success of the Japanese, who, he contends, would do just as well without it. "Our successes are due to our physical condition, instinct and quickness of foot," he is reported as saying.

### BETTER TRIO

I agree with much of what he says—but, bearing in mind Bergmann's footwork, Vana's speed, and Barna's litheness and accuracy in both attack and defence, hotly dispute the theory that the white man is "too large" or cannot hope to beat the Japanese.

For my money, the three Europeans mentioned above were greater than anything so far produced by the Land of the Rising Sun.



TOSH TANAKA

Daily Herald Picture

The "Top Ten" round-robin tournament held in London on December 21 made excellent TV viewing. It was, in fact, the best T.T. "telly" entertainment for a long time. Could it be that this was because there was no sponge around, as on previous occasions which were not so happy?

Salient features of the tournament were (1) Alan Rhodes' almost criminal recklessness at vital stages of matches which he should have won and didn't; (2) Jill Rook's appalling lapse of concentration in her losing match against Joyce Fielder; (3) Johnny Leach's unvarying, if tenacious, chop-defence game; (4) Brian Kennedy's slowness of foot; (5) Ann Haydon's supreme domination when attacking, and her unsteadiness in defence; (6) Bergmann's "showmanship" tricks and foxy tactics; and (7) Diane Rowe's astonishing in-and-out showing.

Although the round-robin didn't prove anything or show us something we didn't know before, it provided keen practice for the participants and paved the way for similar meetings.

\* \* \*

In a round-robin tournament between Czechoslovakia's top players, the men's list was headed by Andreadis, who won all his 11 games. He was followed by Vyhnanovsky and Dressler, both with eight wins and three defeats; Tokar and Tereba,

7-4; and Stipek and Kadlec, 6-5.

Top four girls were Kroupova, Harvanova, Hruskova and Schwarzova. Kroupova and Harvanova are young players rapidly coming to the forefront.

\* \* \*

The Standardisation Committee of the United States Association has recommended that nothing be done (in America, of course) about standardising the racket until it is noted how the sponge-ban experiment in other countries works out.

### ANN'S PARTNER

Ann Haydon and Hungary's Eva Koczian, who combined so well together in the Scandinavian championships, may join forces again for the European tournament in March. Said tournament, by the way, is being held in the 3,000-capacity Budapest stadium which was the venue for the 1950 World Series. The Hungarians anticipate a bumper entry from both the East and West countries.

\* \* \*

Jean Belot, who for many years was the live-wire of French table tennis and who recently relinquished his post as secretary of the French Association, has now resigned his editorship of the national T.T. magazine.

French table tennis, incidentally, is

suffering what the Americans would call a "recession" and which we know as a depression.

Haguenauer, Amouretti and Roothoof are not improving with the passing of years, and there are no young players of any class to replace them. Thus the slump.

Sorry to hear, also, that Haguenauer broke his arm during the Summer playing lawn tennis. He is, however, now recovered and playing once again.

One-time big Yugo-Slav hope, Jurica Barlovic, who on many occasions played for his country, is now living and playing in the Saar, Germany.

The English team competing in the European Championships may engage Germany either just before or after the international rally in Budapest.

There is also a possibility that an English team may shortly visit China. I hear, too, that Russia would like our team to test their wares against players behind the Iron Curtain. Indeed, by the time this appears in print definite news of the proposed ventures may have been broadcast.

definitely competing in the English "Open," with Berczik defending his Singles title. The Magyars hope to send ten players but nothing concrete in this direction has yet been arranged. It is also likely that the Czechs will send over a contingent.

In a recent "away" international versus Yugo-Slavia, Hungary won 5-4 after being 4-1 down. Hero was Sido, who, with the score at 4-1, beat Harangozo, and then, in the deciding match of the evening, conquered Markovits, the new Yugo star who had previously defeated Berczik.

Sido suffered his only defeat at the hands of Vogrinc, that dour chop expert, who also beat Foldi. Harangozo, for so long one of his country's ace players, lost all his games. The Hungarian girls won 3-0.

The Germans are already making ambitious plans for the 1959 World Series, which, of course, takes place in Dortmund. Each national team is to have its own private dressing room. There will be five independent catering firms competing for custom, which should mean first-class food and service for players and spectators.

Much of the play will be relayed not only on German TV but Eurovision, so that we over here will be able to see our stalwarts in action.

This will be the second world tournament staged by Germany. The first was in 1931, when a lean, handsome and thatch-haired Hungarian youngster named Victor Barna annexed his first world Singles title.



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Conrad Jaschke of the E.T.T.A.

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SIR ISAAC PITMAN AND SONS LIMITED PARKER STREET LONDON W.C.2

# THE AMATEUR-PROFESSIONAL PROBLEM

by IVOR MONTAGU

Several recent participants in the perennial quarrel on amateur and professional in sport have cited the Table Tennis solution as an example from which lessons may be learned. Perhaps, therefore, a brief account of its origins and operation may be of interest to the present generation of sports enthusiasts.

The question arose with us near the very beginning of international Table Tennis. Our friends abroad questioned the status of the late C. H. Bull, the cricket professional, as a professional at one sport therefore, according to the regulations of some others, necessarily a professional at all.

We in England refused to recognise the objections. In those days the E.T.T.A. was so poor it could not even pay expenses to world championships. We were indignant at the doubts levelled against Bull, who paid his way from his own savings and pennies collected at his club. Moreover he could scarcely be regarded as deriving advantage even from physical condition based on his profession, since there is no cricket training in winter.

We regarded as hypocrisy the claims of "amateurism" maintained for certain foreign players employed in Table Tennis "salons," who observed the strict letter by being paid as junior book-keepers though, so far as could be seen, such duties never called them from the table.

Accordingly, the International Table

Tennis Federation speedily reached the following agreement:

Every Association might make, and was absolutely free to make, for play within its own territory, whatever regulations it pleased. Only in the World Championships no player might receive anything but his bare expenses, in Open (i.e. open to all affiliated countries) competitions prizes are limited in value, and in both of these, as well as in international matches, every association is obliged to accept the bona fides of every player approved by the Association in whose territory he resides and to which he therefore owes discipline.

We added to this the self-denying unwritten "gentleman's agreement" that the words "professional" and "amateur" shall nowhere appear in our international rules, to avoid any of the troubles that might come from application in other sports, according to their regulations, of the automatic bans against every species of professional.

This system in the international field has been an unqualified success. For over thirty years it has completely avoided any incident or quarrel based on differing definitions of professionalism. The players of every country are delighted to measure their strength

against the best that each other country chooses to put forward, and no one ever raises the barren and inevitably inconclusive arguments based on differing social practices, or differing standards of strictness, in different lands.

Now comes the question of national regulations. Some Associations do have strict amateur regulations (such, often, are affiliated to their national Olympic Committees)—applicable of course to their own territory—or even include "Amateur" in their own title. That is entirely their affair.

## REGISTRATION

We have our own way in England, and it is the following:

*If any player receives any reward from Table Tennis, be it from teaching, exhibition play, writing, design and approval of equipment, employment by a sports firm, etc., he or she must register with the national association and pay a nominal fee. All these practices are allowed, to the registered player.*

**The only thing we do not allow is competitive play for money.**

The purpose of registration is obvious: it is so that the governing body may know what is going on in the sport, and use a watchful eye to protect the interest of the clubs and players as a whole against any untoward development.

This knowledge enables us to say that there has never been more than five or six players at any one time in this country whose income wholly or in major part derives from the game. (The number today is surely less). On the other hand there is a considerable number who, picking up a couple of guineas here, a fiver there, have been enabled by occasional coaching or exhibition to pay a part of the cost of their sportswear and travel to various tournaments.

Table Tennis is a game that appeals especially to young people, and very much also to youngsters in what are called the "lower income brackets." It is certain that this system has enabled many youngsters to maintain their activity in the game who could not possibly have done so otherwise, and the totals earned are almost certainly less than provided by the amateur expenses scales in other sports.

This system also encourages players to coach, it encourages exhibitions. We consider both these activities beneficial to the sport. We include writing as an activity requiring registration because we can see no moral difference, in the amateur-professional sense, between teaching with a racket in your hand, or with a pen.

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We bar substantial competitive rewards, not because we consider them necessarily morally "evil" or any such thing, but simply because we fear we are not strong enough as a governing body to be able to keep money competitions straight.

Even our little experience has shown that money matches open the door to deception of the public by false results or falsely publicised stakes. We cannot afford the staff or the vigilance to prevent that sort of thing, so we dare not allow a state of affairs in which, as a controlling body, we would assume a responsibility we could not fulfil.

Another aspect of this amateur-professional question I have not yet touched on—the participation in administration of interested parties, e.g. members or employers of sports firms and the like. Experience has taught us that this also can be a very disadvantageous thing. On the other hand, especially in early and difficult days, as an Association we were often grateful if a keen legislator would himself venture on marketing first-class sports-dress and equipment, for often firms outside the narrow circle of enthusiasts, lacked the faith to do so. We solved this dilemma by saying in our constitution that any interested party on any committee, etc., can be requested to withdraw from discussion of any question in which he may have such personal interest. I believe this is a valuable protection—it is in the tradition of British local government where an interest must be declared; an openly declared interest ceases to be a danger, it can be allowed for by colleagues thus become aware of it, and the law, though essential, has never in fact had to be applied.

**THE OLYMPICS**

I will touch finally on two more points. Some persons, especially abroad, have felt that the refusal of our sport to legislate an international distinction between amateurs and professionals might preclude its inclusion in the Olympic Games, if this were ever otherwise found desirable. I see no such difficulty. It is quite obvious that, should such an inclusion ever be in question, whatever stipulations in respect to competitors were prescribed by the Olympic authorities would be accepted by the International Table Tennis Federation, for that competition, and only those players whose past and present fell within such regulations would be permitted to compete in it. It is as simple as that.

Second, I do not wish to trespass by implication on the terrain and problems of any other sport, and those who have examined what I have said above will easily see that, many aspects, for example the limited financial re-

wards that can be obtained from such a game as Table Tennis in contrast to the "big money" sports like Boxing and Lawn Tennis, make it clear that our own experience, if it may suggest ideas to others, cannot be a ground for the automatic transference of our solutions ready-made to other spheres.

**NOT IN T.T.**

Nevertheless, I have so often seen it said that Open Championships at Lawn Tennis would ruin the amateur game, for the need to pay professionals to participate would run away with the profits and so destroy the main source of the income from which essential amateur administration expenses is derived, that it may be helpful to note our directly contrary experience.

Players in Table Tennis, even if they derive considerable sums from exhibition appearance, have invariably and without exception been eager to participate in world and national championships or to turn out in major international matches. Perhaps they are even the more eager precisely because they are deriving money from the game, for their demand for their services is proportionate to their success in the great traditional competitions which no one pays them for entering.

I do not think it is even necessary, though, to take this slightly cynical attitude toward their keenness. They are sportsmen. They want to partici-

pate in the game in its highest manifestations, and they want to play for their country. It is only fair to note one case where such a player, being selected only as a "reserve not to travel" when the Association could not afford to send a full team to the distant Championship event, offered himself to pay his expenses of several hundred pounds if allowed to accompany the team and be available to take his chance of being called upon.

Such players know they have a duty towards the Associations that strive to keep alive the sport they love for the benefit of all enthusiasts, including the less gifted. I cannot believe that this feeling is necessarily absent from the hearts of professional practitioners in other sports, and that it would be impossible to find a fair way of coming to terms with it.

In conclusion I must say that our experience has taught us, if we ever assumed otherwise, that "professionalism" is a real problem. Historically, the distinction between amateur and professional was originally a class one that is now outmoded.

Nevertheless, the need for vigilance to prevent "money-interest" from corrupting judgment in administration, or fair play in competition, is full contemporary.

Our own all-in system has not saved us from this necessity, but neither has verbal purity of amateurism saved anybody else.

**NATIONAL CUPS**

The Wilmott Cup is due to change hands. London Civil Service (holders) suffered an unexpected 5-4 defeat against London University. Birmingham, meanwhile, are still going strong in their bid to win the Rose Bowl for the fourth successive year.

**WILMOTT CUP**

**Third Round Results**

- ZONE 1 (B)  
Grimsby 5, Sheffield 4.
- ZONE 2  
Manchester 9, Southport 0.  
Liverpool 3, Bolton 6.
- ZONE 3 (A)  
Leicester 6, Shrewsbury 0.
- ZONE 3 (B)  
Kings Lynn 1, Cambridge 8.
- ZONE 5  
East London 7, Wembley 2.  
South London 8, Wandsworth 1.
- ZONE 6  
London Univer. 5, London Civil Service 4.  
Willesden 5, Thames Valley 3.
- ZONE 8 (A)  
Staines 3, Maidenhead 5.
- ZONE 8 (B)  
Bath 0, Bristol 5.

**Zone Finals Results**

- ZONE 7  
Portsmouth 5, Bournemouth 2.
- Zone Finals Draw  
(By January 19, 1958)  
ZONE 1 (A) & (B)  
Huddersfield or Sunderland v Grimsby
- ZONE 2  
Manchester v Bolton  
ZONE 3 (A) & 3 (B)  
Leicester v Cambridge

**ZONE 4**

- Luton v Letchworth
- ZONE 5  
South London v East London
- ZONE 6  
Willesden v London University
- ZONE 8 (A) & (B)  
Maidenhead v Bristol

**ROSE BOWL**

**Third Round Results**

- ZONE 5  
Sutton 3, Willesden 6.
- ZONE 6  
Ilford 1, North West Kent 5.
- ZONE 6  
London Bus. Houses 9, London Banks 0.
- South London 5, East London 2.

**Zone Finals Results**

- ZONE 2  
Manchester 8, Stockport 1.
- ZONE 4  
St. Albans 3, Watford 6.
- ZONE 7  
Portsmouth 7, Maidstone 2.
- ZONE 8 (A)  
Staines 5, Maidenhead 1.
- ZONE 8 (B)  
Bristol 5, Bath 0.

**Zone Finals Draw**

- (By January 19, 1958)  
ZONE 1 (A) & 1 (B)  
Sheffield v Northumberland
- ZONE 3 (A) & 3 (B)  
Birmingham v Kings Lynn
- ZONE 5  
Willesden v North West Kent
- ZONE 6  
South London v London Bus. Houses
- ZONE 8 (A) & (B)  
Bristol v Staines



# STANDARDISATION OF THE RACKET

## E.T.T.A. MEMORANDUM — part two

### What degree and method of control are desirable at the present time?

We think that, because of the nature of the Table Tennis ball, an attractive form of play, a sufficient control, and a desirable standard of physical exercise is achieved by players using pimple-studded Rackets, which, although not actually defined, have become almost "standardised by custom."

These thin-pimple-rubber rackets, although varying in details, consist basically of

- (i) A plane, flat, RIGID, surface (The Blade) which is used to apply necessary VELOCITY to the ball.
- (ii) A thin, frictional COVERING to the Blade. This Covering is used only to apply ROTATION (spin) to the ball.

### Regarding the "Covering":

How is sponge "different"? It may be that a very thin or soft sponge rubber is still only a *frictional* covering, applying spin only.

But the thicker sponges and combination-rubbers have a marked influence on the velocity of the ball. They appear to give extra speed by their compression, and they can reduce speed by absorption of the ball's power.

Their spin effects are generally very strong, too—AND ALL THESE EFFECTS COME INTO ACTION WITH QUITE SMALL MUSCLE-EFFORTS BY THE PLAYER.

It is true that the finest Japanese "thick-rubber" players are very agile and active, but equally true that many more thick-rubber players achieve results with *less footwork* and a *smaller variety of arm-work* than is necessary with thin-rubber.

This makes their play not only less attractive to spectators, but also, we believe, less valuable for their own body-training.

It is often said that sponge play is "faster." We invite all who are interested in this study, to watch carefully, *not the ball*, but the players' muscle-actions, both in play, and as can be seen in films.

It will be observed that—apart from the highest Japanese champions—thick-rubber players are working no faster, and very often more slowly, than is necessary with thin-rubber.

### At what Thickness do these "undesirable" effects of Sponge and Special Rubbers begin to Operate?

We cannot claim to know exactly. Much depends upon the density of the material and the compression of air or gas in it. Undoubtedly the charac-

ter of the play is changed by a Covering even half as thick as the 8-mm. mentioned in the Japan memorandum.

Such a large limit as 8-mm. allows almost unlimited encouragement and possibility for the seeking of *advantage-by-material*.

### Regarding the Blade:

We appreciate the point raised by Japan about thickness of the wood, and our own proposals have suggested no restriction on this.

We think that, if the Blade shall be, as we suggest, a plane, flat, RIGID surface, then it does not matter what weight or force of bounce this Blade possesses.

Why? Because Table Tennis requires equally both hard and soft strokes. If a player uses a "hard" Blade, he needs muscle-skill to play the ball softly. If he uses a "soft" Blade (but rigid), he needs muscle-skill to strike the ball strongly.

With a RIGID Blade, the variety of force and touch must be supplied by the player's own muscle-control, and this we think is desirable. (Our objection to the new thick-rubbers is that they are easily capable of both force and softness—they are too flexible and thus do not require so much flexible control of muscle by the player using them).

Law 4 must also take into account the possibilities of thin metal or other materials which may give a bounce-force equal to that of thick wood. It must also prevent the use of moving parts or any force-assisted parts, in the racket.

### Standardisation by total (over-all) Thickness of the Racket:

We appreciate this idea because it is simple and can be controlled more exactly than measurements of Blade and Covering.

Unfortunately we do not think it can possibly control advantage-by-material, because it is an easy matter to have a very thin Blade and very thick Covering, or other hidden variations.

However, because the TOTAL THICKNESS is the easiest form of measurement, we think it may be possible, after discussion, to combine this principle with other controls of the Covering, the Blade, or the whole Racket.

### General Conclusion:

We believe that the COVERING should be quite *thin*, having only a FRICTIONAL EFFECT and not a force effect. Otherwise Table Tennis becomes a different type of game.

All VELOCITY EFFECT should be provided through the BLADE, which, being always RIGID and a plane surface, will produce reasonably consistent effects.

A thick Covering, having its own variable VELOCITY effects, renders the Blade comparatively unimportant.

Manufacturing technique may well produce changes, even favourable changes, in our sport. We feel, however, that all changes should enter the game gradually, under the agreed control of I.T.T.F.

For these reasons both sporting and logical, we are convinced that standardisation is necessary NOW, in order to preserve the qualities of the game, and to prevent disunity. At the present time we still believe that the limitation of the covering material to thin pimples-rubber would be the best method of standardisation.

## LATE NEWS

### REVISED ENGLISH RANKING LIST

(Figures in parenthesis denote previous rankings)

#### MEN

- 1 (1) B. Kennedy (Yorks.)
- 2 (6) B. Merrett (Glos.)
- 3 (3) A. Rhodes (Middx.)
- 4 (2) J. A. Leach (Essex)
- 5 (4) J. Somogyi (Surrey)
- 6 (-) J. Harrison (Glos.)
- 7 (5) M. H. Thornhill (Middx.)
- 8 (9) H. T. Venner (Surrey)
- 9 (7) K. R. Craigie (Surrey)
- 10 (11) D. D. Burrige (Middx.)
- 11 (-) R. J. Stevens (Essex)
- 12 (-) D. House (Som.)
- (-) L. Landry (Middx.)

#### GROUP A

- R. Allcock (Lancs.)
- B. Brumwell (Essex)
- E. Hodson (Middx.)

- J. Ingber (Lancs.)
- A. Miller (Surrey)
- G. Muranyi (London)
- A. R. Miller (Surrey)
- D. Schofield (Cheshire)
- P. Shead (Sussex)
- A. L. Shepherd (Cheshire)
- A. W. C. Simons (Glos.)

#### WOMEN

- 1 (1) Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks.)
- 2 (2) Mrs. D. Collins (Middx.)
- 3 (3) Miss J. Rook (Surrey)
- 4 (4) Miss J. Fielder (Kent)
- 5 (5) Miss M. Fry (Middx.)
- 6 (6) Mrs. K. Thompson (Yorks.)
- 7 (7) Mrs. J. Head (Surrey)
- 8 (8) Miss P. Mortimer (Warwicks.)
- 9 (9) Miss Y. Baker (Essex)
- 10 (-) Miss L. Withams (Surrey)
- 11 (12) Miss M. Piper (Surrey)
- 12 (11) Mrs. E. Carrington (Essex)
- (10) Miss S. Davies (Glos.)

# The Best in Europe

**ANN HAYDON** may not be quite so good as before the sponge ban, but she is still the best in Europe. That much is obvious by the way she swept all before her to win the Women's Singles and Doubles in the Scandinavian Championships in Stockholm last month.

This was the first big clash of the stars this season, but only Ella Zeller, of Rumania, in the semi-final, was able to give her a real test. It was a time-limit struggle in which Ann showed she is capable of coping with almost any tactical crisis.

Ann dropped the first game, and came back to win the next two, but playing defensive with top spin and chop she dropped the fourth on the time limit. There was an intense atmosphere as they came up for the deciding game.

*Snatching the first point quickly Ann gave Zeller a taste of her own medicine. Backwards and forwards the ball was chiselled. The suspense mounted as the minutes ticked slowly by, but Ann refused to be ruffled. At last, after the rally had been on for eight-and-a-half-minutes, she saw her chance, hit the winner, and that was the end. The score: 17-21, 21-17, 21-13, 15-18, 4-1.*

In comparison the final against Agnes Simon, of Hungary, was somewhat one-sided, with Ann winning in straight games, 21-15, 21-17, 21-9.

Miss Simon had earlier caused the biggest upset of the meeting by annihilating Angelica Rozeanu (Rumania), 21-10, 21-12, 21-9.

## NEXT BEST

General impression, however, was that Eva Koczian (Hungary) was the next best player among the women and she may have been a bigger problem to Miss Haydon had she not fallen a semi-final victim to Miss Simon, who backhand half-volleyed (with an occasional forehand smash) her way into the final.

"Zolly" Berczik continues to rule the roost among the men and was a good winner of the Singles. Although he dropped games to Tomi Reiter (Rumania) in the semi-final and Ivan Andreadis (Czechoslovakia) in the final, most of the Continent are already tipping him as a certain winner of the European title in March.

Of England's two men, Richard Bergmann went down to Reiter on a

time-limit fifth game, while Johnny Leach reached the quarter-finals where he found Sweden's Bjorn Mellstrom too strong.

Leach and Bergmann gave a good account of themselves in the team events where they played as an individual pair against national teams, losing 2-3 to Hungary the eventual winners, after leading 2-1.

## ENGLISH RESULTS

**Men's Singles:** J. Leach bt B. Carlsson 12, 16, 26; bt T. Breumair —11, —15, 17, 8, 10; bt Sido —14, 16, 21, 11; lost to B. Mellstrom —13, —16, —16. **Bergmann** w.o. O. Karlsson scr.; bt N. Svensson 18, 15, 11; lost to T. Reiter 17, —17, —14, 15, 13—19 (T.L.).

**Women's Singles:** A. Haydon bt U. Paulsen 13, 15, 12; bt M. Golopenta 15, 7, 12; bt E. Zeller —17, 17, 13, 15—18 (T.L.), 4—1 (T.L.); bt A. Simon 15, 17, 9.

**Men's Doubles:** Leach/Mellstrom w.o. Bolgar/Skaj scr.; bt Lyttik/Hauth 10, 11, 15; lost to Croneryd/Kinstedt —19, 14, —18, 17, —20. **Bergmann/Flisberg** bt Amouretti/Polakowich 17, 4, 18; w.o. Carlsson/Carlsson scr.; lost to Andreadis/Stipek —7, —10, —7.

**Mixed Doubles:** Leach/Miss Tegner bt Lappalainen/Miss Munkberg —20, 16, 11, 19; lost to Harasztzi/Miss Rozeanu —17, —7, —15. **Andreadis/Miss Haydon** bt Siez/Miss Fielder 13, 18, 10; bt Szepezi/Miss Simon 13, —18, —14, 8, 13; lost to Gantner/Miss Zeller 16, —12, —20, —17.

## TEAM EVENT

Bergmann lost to Berczik 19, —10, —13; lost to Sido —8, 23, —13. Leach bt Sido 19, 6; lost to Berczik —14, 19, —13. **Bergmann/Leach** bt Berczik/Sido 17, 17.

## RESULTS

**Men's Singles: Semi-Finals:** I. ANDREADIS (Czech) bt B. Mellstrom (Sweden) 14, 12, 7. **BERCZIK** (Hungary) bt T. Reiter (Rumania) —18, 10, 8, 14.

**Final:** **BERCZIK** bt Andreadis 16, 10, —18, 16.

**Women's Singles: Semi-Finals:** A. SIMON bt E. Koczian (Hungary) 15, 15, —15, 15. A. HAYDON (England) bt E. Zeller (Hungary) —17, 17, 13, 15—18 (T.L.), 4—1 (T.L.).

**Final:** **HAYDON** bt Simon 15, 17, 9.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** **KOCZIAN/HAYDON** bt Wetterstrom/B. Tegner 9, 18, 14. **ROZEANU/ZELLER** bt Thorsson/S. Tegner —18, 15, 14, —19, 14.

**Final:** **KOCZIAN/HAYDON** bt Rozeanu/Zeller 19, 10, 20.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-Final:** **SIDO/BERCZIK** bt Cromeryd/Kinstedt 13, 15, —20, —17, 13. **ANDREADIS/STIPEK** bt Gantner/Harasztzi 16, —11, 18, —11, 12.

**Final:** **SIDO/BERCZIK** bt Andreadis/Stipek 14, —19, 14, 12.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals:** **GANTNER/Miss ZELLER** bt Andreadis/Miss Haydon —16, 12, 20, 17. **HARASZTOZI/Miss ROZEANU** bt Sido/Miss Koczian 23, —11, 15, —12, 20.

**Final:** **GANTNER/ZELLER** bt Harasztzi/Rozeanu 21, 19, —16, 21.

# BERGMANN AGAIN

**RICHARD BERGMANN** may have a poor record against foreign opposition this season, but he is still too good for the home players.

In the "Top Ten" Round Robin tournament in London last month, he came out a clear winner, beating Johnny Leach, Bryan Merrett, Alan Rhodes and Laurie Landry and lost only to Brian Kennedy.

Kennedy lost his chance of top place by losing to both Leach and Rhodes. The biggest upset was Laurie Landry's win over Leach.

Ann Haydon received an unexpected setback in the women's event, losing to Diane Collins, who, after losing the first game hit back brilliantly to win at 18 in the third. Miss Haydon, however, managed to share the top place with her victor when Mrs. Collins subsequently lost to Margaret Fry.

Joyce Fielder also upset the ranking list by beating Jill Rook, and put up a good fight against Mrs. Collins.

## MEN'S SINGLES

**Richard Bergmann** (Middlesex) bt Merrett 19—16 (T.L.), 10—9 (T.L.); bt Rhodes 11—21, 21—17, 21—18; bt Landry 21—7, 21—3; bt Leach 21—16, 21—19; lost to Kennedy.

**Brian Kennedy** (Yorkshire) bt Bergmann 21—17, 18—21, 21—18; bt Merrett 21—17, 21—16, bt Landry 21—14, 21—13; lost to Rhodes and Leach.

**Bryan Merrett** (Gloucestershire) bt Rhodes 21—9, 16—21, 21—19; bt Leach 21—10, 16—21, 21—12; bt Landry 13—21, 21—15, 25—24 (T.L.); lost to Bergmann and Kennedy.

**Alan Rhodes** (Middlesex) bt Landry 21—10, 21—11; bt Kennedy 21—14, 21—14; lost to Leach, Bergmann and Merrett.

**Johnny Leach** (Essex) bt Kennedy 21—14, 21—14; bt Rhodes 22—20, 12—21, 21—18; lost to Bergmann, Merrett and Landry.

**Laurie Landry** (Middlesex) bt Leach 19—21, 21—15, 21—14; lost to Bergmann, Kennedy and Rhodes.

**Result:** 1, Bergmann; equal 2, Kennedy, Merrett; equal 4, Rhodes, Leach; 6, Landry.

## WOMEN'S SINGLES

**Ann Haydon** (Warwickshire) bt Miss Fielder 21—11, 21—14; bt Miss Rook 21—18, 21—11; bt Miss Fry 21—14, 21—13; lost to Mrs. Collins.

**Diane Collins** (Middlesex) bt Miss Haydon 10—21, 25—23, 21—18; bt Miss Fielder 21—18, 21—19; bt Miss Rook 21—9, 21—10; lost to Miss Fry.

**Joyce Fielder** (Kent) bt Miss Rook 21—14, 21—15; bt Miss Fry 21—19, 21—16; lost to Miss Haydon and Mrs. Collins.

**Jill Rook** (Surrey) bt Miss Fry 21—14, 21—19; lost to Miss Haydon, Mrs. Collins and Miss Fielder.

**Margaret Fry** (Middlesex) bt Mrs. Collins 10—21, 21—18, 21—14; lost to Miss Haydon, Miss Fielder and Miss Rook.

**Result:** Equal 1, Ann Haydon and Diane Collins; 3, Joyce Fielder; equal 4, Jill Rook and Margaret Fry.

# EMBROIDERED BADGES

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COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP - - - By CONRAD JASCHKE

# Merrett continues unbeaten run

Bryan Merrett, the young Gloucestershire player with the stone wall defence, continued his unbeaten singles run in the County Championships, chalking up his 7th and 8th consecutive win in the match against Lancashire. Having already taken the scalps of Maurice Simpson, Ray Hinchliff, Tony Miller, Harry Venner, Bryan Leach and Peter Shead, Merrett added those of P. Strulovitch and Geoff Pullar.

The four matches played in the Premier Division brought no real change in the league positions, as all four top teams won. Only Essex and Glamorgan exchanged positions at the bottom of the table. Essex continue to find themselves in the unusual position of relegation candidates, following their 3-7 defeat at home against Yorkshire.

With the score 5-3 in Yorkshire's favour, Bobby Stevens made a determined attempt to keep Essex in the picture, pulling up from 16-20 down in the third against Stuart Dyson, to 20-all, but it was too late. Dyson got the game at 25-23 to give Yorkshire the winning margin and draw safely away from the relegation zone.

Meanwhile things look black for Essex who will need Johnny Leach for the remaining match to avoid the drop into Division II.

In the Sussex v. Surrey match, the seashiders were well beaten, but Peter Shead continued to show his excellent form which has been evident all season, by beating Ken Craigie. That, however, was all Sussex had to show from the encounter.

Glamorgan, who fielded a newcomer, A. Morris, in doubles, fared

little better in their match against Middlesex, who put in Len Adams for Derek Burridge in singles. Adams dropped his singles against J. Simonson, but the only other game the Welsh team could win was the women's doubles.

Cheshire look as though they will take some stopping in Div. II (North). True, their only match so far, a 10-0 win over Durham, was to be expected, but the successes of Derek Schofield this season, plus the strength of Arnold Shepherd, will make them a very hard side to beat. In Lorna Bown, Cheshire undoubtedly have the best young woman prospect in the north.

Division leaders Warwickshire seemed to have things well under control against Lincolnshire when, with Pam Mortimer having won her women's singles and doubles, and K. Burton and W. Gallagher having won one men's singles each plus the men's doubles, they had established a 5-2 lead. Then P. Skerratt/Mrs. C. Morgan just got home in the mixed doubles, to make it 5-3. Skerratt and M. Sheader, who had each won their first singles, took the last two men's singles of the match as well, and Lincolnshire had saved a point which enables them to retain an interest in the promotion stakes.

## UNBEATEN

Kent appear well on the way to winning Div. II (South). Following the 9-1 win over Hampshire they are the only unbeaten side in the section. Kent stalwart Ron Etheridge made his 50th county appearance, and his first team farewell, in this match in front of his own Bromley crowd. He was given a great reception, and made it a story book ending by winning his two singles, and also, partnered by ex-Essex player Alan Payne, the men's doubles, an event Kent have been consistently losing for the past two seasons. Only Suffolk and Buckinghamshire stand between Kent and the title.

Hampshire's No. 1 Fred Bradley caused some raised eyebrows on producing a miniature sized square shaped bat, with which he performed amazingly well. Seems that, having had to discard sponge, Fred is still going to be different anyway . . . if it kills him! That redoubtable Hampshire pair, Daphne Wightman/Ruth Welch, scored another success in defeating Joyce Fielder/Joan Beadle, but Miss Wightman put up

## COUNTY DIARY

### PREMIER DIVISION

January	11	Sussex v Yorkshire, St. Augustine's Hall, Stanford Avenue, Brighton	7 p.m.
		Middlesex v Lancashire, Guinness & Son, London, N.W.10	7.15 p.m.
		Essex v Gloucestershire, Hutton Residential School Rayleigh Road, Shenfield	7 p.m.
February	1	Yorkshire v Middlesex, Mechanics Institute, Bridge Street, Bradford	7 p.m.
		Lancashire v Essex, Holy Trinity Memorial Hall, Dean Street, Blackpool	7 p.m.
		Surrey v Glamorgan, Sutton Adult School, Sutton	7 p.m.

### SECOND DIVISION NORTH

January	11	Yorkshire v Lincolnshire, Baptist Schoolroom, New North Road, Huddersfield	7 p.m.
		Warwickshire v Cheshire, Flavells Ltd., Canteen, Leamington Spa	7 p.m.
February	1	Durham v Yorkshire, Consett Y.M.C.A.	7 p.m.
		Lincolnshire v Cheshire,	7 p.m.

### SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

January	11	Hampshire v Hertfordshire, The Guildhall, Winchester	7 p.m.
January	18	Suffolk v Berkshire, St. Peter's Church Hall, Ipswich	7 p.m.
January	29	Hertfordshire v Buckinghamshire, Rickmansworth Cricket Club, Park Road, Rickmansworth, Herts	7 p.m.
February	8	Kent v Suffolk, Y.M.C.A., Union Street, Maidstone	7 p.m.

### SECOND DIVISION WEST

January	11	Cornwall v Devon, The Wesley Hall, The Stennack, St. Ives	7 p.m.
January	18	Staffordshire v Wiltshire, Rose Hill Congregational School, Dudley	7.15 p.m.
February	1	Devon v Wiltshire, St. Matthew's Hall, The Triangle, Exeter	7.15 p.m.
		Somerset v Staffordshire, Y.M.C.A., High Street, Weston-super-Mare	7.15 p.m.
		Cornwall v Worcestershire, Torpoint	7 p.m.

### MIDLAND DIVISION

February 1 Northamptonshire v Warwickshire.

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

January	11	Kent v Norfolk, British Oil and Coke Mills Sports Club, Church Manorway, Erith	7 p.m.
January	17	Cambridgeshire v Hertfordshire, Impington Village College	7.15 p.m.
February	1	Norfolk v Hertfordshire.	
		Bedfordshire v Kent.	

### MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION

February 1 Northamptonshire v Warwickshire.

### NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION

January	18	Yorkshire v Durham, Hull Y.P.I., George Street, Hull	3 p.m.
February	1	Durham v Yorkshire, Herrington Burn Y.M.C.A.	3 p.m.

### SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION

January	11	Suffolk v Middlesex, Y.M.C.A., Lowestoft	7 p.m.
		Sussex v Hertfordshire, Christchurch Hall, London Road, St. Leonards.	
January	24	Middlesex v Essex, Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, London, S.E.1	7.15 p.m.
February	1	Sussex v Suffolk,	
		Kent v Surrey, Village Hall, Doddington, Sittingbourne, Kent	6 p.m.

only token resistance in going down 21-8, 21-7 to Miss Fielder, who thus maintains her unbeaten record in county match singles.

Suffolk, in their second season in Div. II, had the exhilarating experience of winning their first ever match in the higher sphere, when they defeated Buckinghamshire by 9-1 at Bletchley. Six of the sets went to three games, but except in the women's doubles which they won, Buckinghamshire lack the finish, and are booked for a return to the Southern Division.

In Div. II (West) the Devon v. Dorset clash was a real ding-dong battle, with 8 sets going to three games. Worcestershire kept in touch with the leaders, Somerset and Staffordshire, by their crushing 10-0 defeat of Wiltshire.

In the Southern Division, Norfolk started their programme with a 6-4

win over Cambridgeshire. Norfolk had to field a last-minute reserve, C. Moore, when their original choice R. Culyer was injured at a football match in the afternoon before the match. Moore did not let his side down, winning one singles and partnering B. Cassell in a winning men's doubles. For Cambridge, J. Thurston and J. Cornwell collected two singles victories apiece, but it was not enough to save a point. Norfolk secretary Eric Fairhead expressed disappointment with the small crowd of 68 spectators, only 8 of whom were table tennis players. Not such a bad turnout for a regional match, though, and if the other 60 were just "pleasure seekers," let's hope they enjoyed the table tennis and come again.

Lancashire's title hopes received a severe jolt in the Northern Junior Division when they went down 2-6 to Durham. George Livesey was Lancashire's only winner, defeating England No. 1 boy Eddie Taylor 21-19, 27-25, and W. Barker 21-12, 21-19. However, Taylor notched up wins in his other singles, the mixed and boys' doubles. As Durham defeated Cheshire by the same margin—Taylor undefeated in 4 sets this time, and Diane Wright and E. Loughnan scor-

ing Cheshire's two successes — they now emerge as likely champions of the division, though they have a long way to go yet, including the return with Lancashire and two matches against Yorkshire.

*Seems with the juniors so successful, Durham might do well in trying to bolster up their struggling senior side by infusing some new blood from this year's junior team next year.*

In the South Junior Division, Surrey are putting up a strong challenge to the Middlesex supremacy. Their 8-2 win over Essex juniors, was a shock result.

Bob Atherton appears to have infused a lot of confidence into the Surrey team. Apart from acting as non-playing captain, Atherton arranges the home matches at his Putney Club, and Surrey Juniors seem to have developed a real "feel" for the venue, if results are anything to go by.

Middlesex, with four of the five team places going to ranked England juniors, look too tough a proposition on paper, but if Surrey beat Kent, then the issue is not going to be decided until the very last match of the season, the Middlesex v. Surrey clash on March 18.

**NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

League Tables at January 1, 1958  
P. W. D. L. F. A. P.

PREMIER DIVISION						
Surrey	5	4	0	1	36	14 8
Middlesex	3	3	0	0	23	7 6
Gloucestershire	4	3	0	1	26	14 6
Yorkshire	4	2	0	2	21	19 4
Lancashire	3	1	0	2	10	20 2
Sussex	4	1	0	3	10	30 2
Essex	3	0	1	2	11	19 1
Glamorgan	4	0	1	3	13	27 1

2nd DIVISION NORTH						
Warwickshire	3	2	1	0	20	10 5
Northumberland	3	2	0	1	17	13 4
Lincolnshire	2	1	0	1	11	9 3
Cheshire	1	1	0	0	10	0 2
Yorkshire II	2	0	0	2	8	12 0
Durham	3	0	0	3	4	26 0

2nd DIVISION SOUTH						
Kent	3	3	0	0	23	7 6
Hertfordshire	3	2	0	1	17	13 4
Hampshire	3	1	1	1	16	14 3
Berkshire	4	1	1	2	21	19 3
Suffolk	2	1	0	1	11	9 2
Buckinghamshire	3	0	0	3	2	28 0

2nd DIVISION WEST						
Somerset	2	2	0	0	16	4 4
Staffordshire	2	2	0	0	15	5 4
Worcestershire	3	2	0	1	21	9 4
Wiltshire	3	1	1	1	11	19 3
Devon	2	1	0	1	8	12 2
Cornwall	3	1	0	2	12	18 2
Dorset	5	0	1	4	17	33 1

MIDLAND DIVISION						
Staffordshire II	1	1	0	0	7	3 2
Derbyshire	2	1	0	1	12	8 2
Northamptonshire	1	0	0	1	1	9 0
Warwickshire II	0	0	0	0	0	0 0

SOUTHERN DIVISION						
Kent II	1	1	0	0	7	3 2
Bedfordshire	1	1	0	0	6	4 2
Norfolk	1	1	0	0	6	4 2
Hertfordshire II	1	0	0	1	3	7 0
Cambridgeshire	2	0	0	2	8	12 0

NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION						
Lancashire	4	2	1	1	19	13 5
Durham	2	2	0	0	12	4 4
Yorkshire	3	1	1	1	12	12 3
Cheshire	3	0	0	3	5	19 0

SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION						
Surrey	4	4	0	0	30	10 8
Middlesex	3	3	0	0	29	1 6
Essex	3	2	0	1	18	12 4
Kent	2	1	0	1	8	12 2
Hertfordshire	3	1	0	2	12	18 2
Suffolk	3	0	0	3	6	24 0
Sussex	4	0	0	4	7	33 0

MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION						
Warwickshire	2	2	0	0	12	4 4
Staffordshire	1	0	0	1	3	5 0
Northamptonshire	1	0	0	1	1	7 0

**PREMIER DIVISION**

**Gloucestershire 8, Lancashire 2**  
(Glos. names first). B. Merrett bt G. Pullar —18, 15, 1; bt P. Strulavitch 16, 14, 1. Harrison bt Pullar 13, 12; bt C. Booth 4, 16. A. Simons bt Booth 16, —20, 17; bt Strulavitch 17, 15.

Harrison and Merrett bt Booth and Strulavitch 11, 11. Simons and Mrs. B. Morley lost to Strulavitch and Mrs. C. Spencer —10, —18.

Miss S. Davies bt Miss Haney 19, —16, 14. Miss A. Cox and Mrs. Morley lost to Miss Haney and Mrs. Spencer —18, —13.

**Essex 3, Yorkshire 7**  
(Essex first). B. Brumwell lost to Kennedy —20, —13; lost to R. Hinchliff —17, —7. R. Stevens lost to Kennedy —13, —11; lost to S. Dyson —21, 14, —23. R. Raybould lost to Hinchliff —19, —17; bt Dyson 14, 18.

Raybould and Stevens bt Dyson and Hinchliff 12, 16. Brumwell and Miss Y. Baker bt Kennedy and Miss J. Preston 12, —14, 17.

Miss B. Milbank lost to Miss C. Best —12, —12. Miss Baker and Miss Milbank lost to Miss Best and Miss Preston —15, —24.

**Glamorgan 2, Middlesex 8**  
(Glamorgan first.) J. Simonson lost to A. Rhodes —12, 13, —10; bt L. Adams 14, 18. N. Parker lost to M. Thornhill —14, —15; lost to Rhodes —11, —14. R. Davies lost to Adams —13, —15; lost to Thornhill —12, —9.

A. Morris and Parker lost to Rhodes and Thornhill —11, —16. Morris and Miss B. Gray lost to Adams and Miss M. Fry —17, —24.

Miss S. Jones lost to Mrs. D. Collins —19, —18. Miss Gray and Miss Jones bt Mrs. Collins and Miss Fry 16, 14.

**Sussex 1, Surrey 9**  
(Sussex first). P. Shead lost to H. Venner —14, —15; bt K. Craigie —17, 14, —16. B. Leach lost to Venner —11, —8; lost to

A. Miller 22, —15, —15. J. Quilter lost to Craigie —22, 17, —10; lost to Miller —17, —8.

Leach and Quilter lost to Craigie and Venner 19, —8, —14. Shead and Mrs. P. Shead lost to J. Head and Miss J. Rook —14, —19.

Miss P. Turner lost to Mrs. J. Head —8, —11.

Mrs. Shead and Miss Turner lost to Mrs. Head and Miss Rook —11, —11.

**DIVISION II (NORTH)**  
Cheshire 10, Durham 0.  
Northumberland 7, Durham 3.  
Lincolnshire 5, Warwickshire 5.

**DIVISION II (SOUTH)**  
Kent 9, Hampshire 1.  
Buckinghamshire 1, Suffolk 9.  
Berkshire 3, Hertfordshire 7.

**DIVISION II (WEST)**  
Somerset 8, Cornwall 2.  
Wiltshire 0, Worcestershire 10.  
Devon 6, Dorset 4.

**MIDLAND DIVISION**  
Staffordshire 7, Derbyshire 3.

**SOUTHERN DIVISION**  
Hertfordshire 3, Kent 7.  
Norfolk 6, Cambridgeshire 4.

**NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION**  
Lancashire 2, Durham 6.  
Cheshire 2, Durham 6.  
Lancashire 6, Cheshire 2.

**SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION**  
Suffolk 2, Essex 8.  
Kent 3, Sussex 2.  
Surrey 8, Essex 2.

**HARRY VENNER**

England and Surrey

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Enquiries 66 TAVISTOCK CRESCENT,  
MITCHAM, SURREY.

**UNIVERSITY COMMENTARY**

**VARSIY GIRLS TAKE UP  
TABLE TENNIS**

**A**LTHOUGH table tennis has held its place in Universities for a good many years, it has only been as far as the men are concerned. It has been neglected by the ladies. Now this state of affairs has been altered and table tennis has been added to the list of the Women's Inter-Varsity Athletics Board.

This is a new venture, but is moving forward cautiously and at last, the outlines of its organisation for the first year have been agreed.

There will be Individual Championships at Reading University in February, and Divisional Team Rallies each comprising of three teams, will be held in the North, the Midlands, and, it is hoped, the South.

Eight Universities have so far entered teams:

NOTTINGHAM, MANCHESTER, NORTH STAFFS, HULL, LEICESTER, READING, SOUTHAMPTON, and SHEFFIELD.

*W.I.V.A.B. Table Tennis needs all the support and encouragement it can*

*get if it is to develop, as we hope it will, until all Universities are included and the standard of play is comparable with that of U.A.U. Table Tennis.*

Margaret Nevison.

**Oxford Prospects**

**O**XFORD are not having quite such a good season as last, but prospects are nevertheless bright.

Since beating Loughborough 8-2 in October they have suffered only one serious reverse—against London, who included Hungarian refugee Muranyi. Oxford also lost to Bristol but with a greatly weakened side.

The Dark Blues' captain, Geoghegan, and their No. 1, Dombey, are all that remain of last season's team, leaving three players M. Hope, B. Bush and J. Lucas, candidates for the two remaining places for the match with Cambridge.

If Lucas, in particular, could steady down he would be a match for the Nos. 3 and 4 of any University. And the other two are of similar calibre.

**LEICESTER TOUR CHANNEL ISLANDS**

**T**HE four weeks vacation at Christmas is an inactive time for most University clubs, but not for Leicester. They have been touring Jersey with a mixed team (*writes P. D. Chaplin*).

Guernsey are expected to make a return visit in March when it is hoped to arrange a match against Midland Universities. Plans are also afoot for a U.A.U. match against Channel Islands.

An interesting struggle in the Southern Division has lead to Reading gaining a place in the Semi-final of the U.A.U. Championship.

They met Bristol in the decider, (both teams having beaten Southampton and Exeter) and won by 8-7. Eneas, for Bristol, retained his unbeaten record in U.A.U. matches, and is clearly the best player in the Southern Division.

In the North, Durham have reached the same round by defeating Leeds 14-1, a match notable for the fine form of Ron Hunter, the U.A.U. captain. In six games he conceded only 47 points. Carr won the only game for Leeds beating Jack Oughton, a surprising result to those who saw Oughton last year against Leeds.

Prior to this match, Leeds beat Liverpool and Manchester to retain the Christie Cup.

**RECENT RESULTS:**

Leicester 5, Loughborough 10.  
Leicester 13, North Staffs 2.  
Hull 6, Nottingham 3.

**ATTENTION ALL LEAGUE SECRETARIES!**

**ARE YOU LIABLE?** In the December issue of "Table Tennis" Harrison Edwards discussed Table Tennis League and Clubs Legal liabilities and said that serious thought must be given to this question, and that it must not wait until after a Claim has been made.

A special Policy for Table Tennis League needs has been drafted by us—the limit of indemnity for any one accident being £10,000—the premium paid by the League is based on its number of Clubs at 4/- per Club for full cover and 2/6d., excluding Third Party, Fire and Deleterious matter in food and drink.

**R. L. Sharman & Co.,  
34/36 King Street,  
Twickenham, Middx.**

Date.....

Dear Sirs,

Kindly effect cover "A" (full cover) or "B"\* (excluding third party, fire and deleterious matter in food and drink).

Our total number of Clubs amounts to .....

Secretary.

League.

\* delete either "A" or "B".

**Letters to the Editor**

**POOLS THE ANSWER**

**I** KNOW we all have pipe dreams at some time or other, usually without any possibility of realising them.

It has been said on more than one occasion that what the E.T.T.A. want is a headquarters—a "Table Tennis House" in London which would house the offices of the Association, include a hall for coaching and individual practice, together with the necessary facilities for players and officials to mix together. This would give Londoners and provincials a rendezvous for talking about and playing the game.

The idea may seem Utopian but many of us are convinced it is not impracticable.

**Supporters' Job**

*Some of us have watched with interest and envy the use that Football Pools have been put to by many sports to raise funds for projects which a few years ago seemed impossible. Those who have seen this development carried out by the supporters of the particular sport feel it only requires a host of ardent table tennis supporters to rise and provide the wherewithal for the E.T.T.A. to do the same.*

It is better that the supporters' organisation should not be part and parcel of the E.T.T.A. but obviously would wish to receive the blessing of the governing body who should appoint responsible people to serve on the Management Committee.

I realise it is not being helpful to make suggestions without being practicable. What do we have to do?

It would be necessary to raise funds to launch such a scheme—probably £300. And, of course, it would be essential to find an army of enthusiastic agents ready to dispose of tickets each week. Is it unreasonable to ask Leagues or interested supporters to loan sums of £1 or upwards for a short period of time to provide the cost of printing and postage, etc. to get the scheme launched?

Without doubt the incentive basis would require to be introduced, which would involve giving the seller of the tickets a commission on the sale each week. Thus a league could do this and so add to their own revenue or an individual could make some pocket money.

I am convinced that, given the will and wholehearted co-operation from players and officials, table tennis would benefit very considerably from an effort of this kind.

*These suggestions have been considered by a Committee of the*

*National Executive Committee and they would be interested to learn to what extent support would be forthcoming and as a practical gesture I have undertaken to try and find out. If those who see possibilities in these ideas would care to write to me I should be glad to hear from them, particularly on two points—*

(a) **Those who would make a loan to inaugurate the scheme.**

(b) **Those willing to become sellers of tickets.**

Here is a chance to show our belief in providing further improvements in the facilities for our game.

**ARE WE PREPARED TO TAKE IT?**

**Jack Ashley,**

44, South Road, Kingswood, Bristol 6.

**Editor's Note:** Let us hear your views, they will be passed on to the N.E.C.

**INSURANCE**

**M**AY I offer my sincere congratulations on the extremely clear and lucid way in which Harrison Edwards in his article on Table Tennis legal liability dealt with this most complex subject.

I would only like to add that since the introduction of the Free Legal Aid Scheme, many frivolous claims have been made by Third Parties. In an action of this kind, it is paradoxical that if the Defendant wins the action, he may still be involved in substantial legal costs. On the other hand, the Plaintiff knows that if he loses the action, it may not cost him anything and he can lose nothing by pursuing the matter.

It is suggested that a Claim of this nature where legal costs may involve a Club in £200/£300 expenditure would be a considerable embarrassment.

**Donald L. Sharman,**

(Twickenham)

**USEFUL TIP**

**I** PLAYED in a match last night and lost two sets that I should have won (Big Head). Today, whilst ruminating upon this to others not unexpected result, I accepted a kind invitation to gobble up the remainder of some chocolate-covered "Beans." Now, having polished off the sweets, what was I to do with the strong, attractive carton. Yes, you're quite right, I promptly housed five T.T. balls therein and they fit, snug, nice and comfy. Now if I mention the name of this attractive carton with its delectable contents and perhaps receive a "buck-shee" one from the makers at York, does this make me a professional, and will I have to part up with a percentage of chocolate beans to the E.T.T.A.

No, upon reflection I will retain my amateur status and just be a real

"SMARTIE."

**UMPIRING**

**I** FOUND Mr. Bacon's article on Umpiring in the November issue very interesting.

As he states use is not generally made of the various Edge Ball and Side Line Judges provided for in the Rules relating to Umpires, etc., for the reason that too many officials around the table obstruct the spectators' view.

Even at Wembley finals with the spectators a long way from the table the Wembley Stadium authorities ask for the minimum of officials.

Most finals at Wembley are played only with Umpire, Table Manager, Timekeeper and of course our enthusiastic scorers who are a good distance from the table. This is an improvement on the old days when the Umpire was in solitary state but even now Edge Ball and Side Line Judges are seldom present and only if specifically asked for, say when it is known that a certain player is liable to infringe the service law.

I well remember one doubles at Wembley in which two Hungarian girls, one of whom was prone to serve outside the side line, were playing. For this reason we had Side Line Judges (outside the playing area) and as was expected the cry of "fault" was heard from away in the darkness.

This caused consternation amongst the Hungarians and I had the task of explaining in sign language (luckily understood) what was wrong. In this case not even an interpreter was present at the table—no doubt in the interests of a minimum of officials.

I do not think we shall be able to use regularly, particularly in smaller playing venues, all the officials Umpires would like.

What I as an Umpire most frequently miss is the Edge Ball Judge on the far side of the table. This Judge could as Mr. Bacon says also judge let services in doubles where the Umpire is standing.

This would prevent a repetition of the recent episode at Hastings where one of our most efficient Umpires followed his usual custom in the mixed doubles final of bending to observe possible let services.

Hilarity ensued amongst the spectators. The cause was unknown to the girls playing and both were highly perturbed, thinking they were lacking or shedding some essential garment particularly as the play was on a stage and they had dashed on hurriedly to replace a postponed final. Several hasty glances at and pattings of posteriors only increased the hilarity and a good time was had by one and all, except of course the players and the Umpire!

As Mr. Bacon says Umpiring is no sinecure.

**DENIS OFFER.**

National Umpire

**GOOD SAMARITAN**

**M**AY I through your columns express my grateful thanks to the "Man in the Raincoat" for making a stubborn car work after the Peterborough "Open."

**Grateful "Ignorant" Car Owner**  
(South Benfleet)

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

# TRIPLE CROWN FOR DOROTHY

It was certainly a great night for the county team at the B.R.D. Canteen, Aldridge, when they registered their first win for four seasons over their neighbours, Worcestershire.

This welcome victory was only achieved after a tremendous struggle which saw back and forth the whole evening.

With the score standing at 5-4 in favour of the home side, Derek Backhouse caused "flutters" by dropping his first game to M. Hawkins but recovered brilliantly to take the next two and give his county a hard-earned 6-4 victory.

The playing conditions and organisation were first class for which Don Pritchard and his helpers must take full credit.

Not to be outshone by their seniors the Midland division team followed up by accounting for the strong Derbyshire side by 7-3.

Star of this match was undoubtedly Wolverhampton's Bruno Vilunas. In

him fight every inch of the way and only conceded defeat by the narrow margin of 22-20, 22-24, 21-15.

The toast of the evening however was Dorothy Worrall who carried off the triple crown. She was concerned in the biggest upset of the evening when partnered by Alan Deeley accounted for hot favourites Geoff Robbins and Marjory Warner of Wolverhampton, in the Mixed Doubles.

Earlier she had won the Ladies' Doubles with Kathy Barlow and concluded by defeating Marjory Warner in straight games to clinch the Ladies' Singles.

Backhouse and Osborne took the Mens' Doubles and Clive Swallow had an easy victory over D. Branson in the Junior Boys' event.

From an entry point of view the tournament was a great success but unfortunately the public failed to respond on finals night.

West Bromwich must be feeling justly proud of their players this season. In addition to the Darlaston success they have provided two players to the County's Western Division team, three to the Midland Division side and the whole of the Junior team who were so narrowly defeated by Warwickshire.

Latest news of Jimmy Hayward is most encouraging. Now home from hospital he is making rapid strides towards recovery but it will be some time yet before he can resume any table tennis activities.

Alec Backhouse.

## SUFFOLK NEWSREEL

THE selection of Hans Fleck, the former Norwich and Norfolk player, for the Suffolk team, appears to have brought the "Greenshirts" luck. Coinciding with his debut was a 9-1 victory over Buckinghamshire — Suffolk's first win in the 2nd Division.

Fleck was a regular with Norfolk until two years ago when he moved to Ipswich. Unfortunately he chose this particular time to retire from the game but has been persuaded to "make a comeback." He is the first player ever to have represented both Norfolk and Suffolk.

The Suffolk selectors have decided that the Junior team also needs altering, and against Middlesex a new discovery, CAROLYN PHILLIPS, is given a chance to the exclusion of Margaret Harwood and Marie Parnell. The team is reduced from six to five players.

**Carolyn will still be a Junior next season and some think she may prove**



DOROTHY WORRALL

defeating Colin Deaton and R. Hallworth he turned on a display of table tennis which was of the highest order.

The popular Darlaston Tournament was the scene of a "sweeping" success by West Bromwich players who claimed all but one of the magnificent trophies and shared the Men's Doubles with Wolverhampton.

Derek Backhouse was once more in dazzling form but he had a tremendous struggle to take the Men's Singles title. John Osborne (Wolverhampton) made

## AND THREE FOR JOYCE

UNDEFEATED in their first three matches against Berkshire, Hertfordshire and Hampshire, Kent have almost assured themselves of promotion to the premier division which they left last season.

The second team have started with a win over Hertfordshire II, and the juniors have lost to Middlesex and beaten Sussex. Certainly the best ever start for Kent, taking an overall picture.

JOYCE FIELDER played a major part in causing all titles to change hands in the annual Folkestone Invitation Tournament. She landed a treble by winning the Women's Singles, Women's Doubles (with MARINA DODD) and Mixed Doubles (with GEORGE ELLIOTT).

Mrs. JOAN BEADLE was unlucky to be on the losing side in all three finals and gave Miss Fielder a hard fight on each occasion.

RON ETHERIDGE recaptured the Men's Singles, with a Finals win over Dennis Whittaker who had surprisingly beaten Kent No. 1 Tony Pidcock in the previous round. The holder, Hong-Kong student Ming Wong, was eliminated by Kent's up-and-coming new County player Roy Coussens.

TONY PIDDOCK and LEN PLANT won the Men's Doubles from the previous holders, Etheridge/Bobby Thorn.

Plans are now on hand for the Kent Junior "Closed" Championships, being staged by Woolwich and District at King's Park, Eltham, a new venue. This is one of the Institutes attached to the Woolwich Recreational Institute, who, under the guidance of their Principal, Mr. L. G. V. Bell, have done so much to advance table tennis in the Woolwich area.

Most of England's leading players are expected to compete in the Kent "Open" Championships, at Folkestone, January 25/26. Amongst those who have already accepted are Johnny Leach, Alan Rhodes, Bryan Merrett, Ian Harrison, Diane Collins, and Shirley Jones.

**the best junior girl discovery Suffolk has yet made since the Junior team was first launched in 1953/4. Some say she is a carbon copy of Pam Garrett, Suffolk's No. 1 woman. She hails from Ipswich, too.**

The inception of a Junior Girls' Singles in the Suffolk "Closed" Championships was a move in the right direction. Held separately from the remainder of the tournaments it was played during late November at the Ipswich Convent and was won by KAY POWELL of Stowmarket.

The Championships' Finals are at Stowmarket on 25th January. This season's entry is a record with 229—an increase of 19 over the previous best. The biggest entry was the 99 from the Ipswich Zone.

Two Juniors are due for their Suffolk Junior Badges—KAY POWELL and RAY BUMSTEAD of Stowmarket. They will be the first Stowmarket players ever to receive this ward.

A. E. D.

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 Entry Forms: **Dennis Rowe**, 380, Speedwell Road, Kingswood, Bristol.

**WELSH CORNER**

# New Venue Successful

**T**HERE was a note of more assurance in table tennis activities in Wales during December.

We started off with a County match against Middlesex, and were beaten, as expected, but there was a good atmosphere to the match. *A large number of the big crowd at the Gymnasium in the Porth Y.M.C.A. were seeing top class table tennis for the first time.*

Their enthusiasm was infectious, making the efforts of Y.M. Secretary Beynon a worth while task. This is a venue we must note for the future—maybe for the Junior International clash with England.

Then came the Cardiff "Open," and Welsh players showed how much they have been looking forward to a tournament of this kind. The Llandaff North Drill Hall provides ideal playing conditions, and although there were less "outsiders" than in any previous Cardiff "Open," there was a good standard of play throughout.

Sensation was provided by the return of veteran Stan Jones of Newport, who, having shed a couple of stone, turned in a performance of top class defence with the occasional telling hit that was far in advance of anything shown by our present County and International players.

**Jones beat Norman Parker, Michael Jones, and Bernard Dimascio, before just losing a close and splendid final to Glyn Morgan.**

One needs to be level headed about a show like this. It probably gives greater point to the paucity of our present ability than to any enhanced brilliance of Jones. He played as well as he has ever done, and we are grateful to him for having done quite a lot to lift the Cardiff "Open" from the mediocrity one might have expected.

Glyn Morgan, too, was back in his best tournament form, beating Ron Davies, Brian Everson, and, in the semi-final, Louis Devereux. The latter had shown good form in a particularly convincing win over John Simonson.

There were many very good matches throughout the event, and also in the men's doubles, where Morgan partnered by John Simonson figured in another close final to beat Louis Devereux and Alan Thomas.

**Audrey Bates had a good day in the women's events, taking all three titles.**

In the singles, she beat Vera Rowe in the Semi-final, and her old rival Betty Gray in the Final. The latter was not the usual all counter-hitting clash between

these two, and Audrey's ability to slow the game down occasionally between bouts of hitting was Betty's undoing.

Audrey and Gretta Holden beat Mavis Counsell and Nora Hutchinson of Newport in the Women's Final. The latter were playing well, and had previously eliminated Betty Gray and Elsie Davenport.

Shirley Jones was unable to get time off to come down for the tournament.

Norman Parker partnered Miss Bates to success in the Mixed, beating Alan Morris and Betty Gray, but the winners had a hard tussle in the Semi-final where Dorothy Greenslade played her best-ever in partnership with Michael Jones, who was also making a welcome re-appearance.

*Altogether a pleasant and successful tournament, and a happy prelude to the Welsh "Open," to be played at the Dumfries Place Drill Hall, on Friday and Saturday, January 17th/18th. On the evening of the 17th, we play Ireland in our usual Mixed International at The Memorial Hall, Aberdare, where Association Treasurer Eddie Thomas is in charge.*

**RESTRICTION REMOVED**

As suggested, the restriction on International and County players in the Club Team Championship of Wales has been removed, and this event is open to club teams of all players in any part of Wales. Entry forms are now available from Mrs. Roy Evans.

Our next County match is against Gloucestershire, at a new venue, the Guest Keen Sports Club in Sloper Road, Cardiff, on Wednesday, January 8th.

To wind up with, here are the positions in the Welsh League as at December 21.

**DIVISION 1**

	P.	W.	L.	P.
Cardiff .....	7	5	2	17
Barry .....	7	4	3	15
Swansea .....	6	4	2	14
Aberdare .....	7	3	4	13
Abergavenny .....	7	3	4	13
Eastern Valleys .....	7	3	4	13
Newport .....	6	3	3	12
Cardiff P.S. ....	7	2	5	11

**DIVISION 2 — NORTH**

Merthyr .....	4	4	0	12
Eastern Valleys .....	4	3	1	10
Brecon .....	4	2	2	8
Tredegar .....	4	1	3	6
Abergavenny "B" .....	4	0	4	4

**DIVISION 2 — SOUTH**

Cardiff II .....	5	3	2	11
Bridgend .....	4	3	1	10
Rhondda .....	4	2	2	8
Port Talbot .....	2	2	0	6
Aberdare .....	4	1	3	6
Cardiff P.S. II .....	3	0	3	3

**JUNIOR DIVISION**

Newport .....	3	3	0	9
Swansea .....	3	3	0	9
Aberdare .....	4	2	2	8
Abergavenny .....	4	1	3	6
Cardiff .....	4	0	4	4

**LADIES**

Cardiff .....	2	2	0	6
Newport .....	2	1	1	4
Swansea .....	1	1	0	3
Cardiff P.S. ....	3	0	3	3

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YORKSHIRE NOTES

# HUDDERSFIELD BEAT LEEDS

Irresistible Huddersfield swept Leeds out of the Wilmott Cup in a 5-3 win.

Irrepressible Stuart Dyson was especially delighted — for he defeated Brian Kennedy after winning a most exciting third game by 23-21 after being 18-20 down.

Irretrievable drives, however, earned Kennedy double revenge in the next seven days. First he knocked Dyson out of the Yorkshire Open and then beat him in an inter-league match which Huddersfield nevertheless won by 7-3.

They like 'em young at Hull. The teenage trio of Betty Kinsley, Kath Whinham and Irene Allsopp set out to retain the women's county club crown for Hull Y.P.I. by trouncing Albion (Sheffield) 9-0.

And consider the thriller starring 13-year-old schoolboy, Colin Gray. Hull

Youths are entertaining Doncaster. Dave McGee beats fellow county junior Michael Dainty in straight games. Hull build a 4-0 lead and share the doubles.

But Doncaster demonstrate dogged determination. Peter Roome beats McGee two straight and Dainty and Terry Wood pull the score back to 4-5.

But Colin, a Hull coaching scheme product in his first representative match, wins his second singles and the match for his side by pipping Pete Duncombe 21-19, 21-19.

Yorkshire junior champion, David Poole, won the Bagshaw Handicap tournament at York. His wins over past winner, Jack Senescall, in the semi-final and John Lyon in a 36-minute final (scores were 30-26, 30-22) avenged several past defeats.



GEORGE CARRIGILL

### BACK IN FORM

After a brief absence from the game Huddersfield's Brian Pennington is in fine form. He hurdled over holder Ray Hinchliff and Geoff Brook in the Yorkshire Open before falling to Derek Schofield, the eventual runner-up, in the quarter-finals.

Then against Slaithwaite in the league his three victims included Stuart Dyson, though Y.M.C.A. still lost, 4-5. He followed this with a brace for Huddersfield "B," who were beaten 4-6 by Sheffield. Brian won a tight set against Maurice Simpson in three games and lashed Ronnie Ridge in two.

For Sheffield, Colin Deaton won both

his singles against Johnny Beaumont and Trevor Cockroft.

Simpson paired with Huddersfield's George Carrigill to win the doubles at the Hartlepool Open. George reached the singles semi-final and a young Huddersfield colleague, Bob Hirst (Y.M.C.A.), reached the quarter-finals in his first open tournament.

The Leeds committee's belief that more players would be interested in closed championships in mid-season than in the spring was apparently right. At any rate the number of entries was higher than last season.

Malcolm Hartley.

### IRISH SCENE

## ULSTER ARE CHAMPIONS

As was generally expected Ulster regained sole right to the title of inter-Provincial champions when they defeated Leinster 14-6 in the deciding tie before a packed house at Warrenpoint. Both provinces easily disposed of the challenges by Connaught and Munster though in their game against Munster, Connaught almost brought off a surprise, being very narrowly beaten.

Ulster received a just reward for this victory when their complete side with the exception of D. McClements was selected to represent Ireland against England. This international unfortunately failed to take place as the English side was fogbound at the airport. It has now been re-arranged for February 13.

The Leinster "Close" championships which were held this season at Athy proved most successful, the men's title going to Tommy Taylor and the women's to Miss Joyce. The only local players to feature in a final were Miss Anne Fallon and Miss Betty Fitzsimons and they were defeated in the women's doubles by Miss I. Howard and Mrs. G. Doyle.

Yet another warning note must have been obvious to Leinster officials when the Collins Cup competitions had to be postponed until next term through lack of entries—only 18 this season as compared with the usual 60 or 70. This competition is really a schoolboy championship and it is a most depressing thought to think that the general apathy amongst the seniors is being reflected in junior ranks. It is a fact that all games have their good and bad periods, and we can only hope that this is just a passing phase here.

S. Dignam.



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# A BOLD VENTURE

By H. JENNER, Chairman Crawley T.T.A.

Worthing T.T.A. stage the first-ever Sussex Junior Open Championships on the 13th April, 1958 at Littlehampton. This is a bold venture, particularly at this time when interest in table tennis appears to be on the decline.

A decline in interest is what those who should know infer, and in consequence we have the E.T.T.A. appointing a Development Committee to investigate the causes and make recommendations for resuscitating the interest in table tennis. The Sussex Association is following suit and perhaps other County Associations are doing likewise.

To me, unknown and unimportant, the answer is simple — *lack of imaginative leadership*. It is as simple as that, but of course, I am going off my subject, or am I leading up to it?

Notwithstanding the prophets of doom, the Worthing Association is confident and making headway under the inspired leadership of their Chairman W. G. ("Bill") Goldfinch, who already has experience of the Kent Junior Open and E.T.T.A. Various committees have been meeting these past four months, and plans have been completed and approved.

Although Worthing are quite capable of running the championships themselves they have created a big "esprit de Corps" by inviting officials of the Leagues to join the main staging Committee. The result is they now have the backing of some five major Leagues, all anxious to do their bit and make it a big success.

The biggest headache has not been box office arrangements, entries, hospitality or playing conditions, but where to obtain seven major trophies (one for each event) and sufficient medals or plaques for winners and runners-up.

Some of us in building up our League or County organisations have been wise enough to appoint the right people to be Presidents or Vice-Presidents, and it is on such an occasion as this that previous good leadership can bear useful fruit.

When Mr. Cornish, Worthing's President heard that his Association was staging the Junior Open, he immediately offered a Trophy. There was no waiting to be asked! Similarly, when I approached Crawley's President, Mr. Bowthorpe, and Vice-President Mr. John Bass, I received immediate response of a Cup from each. Three in hand, and four to go!

To provide for the minor prizes a subscription list has been opened and all Leagues have been asked to circularise their Clubs so that those who cannot afford to donate a cup can at least share in the honour of supporting this first Sussex Junior Open. Within seconds of the decision to do this two offers of a guinea each were made and accepted. Names of all subscribers will be listed in a loose-leaf booklet which is to serve as a permanent record. Such a record will also name all those who have helped and will include a financial statement of the Championships, thus making a complete record under one cover.

This is not going to be just another ordinary "Open." Oh! no. We shall

be introducing a little bit of colour just to make it different. We intend that our foreign and overseas entries will return to their homes full of praise for the Old Country.

If you approve of this brave effort you can help with a donation and be a true Briton. Please forward to the *Hon. Gen. Secretary, Sussex Junior "Open" T.T. Championship, Miss L. Rymill, "Imatome," 192, Goring-by-Sea, Sussex.*

## DURHAM NEWS-FARE

The County teams had a busy time last month, playing four games between them. The seniors lost 3-7 to Northumberland and 0-10 to Cheshire but put up a good show in the first match, Keith Holland beating Heslop and winning the mixed with Grace Brown who partnered Sally Ellis to a fine victory in the ladies' doubles.

For the Cheshire match, Holland was unavailable but Gordon Lumsden recovered from the 'flu which had kept him off the Northumberland match, joined the team and played extremely well. He just failed to beat Shepherd, went down narrowly to Schofield, and with Alan Welsh took Schofield and Johnson to 19 in the third.

Meanwhile the junior side was performing splendidly, beating both Lancashire and Cheshire 6-2. Livesey beat both Eddie Taylor (27-25; 21-19) and Wilf Barker for Lincs. wins, and Alma Johnson lost to Diane Wright while Barker succumbed to the Cheshire No. 1 against Taylor was not quite at his best, possibly feeling the strain of being England's No. 1, but still lost only the one single in the two matches.

In the Men's Section of the Durham Senior League, the holders, Stockton lost their first match to Sunderland 7-2. Their only successes were when Alan Welsh beat Eddie Taylor and Joe Whittingham scored over Jack Stephenson. For Sunderland both Gordon Lumsden and Eric Brown came through undefeated and Lumsden has still to lose a game this year.

Arnold Warentz.

## MIDDLESEX ON WAY TO DOUBLE

VICTORIES over Surrey and Glamorgan in the last two matches of 1957 have sent Middlesex hopes soaring of winning the County championship for the tenth time. However, there are some tough matches ahead in the second half of the programme with Lancashire (at Guinness Social Club on January 11), Yorkshire (at Bradford on February 1), and Essex (at Tottenham Baths on February 20).

The Juniors are well placed to repeat last season's championship win, though they may have to wait until the last match of the season—against Surrey—before the title is settled. Meanwhile, there is still Essex to meet.

The Bernard Crouch Trophy is in full swing and Surrey, with wins over Essex and Middlesex, have made a good start in an effort to remain the holders.

Middlesex lost a close match by the

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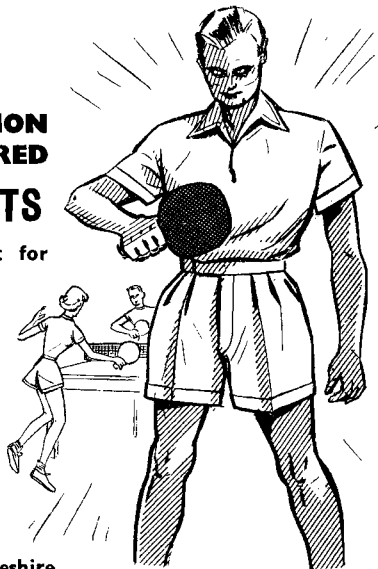
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odd game, having previously beaten Essex by a similar margin.

To give "second strings" a chance of extra inter-county play, each side plays six matches in this season's competition. Thus Middlesex have to meet Essex and Surrey twice more.

Many of the Middlesex reserves would be strong enough for first team places in other counties, and are in fact already knocking at the door in Middlesex.

The Middlesex inter-League tournament is progressing well, but insufficient matches have been played to date to make any forecast as to the eventual winners.

However, Central and Barnets look to be hard pressed to hold their places in the First Division, and Staines may well win their way back.

The Third Division is wide open, but in the Junior section the early indication is that Barnets will wrest from North Middlesex the privilege of contesting the title with Willesden.

Arrangements are well in hand for the "Closed" championships, at Ultra Canteen, Western Avenue, on February 8 and 9. Get your entries in now.

Make a New Year's Resolution to support the county teams. They deserve and welcome a following.

**Norman Reeve.**

## CAMBRIDGE NOTES

IT would be hard to visualise a closer match than the second round Wilmott Cup tie in which Cambridge City beat Norwich.

The Norwich team have improved considerably in recent months and with young Hipperson leading their attack they were very strong opposition for Cambridge and a dour fight ensued.

At 4-3 in favour of Cambridge, after the lead had swung from one team to the other, Reg Dean had a good chance of clinching success by beating Holden, but after winning the first game he faltered and lost the next two.

The deciding match of the tie between Cornwell and Hipperson was a "scorcher" with the 18-year-old Norwich boy attacking mercilessly. However, Cornwell, using all his craft, managed to stem the tide and after a sensational match won the third set by 24-22.

Cambridge Ladies had a tussle with King's Lynn in the second round of the Rose Bowl but narrowly lost 4-5. Avis Pauley played well, winning both her singles and one doubles.

Cambs lost to Norfolk 4-6 in the National County Championship at King's Lynn. John Cornwell and John Thurston won both their singles matches, but the women failed, although playing bravely.

N.C.I.I. are leading the Cambs. League closely followed by Wesley, who narrowly lost 4-5 to them earlier in the season.

Wilburton and Littleport are going neck and neck in the Ely and District League, both having lost only one game. Not a single person in the League is now unbeaten, which shows the keen competition.

**Leslie Constable.**

# BIG CHANGES IN ESSEX TITLES

**ELSIE CARRINGTON** and **BARBARA MILBANK**, in the Women's Doubles, were the only holders to retain their title in the Essex "Closed" Championships. For the rest it was one long series of upsets.

**Bob McCree** followed up a Semi-final win over **Bobby Raybould** with a solid display against **Peter Pudney**, whose Semi-final victim was **Bobby Stevens**. **BRIAN BRUMWELL** was involved in a motor accident on the way to the Championships, suffered shock, and in consequence had to scratch.

**YVONNE BAKER** was the only double champion of the meeting, winning the Singles and Mixed Doubles with **Stevens**. She was also on the losing side in the Women's Doubles Final.

### Results

**Men's Singles: R. MCCREE** bt **P. Pudney** 21-15, 14-21, 21-10.

**Women's Singles: Y. BAKER** bt **J. Page** 21-14, 21-12.

**Men's Doubles: A. GAZLEY/P. CURTIS** bt **R. Raybould/R. Stevens** 17-21, 21-13, 21-19.

**Women's Doubles: Mrs. E. CARRINGTON/B. MILBANK** bt **Baker/A. Stevens** 21-10, 18-21, 21-12.

**Mixed Doubles: STEVENS/Miss BAKER** bt **W. Little/Mrs. Carrington** 21-15, 21-17.

It was left to the "Seconds" to provide the only bright note in the County programme. They beat Middlesex 5-4 in the Bernard Crouch Trophy. The first team crashed 3-7 to Yorkshire at Harlow and are now in a precarious position in the Premier Division, while the Juniors suffered their first set-back of the season

when they surprisingly lost 2-8 to Surrey.

Plenty of puffing out of chests down Romford way. The local Juniors have beaten East London 7-3. What's the significance? Merely that East London have not even been held to a draw since the war, let alone be beaten.

**HARRY SPRAGG**, the East London Treasurer, is latest recruit to the County Umpire's List. **GEORGE WENHAM**, go-ahead Secretary of Billericay League, has announced his engagement to **ANN LUCAS**, daughter of the League President.

**Frank Bateman.**

## WESTERN BULLETIN

Bristol and Birmingham look as though they are going to be left to fight out the Western League between them. The other teams in the Division are beating themselves.

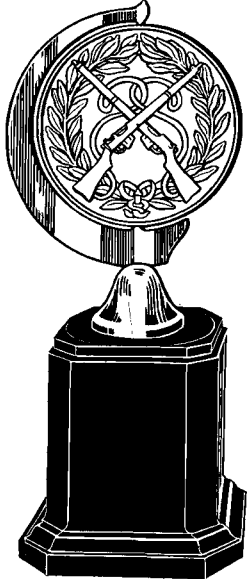
Bristol opened their programme with a 7-1 win over luckless Bath, who are finding the going tough. **J. Lindsay** beat **P. Partos** in straight games to break Bath's duck.

**Birmingham**, meanwhile, beat Bristol "Seconds" 6-2. Bristol II in their turn had slammed Newport 7-1.

**George Philpotts**, just back from Germany, made a scoring come-back for Western when he beat **Basil Evans**, but he could not prevent Newport winning 6-2.

Meanwhile, Newport's "Under 21," made it a double by beating **Weston** 5-3, after a shaky start which saw them lose the first three Men's Singles in a row.

**Grove Motlow.**



**GREAT NEWS!**

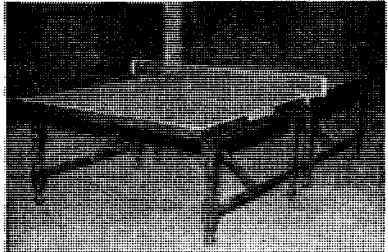
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# FIXTURE ENGAGEMENTS

In the Open Tournaments below, events shown in the column are additional to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D., and X.D., in every case. Tournaments not marked with an "R" are unrestricted. The closing date for entries is shown in brackets after the title. Suitable entries are inserted in this diary without charge but all organisers should send information to The Editor at the earliest date possible.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Details and Venue</i>	<i>Extra Events</i>	<i>Organising Secretary</i>
Jan. 17-18	<b>Welsh Open (Jan. 8)</b> Drill Hall, Cardiff.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mrs. H. Roy Evans, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Cyncoed, Cardiff.
24	<b>England v Wales</b> Hazell's Hall, Britannia Street, Aylesbury, Bucks.		Mr. A. H. Thorne, "Three Bridges," 83, Old Stoke Road, Aylesbury, Bucks.
25	<b>England v France (Jnrs.)</b> Rouen.		
25	<b>Lancashire Open (Jan. 18)</b> De Havilland Propellers Ltd., Lostock, Bolton.	J.S.B. J.S.G. V.S.	Mr. A. Howcroft, 30, Thorne Street, Farnworth, Lancs.
25-26	<b>Kent Open (Jan. 6)</b> Marine Gardens Pavilion, Folkestone.	Y.S.	Mr. F. Betts, Elmsmydene, 88, Surrenden Road, Folkestone.
31-	<b>Polish Open</b>		
Feb. 2			
Feb. 1	<b>Gloucestershire Junior Open (Jan. 10)</b> Public Baths, Gloucester.	Under 15 J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mr. L. C. T. Davis, 8, Westfield Avenue, Brockworth, Glos.
8-9	<b>Belgium Open</b>		
7-8	<b>Midland Open (Jan. 27)</b> Friends Institute, 220, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.	J.S.B. J.S.G. J.B.D. V.S.	Mr. M. Go'dstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.
10-15	<b>South London Open</b> Central Baths, Bermondsey.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mrs. E. G. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
15	<b>Pontefract Open (R) (Feb. 5)</b> Town Hall, Pontefract.	Y.S.	Mr. T. Horrocks, Rockland, Bondgate, Pontefract, Yorks.
15	<b>Gwent Open</b> Standard Telephones and Cables, Newport.	J.S.	Mr. G. E. Motlow, 29, Carisbrooke Road, Newport, Mon.
20-22	<b>Cheshire Open (Feb. 3)</b> Birkenhead Y.M.C.A., Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead, Cheshire.	V.S.	Mr. W. H. Gawne, 9, Eric Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.
22	<b>Wilmott Cup (Semi-finals and Final)</b> Sperry's Sports and Social Club, Gt. West Road, Brentford, Middlesex.		
22-28	<b>West Middlesex Open (R) (Feb. 14)</b>	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mr. and Mrs. Riddick, 29, Thorney Hedge Road, Chiswick, London, W.4.
& Mar. 1	West Ealing Club, Mervyn Road, West Ealing, London, W.13.	Y.S.	
Mar. 1	<b>South Yorkshire Open</b> Somme Barracks, Glossop Road, Sheffield, 10.	J.S.B.	Mr. R. D. Renshaw, 7, Luna Croft, Gleadless, Sheffield, 12.
2-9	<b>European Championships</b> Budapest.		
14-15	<b>West of England Open (Mar. 1)</b> Bristol South Baths, Dean Lane, Bedminster, Bristol, 3.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mr. D. Rowe, 380, Speedwell Road, Kingswood, Bristol.
15	<b>Cheshire Junior Open (Mar. 3)</b> Livingstone Street Baths, Livingstone Street, Birkenhead.	Under 15 S.	Mr. W. H. Gawne, 9, Eric Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.
15-16	<b>Essex Open</b>	J.S.B. J.S.G. V.S.	Mr. F. Bateman, Fairlop House, 61, Fairlop Road, Leytonstone, London, E.11.

# MERRETT WINS AT BIRMINGHAM

**BRYAN MERRETT**, the 22-year-old international from Gloucester, "chopped" his way through the Birmingham Open tournament on November 30 to take the men's singles title for the second time in three years.

He tamed Bobby Stevens, the Essex hitter, 21-13, 21-16 in the final, but he had some narrow squeaks early on. He had a long drawn out struggle with Michael MacLaren, and he dropped a game 21-9 to Eddie Hodson.

Then, the Gloucester lad seemed to warm up. He had no trouble in beating burly Ian Harrison 21-17, 21-13, in the semi-final and had plenty of confidence in the final.

But the real match of the night was the semi-final between Bobby Stevens and Derek Burridge. It was a showpiece, the sort of game to bring the fans flocking back again.

With Stevens walloping everything in sight and Burridge defending and counter-hitting beautifully, the match was the talk of the tournament. Oh for more games like this.

Shock of the tournament came when title-holder Len Adams was "bounced" out of the singles by Ray Lush, a young Kidderminster lad with a smart line in crew cuts. Almost unknown outside his own town, Lush notched a 21-23, 21-19, 21-19 victory over Adams, but was ousted by Stevens in the next round.

Lynn Whithams, the young Surrey girl, slapped the form book upside down in the women's event. She pipped Joyce Fielder, ranked No. 4 in England, 11-21, 21-18, 21-19 in the quarter-final, and went on to beat Pam Mortimer in the final.

Miss Whithams has a useful all-round style and if she keeps this up, she looks booked for international honours.

Miss Mortimer was in tremendous form throughout the day (she whipped Doreen Griffiths 21-5, 21-6 in the semi-final) but she looked tired in the final and never managed to get her devastating forehand going.

But there was a consolation in store for Miss Mortimer. Partnering Jean MacKay, she took the women's

doubles title. The Birmingham pair lost the first game 21-9 to Miss Fielder and Miss Whithams, but they hit their opponents "off the table" to take the next two.

Stevens and Bobby Raybould crashed their way to victory in the men's doubles final, notching a surprise win over Adams and Burridge, while Harrison and Miss Fielder proved too good for Raybould and Miss Withams in the mixed.

## RESULTS

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** B. MERRETT (Gloucester) bt I. Harrison (Cheltenham) 21-17, 21-13; R. STEVENS (Essex) bt D. Burridge (Middlesex) 22-20, 14-21, 21-18.

**Final:** MERRETT bt Stevens 21-13, 21-16.

**Women's Singles: Semi-final:** L.

WHITHAMS (Surrey) bt G. Warner (Birmingham) 20-22, 21-9, 21-15; P. MORTIMER (Birmingham) bt D. Griffiths (Birmingham) 21-5, 21-6.

**Final:** L. WHITHAMS bt P. Mortimer 21-14, 21-16.

**Men's Doubles: Final:** STEVENS/R. RAYBOULD (Essex) bt Burridge/L. Adams (Middlesex) 8-21, 21-10, 21-19.

**Women's Doubles: Final:** MORTIMER/J. MACKAY (Birmingham) bt Fielder/Whithams 9-21, 21-14, 21-18.

**Mixed Doubles: Final:** HARRISON/Miss FIELDER bt Raybould/Miss Whithams 16-21, 21-15, 21-12.

**Boys' Singles: Final:** D. WHITE (Leighton Buzzard) bt G. Livesey (Burnley) 21-17, 21-18.

**Girls' Singles: Final:** M. HICKS (Acton) bt C. Bagshaw (Ealing) 17-21, 21-12, 21-10.

**Junior Doubles: Final:** R. GUNNION (Liverpool)/LIVESEY bt White/J. Martin (Willesdon) 21-17, 19-21, 21-12.

**Veteran Singles: Final:** H. SPIERS (Birmingham) bt F. Smith (Birmingham) 21-14, 16-21, 22-20.

# A LOCAL CHAMPION

## BATH OPEN

**DAVID HOUSE** became the first local player ever to win the men's singles title in the Bath Open (November 30) when he convincingly defeated Tony Condon, of Chelmsford, 21-14, 21-15 in the final.

It was his sound defence sparsely intermingled with spells of accurate aggression that gave House a most

reached the semi-finals by virtue of surprise wins over Ray Dorking in the second round and Roy Abrahams in the quarter-finals.

Margaret Fry dominated the women's events with a top class performance which earned her the triple crown.

In the women's singles final Miss Fry had a long struggle with Mrs. Terry Spokes before winning 21-13, 19-21, 21-14 but her two other final successes came with less effort.

In the women's doubles she partnered Mrs. Marion Wakley to beat Mrs. Spokes and Miss J. Collier 21-9, 21-18 and later, paired with House, had an even easier win over R. Haydon and Miss Collier to take the mixed doubles title.

Paul Racey, of Bedford, won his first Open Junior title when he defeated local boy, Vic Zaslowski in the final of the boys' singles.

## BATH OPEN RESULTS

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** D. HOUSE bt R. House 21-11, 17-21, 21-17. A. CONDON bt D. Smith 21-11, 21-17.

**Final:** HOUSE bt Condon 21-14, 21-15.

**Women's Singles: Semi-final:** Miss M. FRY bt Mrs. V. Rowe 21-9, 21-12.

Mrs. T. SPOKES bt Mrs. D. Neech 21-23, 21-16, 21-15.

**Final:** Miss FRY bt Mrs. Spokes 21-13, 19-21, 21-14.

**Men's Doubles: Final:** CONDON/SMITH bt House/R. Dorking 21-17, 21-19.

**Women's Doubles: Final:** Miss FRY/Mrs. M. WAKLEY bt Mrs. Spokes/Miss J. Collier 21-9, 21-18.

**Mixed Doubles: Final:** HOUSE/Miss FRY bt R. Haydon/Miss Collier 21-11, 21-12.

**Boys' Singles: Final:** P. RACEY bt V. Zaslowski 21-10, 19-21, 21-15.



DAVID HOUSE

noticeable superiority over Condon and his earlier opponents.

In fact, only one opponent gave House any serious trouble—his elder brother Bob—to whom he conceded his only game of the event, before winning 21-11, 17-21, 21-17.

Don Smith, another local player,

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# Kennedy's First Title of the Season

**BRIAN KENNEDY** gained his first "Open" success this season when he won the Yorkshire "Open" men's singles title at Huddersfield on November 30. He did not enter the doubles events which he won last year with Ray Dove and Jean Preston.

In the final he beat Cheshire county player, Derek Schofield, in an exciting match by 22-20, 22-20.

Ray Hinchliff, last year's winner, went out in round four to Huddersfield Y.M.C.A. clubmate, Brian Pennington, who after a poor start fought back strongly to win by 9-21, 21-15, 21-13.

None of the other titles was retained either. The women's singles, not defended by Jean Braddock, was a triumph for Northumberland star, Philomena Heppell, who also took the

women's doubles with Jean Preston.

Miss Heppell's highest hurdle to the final was her semi-final match with Mavis Dyson, whom she narrowly defeated by 15-21, 21-18, 22-20.

Stuart Dyson had varying degrees of fortune. With Marjorie Rhodes he beat a combination of the singles winners to take the mixed; with Maurice Pitts, his new Premier Division partner, he lost to Schofield and E. T. Johnson in the men's doubles final; and he lost to Kennedy in the singles semi-final.

R. Carradice (Nelson) defeated established Yorkshire players and Lincolnshire's Pete Skerratt before going down fighting to Schofield in the semi-final. It was the first time he had entered a Yorkshire "Open."

Jean Preston's father was runner-

up in the veterans' singles to H. Greaves (Oldham).

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** B. KENNEDY (Leeds) bt S. Dyson (Huddersfield) 21-12, 21-16; D. SCHOFIELD (Stockport) bt R. Carradice (Nelson) 19-21, 21-18.

**Final:** KENNEDY bt Schofield 22-20, 22-20.

**Women's Singles: Final:** Miss P. HEPPELL (Newcastle) bt Miss D. Bown (Stockport) 15-21, 21-13, 21-8.

**Men's Doubles: Final:** SCHOFIELD/E. T. JOHNSON (Stockport) bt Dyson/M. J. Pitts (Bradford) 21-9, 21-14.

**Women's Doubles: Final:** Miss HEPPELL / Miss J. PRESTON (Knaresborough) bt Miss M. I. Lightfoot/Miss M. Rhodes (Leeds) 21-14, 21-7.

**Mixed Doubles: Final:** DYSON/Miss RHODES bt Schofield/Miss Heppell 21-19, 13-21, 21-11.

**Veterans' Singles: Final:** H. GREAVES (Oldham) bt G. Preston (Knaresborough) 21-6, 21-18.

## Eagle/Girl Tournament

# CUP-TIE ATMOSPHERE

by KENNETH WHEELER

**HIGHLIGHT** of the Liverpool Qualifying Round, held at Bootle Y.M.C.A. on December 7, was the Boys' "Under-13" Qualifying Final match between Tom Jones, representing Balliol School, and John Brennan, of Everton Y.M.C.A.

Big Tom Jones had steamrollered his way through to this stage using his bat like a club to hammer points home; while the smaller John Brennan had been equally successful with more delicate methods. Now came the clash of style and personality. But there was more to it than that, for Balliol and Everton Y.M.C.A. stood level at the top of the team points table, and only the winner of this game could carry points forward with a chance to increase his team's total at the Manchester Regional Final.

Rival supporters ringed the table where this match was in progress and cheered every point. In the atmosphere of a soccer Cup-tie, Jones won the first game 21-17 but Brennan came back to take the second at 21-16. The "decider" was a thriller, but the big fellow's hefty forehand drives at last began to pierce Brennan's determined defence with consistency, and Jones smashed his way to victory at 21-13.

In the other Boys' Junior Qualifying Final John Smith, the smallest of all the 150 competitors in the round, earned the cheers and the medal he received for defeating Arthur Margerison 21-13, 21-19.

Four Senior Boys (under fifteen) advanced to the Regional Finals — John Ball, of Balliol School (who with a better backhand could go a long way, says Johnny Leach), Robert Eden, Reginald Gray and Peter Keating.

Barbara Leigh was the winner of the Girls' Senior event, in which the standard of play was disappointing; while the medal for Girls' Under-13 again went to Nell Truman, who shares the determination and natural "ball sense" of her famous sister.

As I write, reports and results from the 86 Qualifying Rounds held in all parts of Britain are pouring in with every post. Here are some of the qualifiers to date:—

**Chelmsford Y.M.C.A.**—Boys' Senior: Nigel Bates.

**Crusaders B.C., Raynes Park.**—Boys' Senior: D. Cain. Boys' Junior: D. Cummins.

**St. John's Gym, Yeovil.**—Boys' Senior: B. Wilcocks. Boys' Junior: M. Weston.

**Kenrow B.C., Middlesex.**—Boys' Senior: M. Callaghan. Boys' Junior: J. McManus.

**Newhaven B.C.**—Boys' Senior: G. Divall. Boys' Junior: J. Daynes.

**Goodwyns Y.C., Cosham.**—Boys' Senior: B. Midgley. Boys' Junior: J. Turner. Girls' Senior: J. Hoare. Girls' Junior: J. Ward.

**North West Jewish B.C., London.**—Boys' Senior: D. Offenbach.

**Court Lees School, Godstone.**—Boys' Senior: T. West.

**Brighton B.C.**—Boys' Senior: H. Dony.

**Hillfields Park Y.C., Bristol.**—Boys' Senior: M. Kimber. Boys' Junior: P. Brooks. Girls' Senior: S. Sharp. Girls' Junior: J. Davies.

**Leitchworth T.T.A.**—Boys' Senior: P. Racey. Boys' Junior: B. Sykes. Girls' Senior: C. Monks.

**Willesden Schools Lg.**—Boys' Senior: B. Partlow. Boys' Junior: T. Ford. Girls' Senior: E. Matthews. Girls' Junior: C. Drinkwater.

**Weymouth Y.M.C.A.**—Boys' Senior: P. Applin. Boys' Junior: I. Clark.

**High Wycombe.**—Boys' Senior: D. Campbell. Boys' Junior: R. Scott. Girls' Senior: M. Jenkins.

**Wolverton Y.C.**—Boys' Senior: L. Marshall. Boys' Junior: E. Wilmott. Girls' Senior: P. Saunders.

**Tonyrefail Grammar School.**—Boys' Senior: I. Gibson. Boys' Junior: K. Blake.

**Kenilworth St. Nicholas B.C.**—Boys' Senior: J. Dingley. Boys' Junior: T. Stringer.

**Wheeler Lane School, Birmingham.**—Boys' Senior: William Taylor.

**Radford B.C., Nottingham.**—Boys' Senior: M. Naylor. Boys' Junior: W. Stevenson. Girls' Senior: P. Martin. Girls' Junior: Y. Skerritt.

**Leicestershire T.T.A.**—Boys' Senior: T. White. Boys' Junior: M. Matts.

**Stafford Covenanters.**—Boys' Senior: J. H. J. Collins.

**Market District B.C., Leeds.**—Boys' Senior: P. Dawson. Boys' Junior: A. Hinchcliffe. Girls' Senior: S. Walker. Girls' Junior: J. Walker.

**St. Martin's B.C., Wrexham.**—Boys' Senior: J. Hughes.

**Farnworth B.C., Lanes.**—Boys' Senior: T. Lawrence.

**Ainthorpe High School, Hull.**—Boys' Senior: C. Gray. Boys' Junior: G. Bentley. Girls' Senior: M. Walters. Girls' Junior: A. Brown and S. Hope.

**Doncaster Youth T.T. Lg.**—Boys' Senior: D. Kimber. Boys' Junior: N. Smith. Girls' Senior: C. Blackshaw. Girls' Junior: P. Dainty.

**Washington Y.F., Durham.**—Boys' Senior: M. Davison. Boys' Junior: F. Graham. Girls' Senior: F. Chivers. Girls' Junior: E. Parry.

**Oldham T.T. Lg.**—Boys' Senior: M. Ashworth.

**Wallace Hall, Dumfriesshire.**—Boys' Senior: J. Mason. Boys' Junior: J. Stevenson.

January Regional Finals:  
Jan. 18. BIRMINGHAM, at The Friends Institute.

Jan. 25. EDINBURGH, at Murrayfield Indoor Sports Club.

TOP TEAMS (to Date): Willesden Schools—166; Doncaster Youth—94; Court Lees—93; Market District B.C.—77; Hillfields Youth—45; Crusaders B.C.—38; Tonyrefail School—36; Ainthorpe High—35.