

## THE CHOICE IS YOURS

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## WELSH OPEN

# SOVIET BLANKET AT AFAN LIDO

"THE fastest shot in table tennis." That's how Welsh fans describe Stanislaw Gomozkov's backhand, and they are not far wrong. This young man, No. 1 in Europe, crushed Czechoslovakia's Stefan Kollarovits, in a Welsh Open Final which erupted into brilliance in patches. Gomozkov is casual looking, almost careless at times, yet some of the rallies ended in a backhand which many of the large crowd scarcely saw. Kollarovits had done extremely well to beat Amelin in the fifth game of an exciting semi-final, but he really looked no match for Gomozkov in the final. **The latter only dropped one game throughout the event, and that to Scotland's Malcolm Sugden, who had also beaten Brian Wright.**



Stanislaw Gomozkov  
Photo Cliff Darley Jnr.

## BRIAN TOPS AT ASHFORD

writes Ron Crayden

THE Ashford and District T.T. Association were celebrating their 21st anniversary in March and a highlight of their "big" week was the mixed international, England versus Belgium.

The Belgians fielded their two stalwarts, Vandewalle and Cornil, together with a far better than average girl player, Josiane Detaille-Cornelis.

We made a tremendous start, with "Connie" Warren beating Cornil in straight games and Brian Wright playing splendid to completely dominate the experienced Vandewalle. As expected, Mary Wright won her singles and teamed up with her husband to take the mixed.

We lost a closely contested men's doubles and in the penultimate singles, Warren lost to Vandewalle in the third. Considering that we fielded only one member of our European teams (Mary Wright), this was a particularly fine win. If anyone deserves special mention it is Brian Wright, who won both of his singles and played with composure and skill.

### Engl and 5 Belgium 2

C. J. Warren bt M. Cornil 21, 16; lost to N. Vandewalle -14, 12, -12.  
B. D. Wright bt Vandewalle 15, 10; bt Cornil 18, 20.  
Mary Wright bt J. Detaille-Cornelis 16, 9.  
Warren/Wright lost to Cornil/Vandewalle -16, -10.  
Wright/Wright bt Cornil/Cornelis 17, 16.

There was little else of comfort for home players. Welsh international Graham Davies took a game from the Czech No. 2 Kunz, and Mike Johns, in an amazing match of four 20-alls, upset the form book by beating Stuart Gibbs 23-21 in the fifth!

Nor did the men's doubles produce any better English result. Wright and Piddock had a good fifth-game win over Warren and Johns, but were no match for Amelin and Gomozkov in the semi-final, whilst Lawrence and Gibbs, scraping home in the fifth against Welsh pairs Davies and Thomas, and Bishop and Morris, were easily beaten by Kollarovits and Kunz, who then lost in straight games to Amelin and Gomozkov in the final. Davies and Thomas did well to beat Sugden and Gunnion.

### GRUELLING WIN

The women's event was another Soviet/Czech affair, in which Grinberg, after beating Marta Luzova 22-20, 24-22 in the first two games, suddenly won 21-9 in the third against a very tired Marta, who had previously gained a brilliant semi-final win over Europe's No. 1 Zoya Rudnova. Mary Wright went game-all with Grinberg in her semi, but didn't really look like winning. Mary had previously had a gruelling five-game win over Jitka Karlikova 22-20 in the fifth, whilst Grinberg had been given a hard fight by Judy Williams.

The women's doubles was another five-game duel between Russia and Czechoslovakia, with Rudnova and Grinberg getting home 21-16 in the fifth against Luzova and Karlikova, with the latter looking the better Czech in the end. Judy Williams and Shelagh Hession were at one time two games to one up against the Russian pair in the semi-final, but couldn't keep up some great form.

It was all Russia in the mixed, with Gomozkov and Rudnova winning a tame affair against Amelin and Grinberg.

Brian and Mary Wright were no match for the winners in one semi, whilst Kollarovits and Luzova, after crushing Stuart Gibbs and Karenza Smith, lost in the fourth to Amelin and Grinberg.

Judy Heaps looked to have the measure of Karenza Smith in the girls' event, but then fell away, whilst Haydn Thomas lost once again to his "bete noir" Trevor Taylor.

Men's Singles—semi-finals: S. Gomozkov (USSR) bt J. Kunz (Czecho) 17, 15, 20. S. Kollarovits (Czecho) bt A. Amelin (USSR) -17, -14, 10, 8, 19.

Final: GOMOZKOV bt Kollarovits 17, 6, 8.

## SCOTTISH OPEN

by Brian Mitchell

# TRIPLE WIN FOR SUGDEN

WHEN one considers the abundance of European talent contesting the Welsh Open, the entry for the Scottish Open—which appears at first sight to be a tournament of equal importance—is extremely poor.

However, on to the tournament, and a feature of the men's singles was the appearance of four "south-paws" in the semi-finals, three-quarters of whom were supplied by the English Junior team.

"Odd Man Out" in the semis was Malcolm Sugden, the "Hammer of the English," who reached the final without dropping a game, with Trevor Taylor following suit.

The final was a match of fast, consistent hitting and, despite a great comeback by Taylor from two games down, Sugden retained the title he won last year.

Again Sugden, partnered by Ian Barclay, subdued the English opposition with a final men's doubles win over Taylor and Paul Judd.

Taylor and Judd contested an excellent boys' final, which excelled over even the men's final for speed of hitting, though perhaps not for consistency, with Taylor recovering from 16-19 in the second game to win.

Sugden's third title came in the mixed doubles when, partnered by Lesley Barrie, the two Scottish aces beat the Anglo-Irish pairing of Laurie Landry and Miss B. Montgomery who played extremely well to win the girls' singles.

Lesley Barrie won the women's singles but Olive Hawkins, the beaten finalist was taken to the very edge of the abyss of defeat by Kathleen Angus of Aberdeen. Earlier, however, Mrs. Hawkins and Miss Angus had won the women's doubles beating Miss Barrie and Miss G. Shields in the final.

Men's Singles—quarter-finals: T. Taylor (Herts) bt L. Landry (Middx) 18, 16, 17; A. Clayton (Yorks) bt E. Sutherland (Edinburgh) 10, 20, 16; P. Judd (Warwks) bt I. Barclay (Edinburgh) 13, 16, 16; M. Sugden (Edinburgh) bt B. Kean (Ches) 17, 14, 14.

Semi-finals: TAYLOR bt Clayton 10, 13, 6; SUGDEN bt Judd 20, 9, 7.

Final: SUGDEN bt Taylor 20, 18, -19, -15, 12.

Women's Singles—semi-finals: O. HAWKINS (West of Scotland) bt K. Angus (Aberdeen) 10, 20, -7, -14, 21; L. BARRIE (West of Scotland) bt L. Montague (West of Scotland) 3, 15, 8.

Final: BARRIE bt Hawkins 16, 5, 13.

Men's Doubles—semi-finals: TAYLOR/JUDD bt Landry/Kean -14, 8, -16, 11, 8; SUGDEN/BARCLAY bt Sutherland/P. Cameron (West of Scotland) -20, 17, 16, 21.

Final: SUGDEN/BARCLAY bt Taylor/Judd 17, -15, -15, 14, 18.

Women's Doubles—semi-finals: HAWKINS/ANGUS bt M. Anton/B. Hardy (West of Scotland) 10, 12, 11; BARRIE/G. SHIELDS (North Lanark) bt B. Johnston (Dundee)/E. Smith (Perth) 17, 8, 19.

Final: HAWKINS/ANGUS bt Barrie/Shields 18, 14, -15, 16.

Mixed Doubles—semi-finals: LANDRY/B. MONTGOMERY (Ireland) bt Taylor/E. Rea (Ireland) 11, -16, 19, -17, 17; SUGDEN/BARRIE bt J. Dow (West of Scotland)/Hawkins 14, -19, 10, 20.

Final: SUGDEN/BARRIE bt Landry/Montgomery 22, 12, 15.

Boys' Singles—semi-finals: JUDD bt B. Mitchell (Lancs) 19, 16; TAYLOR bt Clayton 11, 13.

Final: TAYLOR bt Judd 9, 21.

Girls' Singles—final: MONTGOMERY bt Rea 18, 18.

Veteran Singles—final: H. BAXTER (West of Scotland) bt T. Lamond (Stirling) 8, 17.

by Roy Evans

Women's Singles—semi-finals: M. Luzova (Czecho) bt Z. Rudnova (USSR) -10, 20, -18, 17, 18. S. Grinberg (USSR) bt M. Wright (Surrey) 15, -15, 16, 17.

Final: GRINBERG bt Luzova 20, 24, 9.

Men's Doubles—final: AMELIN/GOMOZKOV bt Kollarovits/Kunz 17, 14, 22.

Women's Doubles—final: GRINBERG/RUDNOVA bt J. Karlikova (Czecho)/Luzova -19, 15, 11, 19, 16.

Mixed Doubles—final: GOMOZKOV/RUDNOVA bt Amelin/Grinberg 6, 15, -7, 3.

Junior Boys' Singles—final: T. TAYLOR (Herts) bt H. Thomas (Wales) 20, 17.

Junior Girls' Singles—final: K. SMITH (Middx) bt J. Heaps (Ches) 18, -20, 13.

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## Table Tennis News

Published on the 10th of each month, October to May inclusive. Postal subscriptions 10s. for eight issues post free. Advertisements and Circulation: D. P. Tremayne, English Table Tennis Assn. 26/29, Park Crescent, W.1.

Editorial: George R. Yates, 43, Knowsley Road, Smithills, Bolton, Lancs. Telephone Bolton 42223.

## UNFETTERED

**M**ULTI-SPORTS halls may be all very well and the ideal set-up for the badgered Borough Councils up and down the country to compromise the insistence of sporting organisations for suitable premises.

But ideally each sport should have its own and be unfettered by any system of rotation and the inevitable clash of dates.

Most leagues are able to put on their own annual shows and participate in inter-league activities by the kindness and support of local industrial concerns whose canteen and recreational facilities are generally first class.

Unlike Romford and Burnley, to name but two, the acquisition of premises for full time use may never be more than a pipe dream for most leagues, but need this be the end of the road?

Billiard halls continue to thrive in this country, as a commercial enterprise, so why not a similar set up for table tennis.

One wonders as to the reaction of table manufacturers to the idea of opening up, in the larger centres, the "X" T.T. Hall or the "Y" T.T. Centre.

Operating on the same lines as a billiard hall with half or hourly rates of table hire, or by pre-paid light meters, could be a possible solution.

Under direct management, or in conjunction with a league, such an enterprise could prove profitable, especially with ancillary attractions such as appertain at bowling alleys.

It works at Burnley, which is far from being a large population centre, so why not elsewhere?

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# INTERNATIONAL ROUND-UP

By **CONRAD JASCHKE**

Deputy Chairman and Hon. International Secretary of the E.T.T.A.

## EUROPEAN LEAGUE GROWS UP

**T**HE first experimental season of the European League has been a resounding success, and although we have not done quite as well as we hoped, the season finished with a note of triumph, when England scored a magnificent 4-3 victory over the U.S.S.R. in Birmingham in their last match.

This was U.S.S.R.'s only defeat, and we offer them our sincere congratulations on becoming the first champions of the European League.

The way the Russians took their defeat, which must have been a great disappointment to them, particularly as at that time they had not yet clinched the title, was a fine example of sportsmanship. Mr. Ivanov, their manager/coach, paid a most generous tribute to the performance of the English team. Shortly after the match at Birmingham, the U.S.S.R. defeated Czechoslovakia to clinch the title.

Success breeds success, and many countries who were unable to enter the European League in time have now indicated that they would like to join next season. Wales are putting forward a very sensible proposal, that the divisions below the Premier Division should be regionalised, and that matches in these lower divisions should be on the basis of a "round robin" play off, similar to the way the U.K. Quadrangular international championships have been played. It has to be realised that the weaker countries cannot always attract very much in the way of income from spectators, and by playing off their matches at a central venue, they will save considerably on travel costs.

As regards the Premier Division, this will very likely be increased to nine teams, to make room for the strong new entrants who want to come in. This is the last chance for such strong countries as Rumania, Sweden and Yugoslavia to go straight into the Premier Division, and I sincerely hope that they will take the chance. Afterwards, it will be strictly promotion and relegation, which means that any country which misses the boat now, would eventually have to win its way through a second division.

Now that the competition has proved its worth, it will be up to those of us who will be engaged in negotiations with the television authorities to obtain a substantial increase on the fee of £2,650 which we obtained last time for a "package" consisting of the four European League home matches, the English Open and English Closed. We want to build up our international programme still further, and in addition to European League matches, it is essential we should arrange a number of matches against the weaker countries in Europe, so that we can field our younger and less experienced players in international competitions. It is impossible to expect all these matches to show a profit, though sponsorship may overcome some of the losses we have suffered in the past. But in any case, this extension of the international programme can only take place if we obtain higher television fees and sponsorship grants, because the ordinary income of the E.T.T.A. from membership fees is required in order to promote and build up the game in this country, and the international programme should not be financed out of these sources.

Personally, I am convinced that we can finance a big international programme entirely from outside sources, and we must work for the day when the international side can show a substantial surplus which can be ploughed back into the game here in England.

I will be representing the E.T.T.A. at the European Congress later this month in Lyons, and will also be attending meetings of the European Executive Committee which takes place during the European Championships. One item which I know is of particular interest to many of our members is the report on the scientific experiments on table tennis carried out at the Braunschweig University in Germany, and this report will be received by the European Committee, and I hope to give full details in the May issue of Table Tennis News.

## SWEDEN PROPOSES JUNIOR INTERCHANGE

The Swedish T.T.A. have proposed that there should be regular exchange visits between England's and Sweden's junior players over a four-year period, and the England captains have strongly recommended

acceptance of this proposal. The matter will be discussed with Swedish representatives in Lyons, and a proposal will be put to the next meeting of the National Council in May. The view sometimes expressed that Sweden rely entirely on three or four very strong players for their table tennis future is completely mistaken. As a matter of fact, the Swedes have many strong juniors coming along, and there is no doubt in my mind that they will remain a major force in European and world table tennis for many years to come.

## INVITATION FROM FINLAND

The Finnish T.T.A. have invited our junior team to play a match against the full Finnish senior side on the way back from the European Junior Championships in Leningrad. We are trying to arrange this, and also a match against the Danish juniors, and it is hoped to do this without extra expense, on a round-trip ticket.

I know that our junior captain, Laurie Landry, is working extremely hard to get our junior side to 100 per cent peak condition prior to the European Junior Championships, which take place in August, and our chances this time must be better than they have been for several years. In Karenza Smith, Judy Heaps and Jill Shirley, we have three of the strongest junior girls in Europe, and our boys are not far behind.

## OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

The I.T.T.F. is seeking the views of its member associations as to whether or not table tennis should seek affiliation to the Olympic Committee. As far as the E.T.T.A. is concerned, such affiliation would create great problems, because we do not recognise any distinction between amateurs and professionals, and we therefore could not meet the requirements of the Olympic movement. It is known that some member associations of the I.T.T.F., who run table tennis on strictly amateur lines, are in favour of affiliation, and the matter is being discussed by the I.T.T.F. Advisory Committee. But quite frankly, I cannot see any possibility of table tennis becoming associated with the Olympic movement until such time as the amateur/professional problem is resolved. Certainly we would not want to change our "players all" system, which has worked so well over the years.

## EUROPEAN LEAGUE Further Report by John Pike on ENGLAND v U.S.S.R.

**E**NGLISH grit beat Russians. . . Shock win for England. These were just two of the headlines that appeared in Midland newspapers, after England had beaten Russia 4-3 in a tension packed match at Smethwick on March 5. Few gave England a chance, but after Harrison, Neale and then Mary Wright had given us a 3-0 lead, the atmosphere at the Thimblemill Baths, was reaching fever pitch.

In each case the England players came from behind to win and it was this fighting spirit as much as anything, that upset the much fancied Russians.

Both the doubles, the men's and mixed, were close, but they both went against England, and the Russians were right back in the game, with the score 3-2.

Could Neale now do what Harrison had done earlier and beat Europe's No. 1 and new English open champion, Gomozkov.

After the Yorkshireman had lost the first we had our doubts, but then Neale came storming back to win the second with ease. Leading 10-6 and then 15-10, in the third, the capacity crowd sensed an England victory was a distinct possibility. This game meant as much

to Gomozkov, as he showed us by levelling at 18 all. This, however, was his last ditch effort, and the cheer that went up when Neale got home by the narrowest of margins, must surely have been heard in the Kremlin.

Harrison brought the match to a close by going down two straight to Amelin, but by then of course, England had already done something, few of us ever expected.

Malcolm Scott, the E.T.T.A. representative of the match, was so overcome by this England win, he completely forgot the Russian phrase, he was hoping to spring on us all. He did not, however, forget to thank Maurice Goldstein publicly for putting on an international that will surely rate with the best.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE Premier Division Final Table						
	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
U.S.S.R.	6	5	1	32	10	10
Czechoslovakia	6	5	1	31	11	10
Hungary	6	4	2	29	13	8
England	6	4	2	28	14	8
West Germany	6	2	4	18	24	4
Austria	6	1	5	8	34	2
Netherlands	6	0	6	1	41	0

## SOVIET SECONDS SWAMP AUSTRIA

**W**HILST the top Soviet players were engaged in a friendly international against England, at Bolton on March 6, the second string players were beating Austria in a European League encounter, by seven sets to nil. Scores (Russian names first):

S. Sarkhoyan bt H. Schlutter 13, 19; bt W. Petrazalka 9, 13.

V. Sedov bt Petrazalka 12, 16; bt Schlutter 16, -17, 19.

Rita Pogosova bt Hildegard Hintner -15, 17, 15.

Sarkhoyan/G. Vardanyan bt Petrazalka/Schlutter 17, 18.

Vardanyan/Pogosova bt H. Zinke/Hintner 12, -19, 8.

## News of Bellak

by The Editor

**L**ASZLO Bellak, famed Hungarian Swathing Cup player of the late 1920's and 1930's, and three times a winner of the United States title, won the Florida Open at Orlando on January 21 at the ripe old age of 57!

1928, and Victor Barna, in 1930 and 1934.

He was a winner, however, in the mixed doubles final of 1938, when he partnered England's Miss W. Woodhead to success over the Czechs, Bo Vana and Miss V. Votrbcova.

My picture stirs up memories of those epic battles of the thirties but, taken in Miami, the setting is somewhat different from those bygone years.



Laslo Bellak (left) with Victor Barna

Now resident in Miami, the likeable Hungarian also won the veteran's title defeating fellow Miamian Sam Hoffman.

Three times Bellak was the beaten men's singles finalist in the world championships losing to his compatriots Zoltan Mechlovitz, in

## Soviet Injury Gives Edge

writes Geo. R. Yates

**A**NATOLIY Amelin's withdrawal from the Soviet team for the friendly international at Bolton on March 6, due a foot injury sustained at Birmingham on the previous night, may well have been a blessing in disguise for the Russians.

A re-scheduled match programme placed the emphasis on the four women participants and in this department Russia's world-ranked pair Zoya Rudnova and Svetlana Grinberg had a decided edge over the English girls.

On the night the diminutive Middlesex player Karenza Smith stole what thunder there was as the Soviet team powered their way to a 7-1 victory.

Fittingly, it was Miss Smith, in partnership with Mary Wright, who stopped the rot for on the form displayed by Europe's top man Stanislav Gomozkov, our men were always playing second fiddle although Alan Hydes gave an exceedingly good account of himself.

M. Wright lost to S. Grinberg -14, 13, -13; lost to Z. Rudnova -12, -16.

K. Smith lost to Rudnova -22, -10; lost to Grinberg -19, -14.

D. Neale lost to S. Gomozkov -17, -18.

A. Hydes lost to Gomozkov -17, -14.

Neale/Wright lost to Gomozkov/Rudnova -15, 13.

Wright/Smith bt Rudnova/Grinberg -15, 21, 16.



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LESLIE DAVIES WRITES ON

# L.C.S. OUST GLOUCESTER

**HIGHLIGHTS** of the Wilmott Cup competition was the knock-out of Gloucester (holders) by the well balanced London Civil Service side. This was achieved by the L.C.S.'s great fighting strength after being 4-2 down.

The seventh set brought Stuart Gibbs facing Ian Harrison. Most people present thought that the match was in the bag for Gloucester since Ian had had many previous victories against the young Essex international. But Gibbs had other ideas and demonstrated his recent improvement by winning 21-13 in the third.

From then on L.C.S. never looked back and won the remaining sets.

Let us pause to reflect on the remarkable performance of the representatives of this comparatively small league. Gloucester won the cup for the past four seasons playing the same combination of Merrett, Morley and Harrison.

**The London Civil Service defeat was the first defeat in five years! Only Manchester can equal this sequence of victories.**

One could almost see the tears in the eyes of Gloucester's ever-loyal secretary, Ray Marshall.

Willesden beat Brighton in the other southern quarter-final. Sugden lost but even so Roger Chandler took three games to win this one. The semi-final between Willesden and the L.C.S. should produce another exciting contest and, I think, the eventual winner.

In the northern half, Watford, expectedly, could not hold Birmingham.

Northumberland, the other semi-finalist, had no great trouble with Hull.

## ROSE BOWL

Doncaster carries on winning. Unfancied Spalding were not beaten as easily as the score indicates. Four of the sets went to three games.

Providing all players are available it looks like another Doncaster v Sutton final.

Sutton, however, had to rely heavily on Mary Wright in their match against Eastbourne. Judy Williams won two sets for the losers.

Unfortunately, East London forfeited their match against Portsmouth.

## CARTER CUP

I was a little surprised to see the result of the match between Birmingham, the holders, and Hull. Tony Clayton, we know, is good but the Brum side was a well balanced one. I was subsequently informed that international Paul Judd was suffering from influenza which possibly accounted for him losing two sets out of three.

Bromley's victory over Southampton was punctuated by five three-game sets.

This season's finalists are both "first timers". Good luck to them.

## BROMFIELD TROPHY

This season's finalists, Slough and Sittingbourne, have never been represented at such a late stage before although Slough was only beaten 5-4 by East London in last season's semi-finals.

This is successful Sittingbourne's first season.

**WILMOTT CUP—SEMI-FINAL**  
Birmingham ..... v Northumberland  
Willesden ..... v London C.S.

### Quarter-final Results

Northumberland 5 Hull ..... 2  
Watford ..... 1 Birmingham ..... 8  
Willesden ..... 5 Brighton ..... 4  
Gloucester ... 4 London C.S. ... 5

**J. M. ROSE BOWL—SEMI-FINAL**  
Birmingham ..... v Doncaster  
Sutton ..... v Portsmouth

### Quarter-final Results

Spalding ..... 1 Doncaster ..... 8  
N. Herts ..... 0 Birmingham ..... 9  
Sutton ..... 5 Eastbourne ... 4  
Portsmouth ... w.o. E. London

NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS

R.A.F. CHAMPIONSHIPS

by W/O J. Bishop

## STALWARTS THROUGH

**ENTRIES** for this year's championships, held at Stanmore on March 21-23, numbered 102 from the R.A.F. and 35 from the W.R.A.F. and some great stuff was to be seen.

In the R.A.F. singles, our four stalwarts—Dick Clode, Brian Mayfield, Brian Cullis and "Nobby" Clark all reached the semi-finals. In the final, after losing the first game to Sgt Mayfield, Dick stormed back to take the next three.

"Mo" Hughes made an excellent showing against Alma Johnson in the W.R.A.F. singles final, retrieving some difficult shots but Alma was always in command.

At the conclusion of the championships, the trophies were presented by Mrs. Stewart, wife of Air Vice-Marshal C. M. Stewart, C.B., C.B.E., President of the R.A.F. Table Tennis Association.

Both Brian Mayfield and Alma Johnson are due to leave the Service within the next few months. This will be a great loss to R.A.F. table tennis. Brian has been appearing in R.A.F. championships and playing for R.A.F. teams for some twelve years.

### R.A.F. Singles championship

Winner: Dick Clode (Church Fenton); Runner-up: Brian Mayfield (Syerston).

### W.R.A.F. Singles championship

Alma Johnson (Spitalgate); "Mo" Hughes (Ely).

### R.A.F. Doubles championship

Brian Cullis (Wyton)/"Nobby" Clark (Wattisham); Bernard Clements/Geoff Aswani (Innsworth).

### W.R.A.F. Doubles championship

A. Johnson/Maggie Coe (Upavon); M. Hughes/W. Clark (Ely).

### Mixed Doubles championship

Clode/A. Johnson; Clark/M. Coe.

### R.A.F. Veterans

Wilf Mathews (West Raynham).

## NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS INTO EUROPE

**ARISING** from the International Secretary's report to the National Council meeting of December 2, 1967, the National Team Competitions sub-committee was asked to investigate the selection of a men's and women's Club team to represent England in the European Club Championship.

This committee drew up regulations for a National Club Championship competition based largely on Wilmott Cup/Rose Bowl lines. These were submitted and approved by the National Council on February 3.

It was also decided to enter the resultant winners into the European Club Championships for 1968-69, which left very little time for organisation as the entry forms had to be submitted by July 1.

Explanation letters, entry forms and copies of Regulations were sent to each County Secretary on February 8.

County Secretaries were asked to submit one men's and women's club that would be willing to compete in a knock-out competition with other Counties' representatives to decide the best club sides in the country.

We received eleven entries for the men's competition and two for the women's and a decision regarding the latter competition has been deferred, both contestants being contacted.

The draw for the men's competition was made by the N.T.C. committee and notices were sent out to the contesting club secretaries, together with the other necessary information on March 19. Draw:

Birmingham Central Y.M.C.A. (Warwks) ..... v Huddersfield Y.M.C.A. (Yorks)  
Austin Designs (Worcs) ..... v United Tennis (Northants)  
Langley (Bucks) ..... v Oxonian (Oxfordshire)  
Walcott Park (Wilts) ..... v Jukes Sports (Hants)  
Plymouth Elecs (Devon) ..... v Gordon League (Gloucs)  
Thatcham (Berks) bye

Ties to be played by April 14.

Laurie Landry Reports on the

## International Club

**THE** Club has been fairly active during the season having had four engagements thus far.

On November 25, Kent played the International Club at Canterbury. The match resulted in an 8-2 victory for the Club, Ian Harrison winning the two for Kent.

It is understood that a substantial profit was made and this all went to the Mick Betts Memorial Fund.

The match against England, which was played on January 9 and televised, also made a big profit and this enabled England to send a further player to the Rumanian and Czechs Opens.

Shortly after, on January 14, the Club played Manchester in its first northern fixture and won 6-3. The

Manchester Wilmott Cup team provided the opposition.

More recently, on March 13, the International Club past players played the Club young players. The past won 6-3 at Ashford to celebrate that league's coming-of-age. A very successful evening was this.

The Club also agreed to donate a Cup for the Boys' team event in the English Junior Open. This will be called "The International Club Trophy."

Any league or organisation that wishes to utilise the services of an international who is a member of the Club, or play a match against a team from the Club, please write to the Hon. Secretary, L. F. Landry, 53 Hillfield Road, London, N.W.6 (01-794 6753). Scores:

International Club v England (at Crystal Palace, January 9). Lost 2-5. I. Harrison bt S. Gibbs -17, 12, 19; lost to D. Neale -18, -13. M. Johns lost to Gibbs -13, 22, -11; lost to Neale -7, -14. Miss J. Heaps lost to Miss K. Smith -17, -13. Harrison/Johns bt Gibbs/Neale -17, 19, 17. Johns/Miss Heaps lost to Neale/Miss Smith -15, 19, -20.

International Club v Manchester (at Manchester, January 14). Won 6-3. R. Gunnion bt J. Clayton 19, 10; bt J. Ingber 18, 12; lost to K. Forshaw -12, -12. M. Johns bt Clayton 12, 17; bt Ingber 10, 11; bt Forshaw -19, 11, 17. A. Hydes lost to Clayton -19, -8; bt Ingber 16, 6; lost to Forshaw -15, -18.

International Club Past Players v International Club Young Players (at Ashford, Kent, March 13). Past won 6-3. S. Jacobson lost to M. Johns -10, 10, -15; bt K. Lawrence 15, -17, 19; bt M. Wald -17, 19, 14. J. Leach lost to Johns -16, -18; bt Lawrence 10, -16, 16; bt Wald 6, 9. L. Landry lost to Johns -18, -14; bt Lawrence -21, 18, 23; bt Wald 15, 15.



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## Hampshire and Isle of Wight Youth Clubs Championships

### Record Entry

**THE** 20th table tennis championships of the Hants and I.O.W. Association of Youth Clubs took place at the Eastleigh Youth Centre.

Organisation was by E.T.T.A. coaches John Waterhouse, the youth club's secretary, and Alan Waters of Basingstoke who was the referee.

Members were handicapped from a record entry of over 100 the results being:

Senior Boys: David Phelps (Aldershot) bt Keith Gaston (Basingstoke) -18, 12, 17.

Girls: Sandra Thomas (Basingstoke) bt Janet Pitman (Andover) 18, -13, 12.

Junior Boys: Mike Caudrey bt Colin Sargeant (Basingstoke) 19, -19, 17.

Miss Marjory Smith, M.B.E., Organising Secretary of the Hants and I.O.W. Association of Youth Clubs, presented the trophies.

## NOMINATIONS FOR FOLKSTONE

THE following teams have been selected to represent England in the English Junior Open Championships (sponsored by Folkestone Corporation), being held on May 4-5, at the Marine Pavilion, Folkestone, Kent.

### Boys

England I Trevor Taylor (Herts)  
Paul Judd (Warwks)  
England II Tony Clayton (Yorks)  
Brian Mitchell (Lancs)

### Girls

England I Karenza Smith (Middx)  
Judy Heaps (Ches)  
England II Jill Shirley (Bucks)  
Sandra Goldsmith (Surrey)

The above teams will play as pairs in the respective boys' and girls' doubles, with the addition of Paul Harmer (Herts) and Alan Fletcher (Yorks) in the singles.

### Mixed doubles pairings:

Trevor Taylor/Karenza Smith  
Paul Judd/Judy Heaps.

## Essex Schools Finals

by G. N. Gurney

ENTHUSIASM ran high in the finals of the Essex Schools championships held on Sunday, March 19 at Harlow Sportcentre, although there were rather fewer entries in the qualifying tournaments (played in nine out of 14 local authorities).

With 50 teams fighting out the finals on a "pools" system, some slick organisation was needed, and thanks to the help of teachers and Essex County T.T.A. officials directed by Jack Carrington, all the players got plenty of games and were able to be home at a comfortable hour.

Trophies and medals were presented by Harry Walker, former secretary of Essex County T.T.A.

### Winners and runners-up:

**Boys**  
Under-19 COLCHESTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
Maldon Grammar School  
Under-17 BURNT MILL COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL,  
HARLOW  
Clacton Secondary School  
Under-15 PLAISTOW GRAMMAR SCHOOL, NEWHAM  
Colchester Royal Grammar School  
**Girls**  
Under-19 PALMER'S SCHOOL, THURROCK  
Hornchurch Grammar School, Havering  
Under-17 PALMER'S SCHOOL, THURROCK  
Rainham Secondary School, Havering  
Under-15 RECTORY MANOR SCHOOL, NEWHAM  
Abbey School, Barking

By the time this is printed the successful teams in the intermediate and junior events will already have competed with others in an area play-off round at the Crystal Palace National Recreation Centre. In this only the second year of the national championships—there is no event for the seniors, but no doubt this will come in time so that sixth formers and students in technical colleges may take part and so that table tennis may fall in line with other sports.

## With the Juniors

BY LAURIE LANDRY

TWO international matches against West Germany, over in that country during the period April 10-14 are going to provide first class match practice for our teams for the English Junior Open on May 4-5. Those selected are Trevor Taylor (Herts), Paul Judd (Warwks) and Tony Clayton (Yorks) together with Jill Shirley (Bucks) and Judy Heaps (Ches). Elsie Carrington and myself will be going with them.

Congratulations to Trevor Taylor on his wonderful win over Stuart Gibbs in the English Open after his excellent quadrangular performance in Belfast.

He followed this by reaching the final of the men's singles at the Scottish Open to play one of the best sets seen up there for years against Malcolm Sugden.

The two left-handers, Trevor with Paul Judd, combined surprisingly well to reach the doubles final also. Well done too, Tony Clayton who got to the semis of the boys' and men's, in both events losing to Trevor.

I am afraid I let the team down a little in the final of the mixed, but my partner, Bernadette Montgomery, from Co. Down, improved with each round.

### CONVINCING WIN

A scoreline of 10-0 would normally suggest a complete walk-over but these Scottish lads fought so hard it was sad to see them finish with nothing.

This fifth annual fixture showed that some progress has been made over this period and that these matches are well worthwhile.

### England 10, Scotland 0

T. Taylor bt C. McLeod 10, 8  
bt R. Yule 16, 12. P. Judd bt McLeod 16, 13; bt Yule 16, 13. A. Clayton bt T. Sneddon 10, 13. bt D. McGilvray 14, 14. B. Mitchell (Lancs) bt Sneddon 7, 7; bt McGilvray 4, 18. Taylor/Judd bt McLeod/Yule 23, 14. Clayton/Mitchell bt Sneddon/McGilvray 11, 8.

## SPOTLIGHT ON

# GRAHAM DAVIES

BY PHILIP REID

WHILST Wales have produced a large number of sportsmen of high quality over the years—an amazingly high number for a country so small—it is a fact that in the table tennis sphere the number of top table tennis players is few indeed. Only Walter Sweetland since the war—and this was virtually immediately after—has made very much impression in the world sphere.

There are, however, signs that the patient work put in by Roy Evans, Ron Davies and others dedicated to the cause, is about to bear fruit. Players of the calibre of Abergavanny's Haydn Thomas, Keith Morris (Aberdare), Robert Bishop (Cardiff) and Graham Davies from Bridgend possess immense talent and promise and it seems probable that some of this quartet will be in the Welsh team to visit Lyons for the European Championships. But this Spotlight is on Graham Davies.

### ALL-ROUNDER

Graham's first introduction to table tennis came when he joined the Ogmores Vale Boys' Club in 1961, at the age of 13, and he quickly showed he had talent. Table tennis, however, was not the first sport he represented Wales at but the third!

At school he showed a natural aptitude for all sports and he represented Welsh Schoolboys at both rugby and cricket.

His first tournament was one sponsored by a boys' newspaper and Graham caused a shock by winning the Welsh area. With typical modesty he says: "I failed miserably in the Regional finals in London." It had whetted his appetite and 1962-63 season was perhaps the one when he improved most, reaching as he did, the final of the Welsh Junior Closed and the finals of three Bridgend events.

### UNCLE AS COACH

He lost in the final of the men's singles to his uncle, Des Milton, and he was also losing finalist in the junior singles but was successful

in the men's doubles partnered by Des. Graham was fortunate to have such a capable and enthusiastic coach as Des to guide him in his early days. Des himself was a league player of no mean standard. Both Graham and Des were in the Bridgend team which won the Welsh League (2nd division) in what was Graham's first season in the league.

The 1963-64 season was notable in that Graham played for both Glamorgan and Wales' juniors but studies were starting to take their toll and, wisely, Graham was making sure that under no circumstances did these suffer. The result was a very lean season in 1964-65 and apart from reaching the finals of the Swansea Open and Welsh Closed did little of note.

Initially Graham was a purely defensive player but his game was now developing on more attacking lines and it was obvious that if he were given the time to practice, a place in the Welsh senior team would follow almost automatically.

### NO LONGER A JUNIOR

1965-66 saw Graham out of the junior ranks and some find the transition period from junior to senior a difficult one. Graham, however, quickly showed his intentions.

In the highly-competitive Welsh League First Division he started off with a string of wins and was soon top of the averages. By Christmas he had lost only two of his eighteen sets. The Welsh selectors, obviously impressed, put him on the Ranking List at No. 11.

Being talented at more than one sport sometimes has its repercussions. Graham was still at school at this time and played for the first team at rugby. The matches were played on Saturday mornings. It says much for both his energy and enthusiasm that he was able to play his rugby matches, have a hurried lunch and then dash off to a tournament or a Welsh League match.

In the circumstances, lapses in form would probably have been excusable but there were none. He was virtually unbeatable in the Welsh League. The Welsh senior badge he had so desperately set his heart on was not long delayed. A young Welsh team was chosen for the European Championships at Wembley and Graham was in the side. He more than justified his inclusion reaching the fourth round of the singles and playing well in the three Internationals.

### FURTHER HONOURS

The Bridgend all-rounder had taken success in his stride and it was difficult to imagine a more modest player. The Summer of 1966 saw him preparing for further honours in the following season but he still took a few wickets with his off-spinners and Glamorgan C.C. had already cast their eyes in his direction. However, table tennis remained his prime sport and the 1966-67 season opened for Graham in fine style.

All the top Welsh players met for special training at Afan Lido at the conclusion of which a "Round Robin" was held. Graham finished in top position and the No. 1 ranking in Wales soon followed. It was a sudden and unexpected rise to the top but it was well-merited. One thing which has always disappointed the Welsh is the failure to win any of their open tournaments if any English-ranked players enter.

Whilst English players are always welcome at the tourneys an odd win here and there for the home country would add interest but there was no telling when this would happen. There just HAD to be a first time and it was Graham's lot to be the executioner. The Glamorgan Open always has a

strong entry but first Roy Morley, then Haydn Thomas and finally Dennis Holland were all beaten by Graham; a win which was welcomed throughout Wales.

### PLACE ASSURED

His place in the Quadrangular was assured and in it he brought off a fine win against Scotland's Brian Kean. Last April the World Championships were held in Stockholm, and although everybody must have felt Graham was a "cert" he would have none of it until the team was actually announced. When he realised he was in, his delight knew no bounds.

There may have been better players than Graham at Stockholm but few, if any, had worked harder to secure their place there. As usual his temperament was unruffled but Wales had three very tough matches to open with. They won only one set in three matches but then Graham really came into his own.

He had two wins against Norway, including a victory over Norwegian champion K. Havag and followed by taking two off Spain in Wales' 5-4 win. Undefeated against Ecuador he took two more against Jersey and finished with eight wins against eleven defeats—a tremendous performance.

The current season has not been studded with success for Graham, whose game is now almost continuous loop and hit. Studying in London has given him the opportunity for better practice but results have eluded him.

Selected for the Regional European League matches, held in Jersey, Graham finished with 50 per cent. He plays now for London University in the Central London League but when he is home he still plays for the club which first brought him into the table tennis world—Ogmores Vale Boys' Club.

### STILL IMPROVING

Graham, as a player, is still improving. Of that there can be no doubt. His loop is becoming more consistent, his attack more lethal. And experience is beginning to show in his game. On the table he is a model of sportsmanship.

I well remember seeing Graham at the European at Wembley where he seemed to think he was just a sort of reserve who had no real right to be there. But Wales had picked Graham and he was there for one reason only—on merit. Whenever I have seen him he has always seemed surprised that he should be chosen to represent his country. Maybe if he could assert his authority on the table a little more he would be an even better player!

It is not within the scope of this column to predict who the selectors will choose for what, nor would I wish it to be. It is clear, however, that Graham must have a pretty good chance of being chosen for the European in Lyons.

I have a feeling that next season will be an even better year for Graham. By then his year's competitive play, followed (I think) by a Summer's intensive practice should put him ready to tackle much more formidable obstacles.

Graham has the game to go on playing for Wales for many years yet. Even when his reflexes slow down he is intelligent and capable enough to adapt his game. The defence which uncle Des Milton taught him may be dormant at the moment but it is by no means dead and the time may come when he will again have occasion to use it.

But even if he never puts another point on his game, the Principality should be proud of Graham. A modest sportsman who has represented his country at three sports. And a sportsman in every sense of the word.

## FIRST ENGLISH JUNIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Sponsored by Folkestone Corporation)

Marine Pavilion, Folkestone, Kent  
on Saturday & Sunday, 4th & 5th May, 1968

INTERNATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS  
on Saturday, 4th May, commencing at 9.30 a.m.  
Finals at approx. 7 p.m.

### INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

on Sunday, 5th May, commencing at 9 a.m.  
(If necessary, the qualifying and some first round singles matches may be played on the Saturday)  
Finals will be at 7 p.m.

### PRICES OF ADMISSION

Saturday (all day) ... .. 5/-  
(Children 2/6)  
Sunday (morning and afternoon) Seats 5/-  
(Children 2/6)  
Sunday (evening) Finals ... .. Seats 5/-  
(Children 2/6)

Accommodation can be booked at hotels or guest houses adjacent to the venue, at reasonable rates, by contacting Mr. Godden, St. Clair Hotel, Marine Crescent, Folkestone, Kent (telephone Folkestone 52312).

All other information from the Hon. Organiser, CHAS M. WYLES, 48 EVERSFIELD PLACE, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, SUSSEX (telephone Hastings 391), or the E.T.T.A. office.

It is already known that a number of continental countries will be sending teams to compete in the championships. It is expected that there will be at least twelve teams entered in the team championships. The final numbers will not be known until after the closing date, 8th April. The draw will take place on 13th April at 76 Sherrard Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

## BEST TRAINED SCHOOL GROUP

Results of final play-off, held at Northfields Y.M.C.A. Sports Hall, Birmingham:

1. BURNLEY WOOD County Secondary School
2. MALORY School, London, S.E.13
3. BROKEN CROSS County Secondary School, Macclesfield
4. NEWBURY County High School for Girls
5. EXMOUTH Secondary School
6. WILNECOTE High School, Tamworth

**TEESIDE OPEN**

**NORTHUMBERLAND DOMINATE SENIORS**

by Alan Ransome

THE first Teeside Open held at the Stockton Sports Stadium on February 24-25 was one dominated in the senior events, held on the second day, by Northumberland players who carried off four titles and had a share in a fifth.

Brian Burn was in sparkling form taking his third tournament men's singles award of the season beating Brian Mitchell in the semis and Derek Schofield in the final without ever looking in trouble. Top seed, Alan Hydes, was a non-starter.

Maureen Heppell was given a fright in the women's singles by her aunt, Phil Clark, who began with a 21-11 first game success in the semis but thereafter lost the next two. In the final Sandra Pegg put up a gallant fight but Maureen proved too strong for her.

Closest result was in the final of the men's doubles when Burn, partnered by his coach, Harry Dignan, was deprived of the triple crown when losing to county team-mates Arthur Chilvers and Peter Hoyles.

Tony Boasman and Susan Pacitto were the players to take the eye in the junior events with Boasman winning the U-15 singles title and in partnership with Alan Fletcher, the U-15 doubles and reaching the final of the U-17 doubles. In the final of the U-17 singles, Boasman ran Tony Clayton to 18 in the third to complete a memorable day.

Miss Pacitto had a similar success story which began with her ousting top seed Jennifer Cornock from the U-17 girls' singles only losing in the final to Linda Forkes. Again in the U-15 singles Miss Pacitto reached the final losing to Susan Lisle, but later combined with her conqueror to take the U-15 girls' doubles.

Clayton was in good form to win the U-17 boys' singles beating Mitchell who had brought off a good win over the higher ranked Paul Judd in the semis.

Peter Taylor looks a certainty to follow in the footsteps of his brother, Trevor, being in complete command in the U-13 event and looking very dangerous in the older events.

The Tournament Committee did well to get through a mammoth programme by 10 p.m. on Sunday.

**Men's Singles—semi-finals:** D. SCHOFIELD (Ches) bt D. Munt (Warwks) 17, 18; B. BURN (Northumb) bt B. Mitchell (Lancs) 9, 13.  
**Final:** BURN bt Schofield 9, 13.

**Women's Singles—semi-finals:** M. HEPPELL (Northumb) bt P. Clark (Northumb) -11, 15, 10; S. PEGG (Derbys) bt L. Forkes (Yorks) 15, 14.  
**Final:** HEPPELL bt Pegg 12, 14.

**Men's Doubles—semi-finals:** BURN/H. DIGNAN (Northumb) bt J. Davies (Yorks)/P. Glynn (Warwks) 22, 20; A. CHILVERS/P. HOYLES (Northumb) bt D. Hirst/M. Mear (Yorks) 14, -15, 17.  
**Final:** CHILVERS/HOYLES bt Burn/Dignan 17, -15, 19.

**Women's Doubles—semi-finals:** FORKES/S. LEE (Yorks) bt Heppell/V. King (Yorks) 17, 21; P. DAINTY (Yorks)/PEGG bt J. Bult/L. Twidale (Yorks) 16, 9.

**Mixed Doubles—semi-finals:** CHILVERS/V. BAKER (Northumb) bt R. Bhalla (Northumb)/Clark 15, -12, 14; BURN/PEGG bt R. Hinchcliff (Yorks)/Twidale 18, 12.  
**Final:** BURN/PEGG bt Chilvers/Baker 13, 21.

**Hull Closed**

**Men's Singles—semi-finals:** Dave Bartlett bt Alan Fletcher 8, 9. Graham Birch bt Eddie Beedle 15, 19.  
**Final:** BIRCH bt Bartlett 8, 12.

**Women's Singles—semi-finals:** Betty Allan bt Gladys Mears 19, 14. June Bult bt Lynda Twidale 18, 15.  
**Final:** ALLAN bt Bult 17, 15.

**Junior Boys' Singles—semi-finals:** Tony Clayton bt Chris Boothby 15, 8. Fletcher bt Andrew Petrie 16, 15.  
**Final:** CLAYTON bt Fletcher 17, 12.

**Junior Girls' Singles—semi-finals:** Valerie King bt Lynda Sutton 15, 9. Nadine Sothcott bt Brenda Whitfield 13, -20, 12.  
**Final:** KING bt Sothcott -21, 18, 18.

**Veterans' Singles:** Bill Devine bt Sam Marshall 13, 16. Ken Jordan bt Harold Litchfield 15, 17.

**Veteran Singles—semi-finals:** DIG-NAN bt G. Daniel (Durham) 13, 15; HEPPELL (Northumb) bt S. Nunn (Yorks) 17, -12, 18.  
**Final:** DIGNAN bt Heppell 14, 18.

**JUNIORS**

**U-17 Boys' Singles—semi-finals:** MITCHELL bt P. Judd (Warwks) 17, 15; A. CLAYTON (Yorks) bt A. Boasman (Lancs) -17, 12, 18.  
**Final:** CLAYTON bt Mitchell 17, 14.

**Girls' Singles—semi-finals:** S. PACITTO (Bucks) bt King -18, 19, 19; FORKES bt L. Bashford (Yorks) 14, 15.  
**Final:** FORKES bt Pacitto 14, 15.

**Boys' Doubles—final:** JUDD/MITCHELL bt A. Fletcher (Yorks)/Boasman 14, -20, 19.

**Girls' Doubles—final:** BASHFORD/FORKES bt J. Cornock (Warwks)/S. Lisle (Lancs) 11, 16.

**Mixed Doubles—final:** JUDD/CORNOCK bt Mitchell/Forkes 19, 18.

**U-15 Boys' Singles—final:** BOASMAN bt Fletcher 13, -14, 19.

**Girls' Singles—final:** LISLE bt Pacitto 10, -14, 19.

**Boys' Doubles—final:** BOASMAN/FLETCHER bt P. Abel (Yorks)/N. Jarvis (Durham) 13, 18.

**Girls' Doubles—final:** LISLE/PACITTO bt J. Dyer (Lancs)/King 19, 19.

**U-13 Boys Singles:** P. TAYLOR (Herts) bt D. Starkie (Yorks) 9, -20, 15.

**ESSEX NOTES**

**Barnes Repels Invaders**

by Laurie Landry

CHESTER Barnes scored a good win at Harlow on February 24 when he beat Brian Wright, both having had it comfortable en route to the final without the loss of a game.

Jill Shirley was in excellent form, defending well and picking out some really good hits to win the women's singles title beating Pauline Piddock in the final.

**Men's Singles—quarter finals:** P. Williams (Sussex) bt T. Taylor (Herts) -18, 18, 14; C. Barnes (Essex) bt K. Lawrence (Essex) 13, 16; B. Wright (Middx) bt P. Shirley (Bucks) 13, 11; D. Brown (Essex) bt R. Stevens (Essex) -17, 9, 19.

**Semi-finals:** BARNES bt Williams 18, 14; WRIGHT bt Brown 17, 19.

**Final:** BARNES bt Wright 12, -20, 13.

**Women's Singles—semi-finals:** SHIRLEY (Bucks) bt J. Billington (Berks) 16, -15, 17; P. PIDDOCK (Kent) bt J. Williams (Sussex) -17, 15, 8.

**Final:** SHIRLEY bt Piddock 16, -13, 18.

**Men's Doubles—semi-finals:** STEVENS/WRIGHT bt L. Landry (Middx)/Taylor 13, 18; BARNES/LAWRENCE bt J. Kedge (Kent)/I. Marshall (Yorks) 9, 13.

**Final:** STEVENS/WRIGHT bt Barnes/Lawrence -15, 15, 19.

**Women's Doubles—semi-finals:** L. RADFORD/D. SIMPSON (Essex) bt S. Hession (Essex)/Williams 18, -5, 11; PIDDOCK/SHIRLEY bt E. Carrington (Essex)/Billington 18, 12.

**Final:** RADFORD/SIMPSON bt Piddock/Shirley 11, 11.

**Final:** DEVINE bt Jordan 16, -16, 12.

**Men's Doubles—semi-finals:** Roy Hinchcliffe/Clayton bt Ron Jackson/Beedle 14, 15. Don Mein/Geoff Wilkinson bt Colin Dewson/Keith Bult 15, 13.  
**Final:** HINCHCLIFFE/CLAYTON bt Mein/Wilkinson 11, -11, 14.

**Women's Doubles—semi-finals:** Bult/Sutton bt Maureen Kynman/Margaret Milsom 16, -9, 9. Irene Pollard/Twidale bt Sothcott/King 9, 19.

**Final:** BULT/SUTTON bt Pollard/Twidale 14, 21.

**Mixed Doubles—semi-finals:** Clayton/King bt Pete Bowsley/Sutton 18, 13. Mick Sothcott/Allan bt Steve Rossington/Christine Nordis 13, 16.  
**Final:** CLAYTON/KING bt Sothcott/Allan -17, 12, 14.

**Geoffrey Owen**

Reports on the Civil Service Championships

**Promotion Board for Gibbs**

REVENGE for Stuart Gibbs, reversing last year's result to take the men's singles for the first time.

New finals night face was Janet Allen (Birmingham) who nearly deprived Betty Landimore of her title.

**Men's Singles—semi-finals:** A. R. PIDDOCK bt H. L. Buist 16, 15; S. R. GIBBS bt B. Burn 17, 15.  
**Final:** GIBBS bt Piddock -17, 13, 18.

**Women's Singles:** Miss B. A. LANDIMORE bt Miss J. Allen 22, -19, 17.

**Men's Doubles:** GIBBS/B. K. PETCH bt Burn/A. Warents 20, -13, 15.

**Women's Doubles:** M. H. CHERRY/Miss D. MOORS bt Mrs. M. P. Know/Miss Landimore 21, 18.  
**Mixed Doubles:** PETCH/Miss CHERRY bt Piddock/Mrs. Know 18, 16.

**Intermediate Boys:** BURN bt Petch 11, -8, 14.

**Intermediate Girls:** Miss B. JOHNSON bt Miss N. Ferguson 10, 11.

**Junior Boy Singles:** C. PICKARD bt P. Forker 21, 18.

**Veteran Singles:** K. R. CRAIGIE bt Z. Schramm 12, -18, 17.

**Mixed Doubles—semi-finals:** BARNES/SIMPSON bt P. Brennan/S. Howard (Surrey) 11, 15; TAYLOR/CARRINGTON bt Wright/Shirley 19, 16.

**Final:** BARNES/SIMPSON bt Taylor/Carrington 14, 10.

**The Seapatt Story**

by Peter Mascall

PERHAPS the first idea of SEAPATT was born in 1940 when at the invitation of Japan, Australia was represented at the Pan Pacific Tournament held in Tokyo. In recent years Australian officials and players have on many occasions visited Hong Kong, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and New Zealand. Teams from New Zealand, Japan and Hong Kong have visited Australia.

SEAPATT—meaning South-East Asia Pacific Area Table Tennis—was founded by the Australian Table Tennis Association in 1966 after Australia lost the right to conduct in Melbourne the 1967 World Championships.

Australian officials who have done so much preliminary work, players, and followers of the sport were bitterly disappointed at the sudden loss of the great opportunities the world event would have given, but now SEAPATT 1968 takes its place.

Many opportunities and benefits will result from SEAPATT. Australians will see many world top table tennis players in action and come to appreciate the skill, the power, the fitness, the sportsmanship, and the concentration needed in table tennis today.

Australian players will gain the opportunity to play against styles they rarely meet, to test themselves in international competition, and to learn the techniques and styles of others.

The promotion of international friendship between the people of Australia and people in nearby countries in South-East Asia and the Pacific, and the opportunity for healthy sporting rivalry, are important benefits that will result.

Australia has the honour of staging the inaugural SEAPATT Championships in Melbourne from April 8-15 and, at the latest count, the following countries will be participating: New Zealand, Japan,

South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia and Australia.

Thailand could also be represented but Hong Kong are now extremely doubtful. Selected for the host country are:

Men: M. Wilcox, C. Macdonald, P. Pinkewith (New South Wales) and M. Thomson (South Australia).

Women: S. Javor, L. Nicholson, L. Gilbert and M. Cleaves (all Victoria).

**IRISH CORNER**

by Kevin Drum

**Only Men for Lyons**

IRELAND'S No. 1, Jim Langan has just completed a very successful trip to England and Wales. At the English Open, in Brighton, he had a fine victory over Europe's No. 6, Matyas Beleznai in the team event. He then went on to reach quarter-final of the singles event.

Tommy Caffrey also did well, narrowly losing to Chester Barnes in the second round.

After the Open, Langan paid a quick flying visit home to lead his province Leinster in the Inter-Provincial Championships and then flew back to Wales to take part in an exhibition at Rhyl where he defeated Czechoslovakia's Stefan Kollarovits, who is ranked No. 8 in Europe.

In the Inter-Provincial Championships at Galway, Leinster, with "new caps" Brian Langan—a brother of Jim's—and Marie Martin making a successful debut, won the title 11-0, 10-1 and 8-3 victories over Connacht, Munster and Ulster.

Jim Langan, Tommy Caffrey and Cliff Thompson have been selected to compete in the European Championships at Lyons. No women's team will participate.

**NEWS OF THE WORLD**  
NATIONAL TABLE TENNIS COACHING SCHEME  
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UNDER THE DIRECTION OF **JOHNNY LEACH** (Twice World Champion)  
WILL PERSONALLY BE IN RESIDENCE AT THE FOLLOWING CAMPS  
THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER SEASON—JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 1968

<p><b>AYR</b> Scotland <b>ERIC SUTHERLAND</b> Scottish International and No. 4 player</p>	<p><b>FILEY</b> East Yorkshire <b>LESLEY PROUDLOCK</b> English International and No. 8 Player</p>	<p><b>MINEHEAD</b> Somerset <b>JUDY CRAFTER</b> Lancashire County Player</p>
<p><b>PWLLHELI</b> North Wales <b>PAT DAINTY</b> English International and Yorkshire County Player</p>	<p><b>SKEGNESS</b> Lincolnshire <b>DENIS NEALE</b> England's Champion and No. 1 Player</p>	<p><b>BOGNOR REGIS</b> Sussex <b>ALAN HYDES</b> Member of England's 1968 Championship Team</p>
<p><b>BARRY</b> South Wales <b>IAN BARCLAY</b> Scottish International and No. 2 Player</p>	<p><b>MOSNEY</b> Ireland <b>TOMMY CAFFREY</b> Ireland's reigning Champion</p>	<p><b>CLACTON</b> Essex <b>CHESTER BARNES</b> English International</p>

- Entry free to Butlin Holiday Camp residents.
  - Valuable prizes, including free holidays.
  - No matches—winners selected purely on potentiality.
  - Competitors must be under 17 years of age by July 1st, 1968.
  - Adult coaching facilities for those not eligible for competition.
  - All finals will be staged between 7th and 14th September at Butlin's Holiday Camp, Bognor Regis, Sussex.
- NOTE:—The Organisers reserve the right to withdraw the Coaches at any time or amend the rules without notice.

## SURREY NOTES

by John Zenthon

## Future in Balance

AT the time of writing the future of Surrey's first team is still in the balance with the final match against Middlesex yet to be played and I feel that the hat must produce something more than a rabbit to be of any use.

A good run for Peter Brennan and Susan Howard in the mixed doubles at the Essex Open. They lost in the semi-final to Chester Barnes / Diane Simpson having disposed of Peter Williams/Shelagh Hession, Dave Bowles/Ruth Wilson and Keith Lawrence / Beverley Sayer. Barnes/Simpson beat Trevor Taylor/Elsie Carrington quite easily in the final and as Peter and Susan beat Taylor/Carrington at the Woolwich it shows they are developing into a good pair. Most of their sets are going to three but neither is prepared to quit and Peter's mobility is allowed full scope in doubles without the consequences it often brings in his singles.

A nail-biting men's final in the Surrey inter-league knock-out competition held at Rosehill when Thames Valley "B" (Sajdeh/Fisher) met Sutton (Brennan/Adams) each having disposed of Wandsworth and Thames Valley "A" respectively. Sutton were 1-0 down after the first match with Sajdeh too consistent for Brennan but pulled back when Adams beat Fisher 19 in the third from being 19-16 down. Adams blew up in the doubles leaving Brennan to fight a game but losing battle. Sajdeh and Adams then took the table with everyone knowing the latter's temperament was in for a testing time.

Adams shot to the front in the first game and stayed there, the

second was tenser and although he threatened to boil over a couple of times he kept his head, the final point being an edged ball at deuce but he fully deserved a fine win. This made it 2-2 with everything on the final game with Mike Fisher producing table tennis far above his junior county form to hold two match points on Brennan in the third. Brennan got home, however, winning the next four points with attacking play and everyone came out of their trances.

The women's final on the other hand was a comparatively tame affair with Guildford "B" (Susan and Linda Howard) beating Guildford "A" (Susan Light and Christine Oliver) 3-2.

On the umpiring scene congratulations to Emil Emecz and Phil Goacher on attaining the heady qualifications of National Umpires and this now brings Surrey's quota of Nationals to seven.

## KENT NOTES

by Charles M. Wyles

## Chance to Challenge

A WELCOME return to the Premier Division of the C.T.T.C. is very much on the cards for the County's first team, and with it the well deserved elevation of the second team to a higher division. The Junior team have also excelled themselves by winning the Southern Junior division and with it a chance to challenge for the National title.

Our congratulations to the Ashford Association on the superb organisation of their 21st Anniversary celebrations, which included a

dinner and dance, with over 100 persons, including the civic head of the Town. The Town's first International match, when England defeated a strong Belgian team 5-2. Then finally, an Inter-Association tournament, which drew most of the strongest players in the County.

The finals results were: Men's Singles: Ken Baker. Women's Singles: Joyce Ellis. Men's Doubles: Baker/Graham French. Women's Doubles: Joyce Ellis/Susan Griggs.

With Kent teams in the finals of the Carter Cup and Bromfield Trophy—the Bromley boys and the Sittingbourne girls—this surely must be a pointer towards the strength of the County teams in the foreseeable future. The finals will be staged within the County, at Folkestone, on the eve of the English Junior Open

## LANCASHIRE NOTES

by Geo. R. Yates

## Fackrell to Shed Load

GEORGE T. H. Fackrell, Secretary/Treasurer of both the Lancashire and Cheshire Associations, has given notice of his impending retirement from dual office being willing to carry on only as treasurer of the two organisations.

Bolton will provide the venue for this year's A.G.M., to be held on Friday, May 24.

Unless the juniors triumphed over Yorkshire, at Norcross, Blackpool on April 7, there will be no County team successes to enthuse about but in all other aspects the season has been a good one.

Open tournaments apart, member leagues have staged, with suc-

## HAMPSHIRE NOTES

by Teddy Grant

## Southampton Closed

THE finals of these championships were played off for the second year running at the Four T's Club at Tanners Brook School, Millbrook before an appreciative gathering of local enthusiasts.

Ron Davies, the Welsh international and Southampton centre-forward, presented the trophies.

Pete Smith, former junior international and now a considerably improved local premier league player, won the men's singles title for the first time beating D. Davies, a previous holder on two occasions.

Mrs. Pauline Edwards was successful for the seventh time in the women's singles beating her twin sister yet again.

Two new names, Miss K. Waters and Miss J. Daniels, figured in the women's doubles final but were overcome in straight games by the ruthless twins, Mrs. Christine Davies and Pauline Edwards.

County stars C. Edwards and T. Ward clashed with D. Davies and W. Moulding in the men's doubles with the former pair winners over three games. The Davies mixed partnership was another close affair extending to a decider with Christine and David the winners over Tony Ward and Mrs. Edwards.

The junior singles resulted in a double deuce encounter from which S. Tannahill overcame his senior opponent C. Shelter and thus reversed last season's final.

Other results.

Veteran Singles: R. YATES bt P. Freeman.

Handicap: P. THORNE bt P. Brown.

Intermediate: N. CHULK bt T. Fenner.

## BEDFORDSHIRE NOTES

by P. A. Denton

## Titles Shared

ALTHOUGH both Barbara Hammond (Bedford) and Alan Nicholl (Dunstable) had a chance to take three titles when the finals of the County Closed Championships were played recently, neither were able to do so.

Nicholl was successful, however, in taking both the men's singles title, and the mixed with his sister Shirley. It is the first time he has

won the singles and he reached the final without dropping a game. Paul Racey (Luton) was the other finalist, and Nicholl won 3-1. In the mixed doubles, the Nicholls played Bedford's Brian Copper-wheat and Barbara Hammond, and although the result was close, Alan's top spin, and Shirley's steady play gave them the title.

Another "first timer" was Barbara Hammond who won the ladies' singles. She beat the previous holder, Rosanna Seymour (Luton) in what was probably the best set of the evening.

The men's doubles event was won by Harlow and White who had a fairly comfortable victory against Dunstable's Nicholl and Jeff Silver, and the ladies' doubles went to Bedford's Barbara Hammond and Anita James by a walk-over.

The standard of play in the junior boys event was very high with G. Major taking the title from B. Hutchinson. Neither player was afraid to go for his shots and Hutchinson, in particular, played well in the third game to catch up after trailing by a large margin. Major, however, regained his earlier concentration to go on to win 17 in the third.

The new junior girls champion is P. King (Bedford) who beat S. Dimmock (Leighton Buzzard), in a set that went to three games with Miss King taking the third 21-5.

County captain and holder of the County men's singles title on many occasions, Colin Crowe, missed his first County Championships for 20 years. He is still recovering from a minor operation but is expected to be fit for next season's matches.

The County recently held a trial for junior girls, the first three places going to P. King (Bedford), K. Price (Leighton Buzzard) and P. Doughty (Bedford).

## YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Bert Dainty

## Disciplinary Measures

DONCASTER, Huddersfield and Middlesbrough are fighting it out for first division honours in the Yorkshire League. Doncaster, the holders, have dropped two points to date, and the other two one each. However, they meet one another in the final match of the season. Doncaster are unlucky in losing the services of Mike Symonds and Peter Duncombe at a vital time. Mike has weekend business commitments and Peter has been suspended by the Doncaster Committee, along with Peter Roome and Les Daniels from taking part in the League's activities until the end of April. This is a disciplinary measure for failing to turn up for league fixtures. It is understood that the same position has arisen in Sheffield where David Sykes of Rotherham Y.M.C.A. has been suspended for a year and Roy Brothwell severely cautioned.

Doncaster ladies' team are again going strong in the Rose Bowl and hope to go one better than they did last season when they finished runner up. Their 8-1 victory over Spalding brings them up to the semi-final stage.

Pat Dainty has passed her coaching diploma for which she has been studying for the past two years.

Valerie King, of Hull, must be considered very unlucky to be omitted from the latest list of junior rankings. She has had a very good season and at the present time is playing better than at any other stage of her career.

## DID YOU KNOW?

This season the England Junior ranking list includes the names of nine Yorkshire players. This is a record. The players concerned are: From Hull, No. 3 Tony Clayton, No. 6 Alan Fletcher. Group B, Neil Fulstow. From Middlesbrough, No. 10 Linda Bashford. Group A, Nikky Jarvis, John Phelps. Group A, Jim Coleman from Sheffield. No. 6 Linda Forkes from Castleford. Group A, Sandra Lee from Leeds.

This augurs well for the future, and what is more to the point, is augmented by the excellent 12- and 13-year-olds attending our coaching sessions who will be fighting for places in the junior county side next season.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to Peter Simpson and his staff of coaches at the Bradford Centre for the work they have accomplished during the past year, along with our own coaching secretary, Mr. Steve Nunn.

Last year's Yorkshire Inter-Club winners (Men) Huddersfield Y.M.C.A., and (Women) Barnsley North End, have been nominated as the representatives for Yorkshire to take part in the play-off to decide who will represent this country in European Inter-Club competition. Our best wishes to both the teams.

The National Y.M.C.A. Championships are due to take place on Saturday, April 27, at Stockton. Unfortunately this clashes with the Junior Challenge (in which we hope to be concerned) so that it is unlikely that the Hull Y.P.I. team our represented side will be at full strength. The senior side also will be below strength. Doncaster, as Mike Symonds and Ray Swain are unable to play.

## ISLE OF ELY NOTES

by J. G. Ashman

## Incentive Clinches Victory

THERE is excitement in the camp at the moment over Ely's victory in the Jack Dalton Cup played at Bletchley. Ely won through to the final with a comparatively easy victory over St. Neots and an even easier one over Bletchley "A".

The final against Bletchley "B" proved to be a struggle with both sides holding the advantage at various times. This was a good win for Ely considering the calibre of the Bletchley players, namely, Joy Dalton and Les Wooding.

Ely were away to a poor start with Wooding beating John Ashman. Steve Andrews then put Ely level beating Bill Harlow and never really looked in trouble. Ely went ahead when Carol Chapman overcame Joy Dalton in the third. Carol always had the edge in concentration and this paid off in the end.

Phyl Everitt found Miss Lloyd a bit too steady but extended her

to the full distance. Ely then gained two predictable victories in the veterans and juniors thanks to John Baird and Alan Jugg, respectively.

Ladies' doubles and the veteran/junior doubles provided a bad patch for Ely not bettered by the men's doubles which gave Bletchley a 5-4 lead. Our cause seemed lost when Ashman and Phyl Everitt faced Wooding and Miss Lloyd and lost the first game.

The second also seemed lost but they managed to struggle home 24-22. In the decider, Ely were always in command with Ashman's loop causing the opposition to set the ball up. These were swiftly dealt with by the Phyl Everitt forehand which was in devastating form.

With this incentive the other Ely pair of Andrews and Miss Chapman clinched the match with a win over Harlow and Miss Dalton.

## AROUND THE COUNTIES

## CHESHIRE NOTES

by Jim Beckley

## Same Venue provides Encore

THE Cheshire table tennis team have done it again! Against Sussex, at the CCPRO headquarters in Cheadle Hulme, they gave a great display to beat their southern visitors by 5 sets to 4. It could certainly, without a doubt, have been more. It was at the same venue last season that Cheshire performed a similar "do or die" act against Kent.

A small but compact venue, the CCPRO crowd gave plenty of

atmosphere to this important match and certainly gave the home side a lot of vocal encouragement throughout. It certainly helps!

Stockport men's side are champions of the Lancashire and Cheshire League for the second time in recent years. The biggest improvement to the side has been in bringing in the Cheadle Hulme player Don Berry who has had a great season at No. 3, a position that in previous seasons Stockport have not been too strong in.

At the time of going to press, Stockport ladies were hoping to bring a great "double" to the Stockport Association by winning the ladies' title of the Lancashire and Cheshire League. Their last match against Liverpool promises to be a tough one, a match they must win to receive the honours.

The Stockport Y.O.C. League gave a good account of themselves when they drew five sets all with last season's Youth Division champions, Mid-Cheshire.

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by P. A. Denton

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## Obituary

## HORACE TRAYNOR

It is with deep regret that I pass on the news of the death of the Secretary/Treasurer of the Urmston and District T.T. League—Mr. Horace Traynor. He died on February 16 after a short illness, 59 years of age.

A stalwart of the Urmston League having been Secretary for the last 34 years, Horace was also the League's county representative.

K. Bradbury Harrop

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**NORFOLK NOTES**

**Cake for All**

by J. S. Penny

IT was a piece of (championship) cake, beautifully iced by Miss Jane Fairhead, the Norfolk Hon. Secretary's daughter, that was enjoyed by victors and vanquished alike after Norfolk's 10-0 victory over Northamptonshire, which gave them a 100 per cent record for 1967-68.

The Eastern Division plaques had already been presented to the team at the annual dinner. At the junior match, earlier in the day, Northants had held Norfolk to a draw, winning five of their singles, and their seniors were distinctly unlucky not to score. Janet Sloper received Norfolk junior colours.

The following day, the East Anglian League of Leagues held their closed championships at Norwich Lads' Club. In a day of surprises, Alan Coby was beaten by David Tasker of Yarmouth, who then disposed of Chris Fields and Gordon Wood before falling to Phillip Graver in the semis.

In the final, Phillip Graver had to meet Stan Honor of Norwich Jewson's, a premier division team. Honor had to put out K. Hugman N. Thorpe, S. Bassett and D. Blanch on his way to the final. To the surprise of all, he did not fade in his final test, and Phillip was well beaten by this "unknown" 21-17, 21-11. William Webster defeated Stephen Bassett, the Norfolk Junior Champion, to win the boys' title, his first competition win over Stephen.

**Men's Singles:** Stan Honor bt P. Graver 17, 11.

**Women's Singles:** Miss J. Youngs bt Miss L. Woodcock 17, 12.

**Boys' Singles:** W. Webster bt S. Bassett 9, 17.

**Girls' Singles:** Miss J. List (Stowmarket) bt Miss J. Sloper 9, 11.

**Men's Doubles:** D. Blanch/R. Mitcham bt D. Skedge/W. Haydock 15, 14.

**Women's Doubles:** E. Allen/P. Kelf bt D. and J. Youngs 17, 20.

**Mixed Doubles:** A. Coby/D. Youngs bt D. Tasker/L. Woodcock 14, 16.

**Restricted:** J. Turner bt M. Tidy 19, 15.

At the Gt. Yarmouth Championships the previous Sunday, Gordon Wood, after beating the No. 1 seed, Paul Gilbertson, defeated David Tasker in three straight to become the first unseeded player to win the championship.

**Men's Singles:** G. Wood bt D. Tasker 18, 19, 20.

**Girls:** Jean Allen bt Lesley Read 10, 7.

**Youths:** Steven Hales bt John Fuller -17, 16, 10.

**Juniors:** John Fuller bt Steven Hales 17, 17.

**Veterans:** J. Mansi bt R. Tye 7, 17.

**Men's Doubles:** C. Fields/W. Haydock bt P. Tye/P. Gilbertson -19, 19, 18.

The East Anglian League of Leagues title have now been decided. Lowestoft have won Division I, Gt. Yarmouth ended Norwich "B"s ten-year run in Div. II, and Norwich took the juniors.

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES by Leslie Constable**

**Younger Talent Needed**

CAMBRIDGESHIRE completed their programme in the County Championships when they defeated Hunts 8-2. Despite the margin some of the sets were close and it was a struggle all the way. Hunts are maintaining their improvement and will be providing more intense opposition as the Maxfield twins get better and better.

Cambs still rely on the experienced John Thurston but I feel that much younger talent will have to be found quickly if next season is to be a "promotion" one.

The Cambs League is thriving but there are not many potential County players and a more business-like approach is required.

In the South-East Midlands League, Cambridge City had a good victory over Blechley but in this match Thurston was beaten by Les. Wooding after winning the first game 5.

Against Ely & District, the City were held to a draw, Thurston losing to Brian Jones who was beaten by Stephen Andrews. This was a good performance by Ely who have done well in the league this season. John Loker came in at the last moment for the City and won one.

Ely Juniors beat the City Juniors and David Tiplady, the Cambs Junior Champion, was beaten twice which cost City the match. Alan Jugg played well for Ely and David Silk, who gets better every match, represented Cambridge.

In the Cambs League, New Chesterton Institute are well and truly in the lead in Division I over University Press I, Y.M.C.A. I and Soham I. Telephones I are at the bottom but there are several teams who can taste relegation and the race is on for survival!

In Division 2, University I, Soham II and Impington I are fighting it out for promotion. Impington II got their first point in this Division when they drew with C.I.B.A. I, David Silk playing well to defeat seasoned campaigner Jimmy Greig.

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE LEAGUE**

**Leading Positions**

**Division 1**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
N.C.I.	14	14	0	0	116	24	28
Press I	15	12	0	3	109	41	24
Y.M.C.A. I	16	10	4	2	106	54	24
Soham I	16	11	2	3	100	60	24

**STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES**

by John Pike

**FIFTH UNBEATEN SEASON FOR DOROTHY**

STAFFORDSHIRE finished the season in the same way as they started it, with a win against a Welsh county. Their latest success against Monmouthshire meant they again took second place to Warwickshire. A good season then for the first team, but not so good for the second team and juniors. Both teams finished fourth in their respective divisions.

One player that does deserve a special mention in the "A" team is Dorothy Deeley from West Bromwich. This was her fifth unbeaten season in second division table tennis, a proud record indeed.

Derek Baddeley seems to have settled down well after his move from Warwickshire, while Stan Ward, Glenn Warwick and Brian Keates all had a fair season.

In the West Bromwich championships, Peter Eaton beat Glenn Warwick in the men's final, while Dorothy Deeley won the women's title for the 12th time.

Mac Evans and Sue Warner retained the two major trophies in the Wolverhampton championships. Talking of retaining trophies, Marjorie Cumberbatch did well to

win the veterans' event again in the English Open at Brighton.

There was a good turnout of county coaches when Jack Carrington came to Stafford last month. More Wolverhampton youngsters took the bronze awards at the end of March, and I would think that the E.T.T.A. will be well satisfied when they receive the county's report on the year's workings.

Congratulations to Malcolm Scott and Cyril Plimmer for the part they played in the international match at Smethwick.

West Bromwich will be again running a Summer League, while it is expected that Wolverhampton will have a Stiga Robot machine before their season starts again in October.

Last month we headed the report on the Midland Open, Jones Spikes Brum Howitzer. The spiking, of course, was done by Mike Johns. Our apologies both to Mike and also to John Pike, who wrote the report.

**AROUND the COUNTIES**

**NORTHANTS NEWS**

by Gwyn Powell

**Hogg Claims Elusive Title**

COLIN Hogg, who has been one of the top players in the county for several years, at last won the men's singles title at the Northampton League's annual tournament. Although the Northampton player has been County champion on six occasions he has never before quite managed to pull off his own league's championship. In the final he beat Roger Steward in a very close game 21-19, 16-21, 21-19. The biggest upset of the tournament was the defeat of the veteran's singles, Dick, who had held the title since its inauguration in 1960, was outplayed

by his opponent, Norman Blincow who attacked strongly to win 21-11 21-15.

Jane Cherry, who has been dropped from the County side after promising start, showed that she has improved greatly this season when she took the girls' singles title from last year's champion Margaret McInnes. Losing 13-17 in the third, Jane showed determination in pulling back well to win 21-19. As expected Nick Haycock beat Ray Kingston in the boy's singles final

In the final County Championship match of the season the juniors did well to force a draw with Norfolk. David Hoddle, in his last match as a junior, was in top form and beat the Norfolk No. 1, S. Bassett, 21-10 in the third and G. Foulger in straight games. Nick Haycock kept up the good work by beating Foulger and W. Webster the latter in the final event before which Northants were trailing 4-5. Roderick Marchant gained the other point at the expense of Webster but disappointed in his set with Bassett going down in straight games. The senior team, which also played Norfolk, found the Eastern division champions far too strong

Congratulations are extended to County chairman, Don Perkins, on gaining his E.T.T.A. theory coaching certificate. Together with Ken Marchant, who also holds this award, he has done a lot for youngsters in the Wellingborough area and it is hoped that now other players will be encouraged to take part in this invaluable work.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Mr. A. R. Bunt, Secretary of the Cornwall T.T. Association, has changed his address to 25 Treyew Road, Truro, Cornwall.

**HUNTINGDON & PETERBOROUGH NOTES by David Obee**

**Cullis—For and Against**

THE County team rounded off its programme with a friendly match against the R.A.F. at Ramsey on March 7. Yet another defeat ensued with the Services team winning 7-3.

For Hunts, only the ladies were successful, all three sets won coming from that department. Brian Cullis, playing against his county rivals on this occasion, made the match something of a personal triumph with two easy singles wins.

This followed on his fine display in the last county match when he became only the second player to beat John Thurston in the County Championships this season.

Once again this season has shown that new blood must be forthcoming before the county can hope to achieve success. At present, precious little is in evidence at county level at least.

At the time of writing St. Neots Centre Club officials are completing

arrangements for their second coaching rally of the season in conjunction with the National Director of Coaching, Jack Carrington, assisted by Gordon Steggall. The event is taking place at Longsands School, on 14 tables.

Again the county closed championships are being held at the London Road Drill Hall, Peterborough, with the finals at Eaton Socon.

Match details (Hunts names first) were:

**HUNTS 3, R.A.F. 7**

A. Albon lost to R. Clode -15, -15; lost to B. Cullis -11, -14. L. Saywell lost to B. Mayfield -16, -20; lost to Clode -12, -14. D. Obee lost to Cullis -13, -14; lost to Mayfield -11, 9, -14. Obee/Saywell lost to Clode/Mayfield 12, -17, -15. Ann Body bt Phil Fuller 10, 12. Boddy/Mary Maxfield bt Fuller/Adrienne Jacobs 10, 10. Albon/Maxfield bt Cullis/Jacobs 11, -12, 9.



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nominal 1", and the Dunlop Standard nominal 5/8". These last two tables have metal legs that give rock-firm support, yet fold away in a jiffy. What's more, any of the tables can be fitted with castors as an optional extra—you can just wheel it away!

So ask all about Dunlop Barna tables at your local dealer now.



New metal legs

**You'll play better with Dunlop Barna**

## LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

## Place Guaranteed

LEICESTERSHIRE completed their 2nd division (Midland) fixtures with a 6-4 win over Oxfordshire which guarantees them a place next season. Charlie Jacques was unbeaten for Leics but man of the match was Oxon's David Harse. Called in at short notice he won both his singles and shared in a successful mixed doubles.

In the Midland League, no Leicester team has won a championship title but the men's second, with Roger Maddocks, John Bowness and Mick Porter, performed well. The junior team lost their division on sets average and it could well be that the match with Loughborough, at the beginning of the season which they lost without a full strength team, cost them the title. The men's first team has been struggling without a regular No. 3 to back-up Jacques and Truman.

Hinckley look set to finish runners-up in the Midland League 3rd division where Potteries have carried all before them. Loughborough, who were well in the running for the Junior Division Championship, lost 8-2 at Nottingham to give the latter the title.

New men's singles champion of Melton Mowbray is Ron Hunter. Full marks here to County No. 3 Colin Truman who ran the tournament.

Loughborough have a new men's singles champion too in Mike Meredith who chopped his way to victory against Mick Brooks. Jane Stevenson retained her ladies' singles title and Ivor Billson is still junior champion, beating Terry Hall in the final. Hall and Chris Brewer had a double doubles success, winning both the men's and junior events. In the men's doubles they had an exciting win over Barker and Payne. Their finalist opponents in the junior doubles were Ivor Billson and John Oxbrough. Ivor won the mixed doubles with Mrs. Chamberlain for the third year in succession.

In the Leicestershire Towns League, Loughborough have virtually sewn both their divisions up. In the all-important Leicester "A"

v. Loughborough "A" match, Paul Harfitt emerged the star being unbeaten.

In the Rose Johnson Bowl, the semi-final stage has been reached with Barwell Constitutional, Nazarenos II, Leicester Y.M.C.A. I and Leicester Y.M.C.A. II being the teams still interested.

The Saracen Cup went to Barwell Constitutional who accounted for Spinney Hill W.M.C. in the final. Jim McLean and Morgan Reynolds both registered maximums for the winners.

The Rose Johnson Memorial Trophy produced a new winner in Pat Kilsby who defeated Glenys Odams in the final.

In the Loughborough four-a-side knock-out cup, Trinity Youth Club (Lahodynskyj, Erskine, Hassall and Hudson) had a good semi-final win over Holy Trinity "B" for whom both Tony Russell and Nigel Lawson played well.

Plans are in hand for the increasingly popular Summer League which John Bowness runs so enthusiastically. John can also be heard each week on "Radio Leicester" giving the latest table tennis news.

by Philip Reid

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE by George Gray  
BENEFICIAL EXPERIENCE

SUCH teams at South Shields, Carlisle and West Hartlepool are deriving much benefit from their meeting with Middlesbrough "A" and Northumberland, the two giants in the Northern Premier League.

Points scoring is by the novel method of awarding 3 points for a win of 8-3 or more, 2 pts for a win of 7-4 or 6-5 and 1 pt for a loss of 5-6 or 4-7.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesbro "A"	4	4	0	34	10	11
Northumberland	4	4	0	31	13	9
Hexham	4	2	2	31	13	8
Newcastle	4	2	2	22	22	6
Middlesbro "B"	3	2	1	16	17	5
South Shields	4	1	3	14	30	3
Carlisle	5	0	5	10	45	2
W. Hartlepool	2	0	2	7	15	1

Leading averages (9 sets or more):—

	P	W	%
A. Ransome (Middl "A")	12	12	100
D. Neale (Middl "A")	9	9	100
P. Whiteman (North'd)	9	8	89
Miss M. Heppell (Hexham)	12	10	83
T. Hart (Newcastle)	12	9	75
M. Anderson (North'd)	9	6	67
G. Thomas (S. Shields)	9	6	67
L. Heppell (Hexham)	12	8	67
G. Gray (Carlisle)	9	4	44

## Yorkshire Section for N.E. Summer League

writes ALAN RANSOME

AS last year, the North-East England Summer League, will again operate on similar lines with an Open Section covering Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire and Regional Sections based on Tyneside and Teeside.

The Open Section, catering for players of county class, will be of two divisions, but with divisions of eight there is no limit to their number in the regions.

In addition to last year's set up, another regional section will be formed with teams from the York, Leeds and Bradford areas. This new region will be administered by Mrs. Betty Mitton, the Yorkshire County Inter-League Secretary,

who will have the assistance of Ron Richardson (York), Peter and Lilian Hamlett (Leeds) and Frank Briggs (Bradford).

The Open and Teeside sections will again be administered by Tom Snowdon and myself with Llew Baker looking after affairs on Tyneside.

Teams comprise three players playing nine sets and one doubles,

involving a 14-match programme, furthered by a knock-out cup competition and a closed tournament.

Clubs desirous of entering or requiring further information should contact me either at Scarborough over the Easter period, or at 21a Church Lane, Ormesby.

Closing date for entries is Wednesday, April 17, by which time last year's entry of 63 teams should well have been surpassed.

## INAUGURAL CELEBRATION EVENT

Stockton Sports Stadium—Good Friday, April 12, 1968  
At 3.00 p.m. Teeside Youth Team v Norwegian Youth Team  
At 7.30 p.m. English European Team v Rest of England  
D. Neale, A. Hydes (to be selected) and Maureen Heppell

Admission at either match: Adults 2/6, Children 1/-

## Rules Requisites

by Tony Wickens

EVERY organisation has a constitution. This is so, even though there is nothing on paper. Its constitution may be ascertainable only by reference to what has been done before, and how—"precedent"—or it may be contained in a written document "Constitution" in its widest sense includes who may belong ("constitution" in its narrower sense, or membership), what the organisation exists for (objects), how its business is to be conducted (Rules, Standing Orders, etc.), and together these are generally referred to as the "Rules" of the organisation.

How often one hears the slick-sounding but senseless remark "Rules are made to be broken"—rules which really are made to be broken should never be made in the first place. There is much to be said for the principle "The fewer Rules the better"—the more there are, the less will people be acquainted with them—but so often this is used as an excuse for not having Rules in writing, but leaving them as "unwritten law", an ever constant source of argument.

The duties of a Rules Committee in any organisation are threefold, to see that omissions in the Rules are remedied, to draft so that Rules are worded properly, and to ensure that Rules which are not observed are deleted, so that neglect of one or some does not lead to contempt for all.

What are the requisites of a good Rule? I would suggest the following eight points:

1. It must be Necessary
2. It must be Enforceable
3. It must be Practicable
4. It must be Fair

5. It must be Certain
6. It should be as concise as may be consistent with Point 7
7. It must be Unambiguous
8. It should have the Sympathy of members.

1. **Necessary.**—There is much to be said for the view, the fewer the Rules the better, preferably none at all. The more Rules there are, the less likely it is that members will know what they are. On the other hand, Point 4 makes it desirable for a certain minimum number of subjects to be covered. Any Rule which does not satisfy the requirement of being necessary should be deleted.

2. **Enforceable.**—If a Rule cannot be enforced, there is little point in its existence. The unscrupulous will break it, knowing they do so with impunity, and those who believe in observing the Rules may feel a sense of injustice that other break them and get away with it. The proper place to cover a matter is a Rule regarding which could not be enforced, is in a policy statement, or code of behaviour or something similar.

3. **Practicable.**—A Rule must not require to be done something which is impossible or impracticable, as this must inevitably lead to a breach.

4. **Fair.**—No Rule should exist which is to the advantage of one section of the membership at the expense of injustice to another section. Such a Rule must encourage the formation of factions, the have and the have-nots—groups according to whether the Rule is to their benefit or otherwise. Additionally, it may cause an annual battle for the abolition or amendment of that Rule, which may be passed one year, amended the next, deleted the next, and reinstated the next. This can lead only to confusion.

5. **Certain.**—Room for the exercise of discretion is not to be encouraged when making Rules. If they are to be of use, a member must be able to find his answer in the Rule Book, not wait for the Committee or other governing body to deal with the matter "on its merits." One of the valid criticisms of the new breathalyser law is that a person does not know and cannot with certainty know when he is committing an offence.

6. **Concise.**—Subject to its complying with the next principle, a Rule should be as short as possible. Some people mistakenly think that a Rule is bad if it is long; this is not so if its length is necessary to prevent its being ambiguous, capable of several interpretations or uncertain of effect. However, a Rule which says in 20 words what could be said in 10 is "bad" if only because it costs twice as much to print. Linked under this heading I mention a further point—I commend most strongly the practice of splitting Rules into short sections, each dealing with one point. This makes reading easier (and amendment simpler) and accurate reference far less complicated. "Rule 10(b)(ix)" is surely preferable as a reference to "The words . . . to . . . in the sixth line of the third paragraph on page 10".

7. **Unambiguous.**—The wording of a Rule should be such that its meaning is clear, but more important, incapable of more than one interpretation. If there is ambiguity, it has to be referred to some authority to say what interpretation is the officially accepted (or acceptable) one, and this is contrary to my fifth principle. It is better to add another line, if by so doing something is made clear which otherwise would not have been, or even merely made clearer than it otherwise would have been. Care must be used in the choice of words, and also in the order of words and phrases. It must be remembered that a Rule is read in a book—the proposer of it will not always be there to read it aloud using inflections of voice to contribute to its meaning—the words must speak for themselves. Changing the order of two phrases in a sentence can, believe it or not, make a vast difference to the meaning, or may produce a sentence capable of two meanings when before it could have had only one.

8. **Sympathetic.**—This last point may surprise some readers, but think for a moment and you will see that it is vitally important. Take an example from another sphere—if a private citizen considers a particular law to be bad, instead of helping to enforce it he lines up on the other side and sym-

## SUSSEX NOTES

## Third Round to Chandler

by John Woodford

THE great battle for supremacy between Roger Chandler and Peter Williams in Sussex table tennis has now entered the fourth round stage. Rounds 1 and 2 were won by the challenger Williams when he defeated champion Chandler in two tournaments. Round 3—by far the most important to date—took place in the men's singles final of the Sussex Closed on March 3 when Chandler triumphed to win the title (for the sixth time) 21-19, 21-18 over his great rival.

What a battle! Both players had had a gruelling day with Williams playing almost continuously for the last 1½ hours of the tournament. Chandler wisely, did not play in the mixed and this just gave him breathing space to organise himself for the supreme challenge. When the challenge came, Roger was ready to meet it, fully determined to hit Peter off the table before it happened to him! The gamble came off—Roger played his best game of the season, hitting with speed and superb accuracy, forcing his opponent into counter-hitting back from the table on several occasions.

Full marks to Roger for a thoroughly deserved win but who would like to forecast the winner at their next meeting? Roger is 24, Peter is 21—who will get on top in the end, only time will tell and few including your columnist would be rash enough to risk a forecast!

The Williams family came very close to winning all the events—Judy won the women's singles, women's doubles and mixed, with Peter, and Peter also combined with Derek Holman to win the men's doubles.

The Sussex Closed—still claiming to be the biggest one-day event in the country—ran non-stop from 9 a.m. until 10.30 p.m. on 16 tables, well-organised by the "old firm," the tournament committee of the Brighton and District League. The only major snag was that three tables were only half-lit by the lights left over from the English Open and this will no doubt be rectified next year by Godfrey Decker himself.

## PETER WILLIAMS . . . still the challenger

Men's Singles: R. Chandler (Brighton) bt P. Williams (Eastbourne) 19, -18.

Women's Singles: Miss J. Williams (Eastbourne) bt Mrs. J. Sheppard (Hastings) 12, -9.

Intermediate Men's Singles: T. Riley (Crawley) bt A. Downer 15, 12.

Men's Doubles: Williams/D. Holman bt S. Ogundipe/L. Gunn 15, -12.

Women's Doubles: Miss Williams/Mrs. A. Woodford bt Mrs. D. Baroncini/Mrs. P. Pearce 10, 10.

Mixed Doubles: P. Williams/Miss J. Williams bt D. Holman/Mrs. Sheppard -16, 15, 17.

Veteran Men's Singles: R. Lewis (Brighton) bt W. Newman (Brighton) 16, 17.

Men's Consolation Singles: A. Osborne (Brighton) bt D. Penfold (Eastbourne) 17, -12, 17.

Women's Consolation Singles: Mrs. S. Bolt (Brighton) bt Mrs. I. Cook (Eastbourne) 19, 10.

Men's Wooden Spoon: L. Bickell bt J. Laker -9, 8, 13.

Women's Wooden Spoon: Mrs. M. Young bt Mrs. O. Gard 10, 6.

pathises with those who break it. The perfect situation is that in which every member feels "These are my Rules, and not only am I going to observe them, but I am going to see that everyone else does"—and to feel like that a member must believe that "his Rules" are right.

The eight points which I have enumerated are all applicable to the Individual Rule, but there is one important factor which applies to a whole body of Rules, and that is Continuity. It is not good for any organisation to change its Rules back and forth incessantly. It is better if there can be some stability but if changes are frequently proposed it is at least less damaging if progress is always made in one particular direction, not in one direction one year and in another direction the next, as when a Rule is passed one year, rescinded the next, and then passed again the next.

## NOT COVERED

From time to time situations arise which are not covered by Rules, but it is usual for one Rule to provide that such matters may be dealt with by the Committee or other governing body. If such a situation is likely to occur again, then it may be desirable to have a new Rule to cover it, so that the uncertainty of a future Committee decision is exchanged for the certainty of a Rule. This also gives the body dealing with the passing or otherwise of the Rule (usually a General Meeting) an opportunity to make it known whether the Committee decision was what the General Meeting would have decided.

The "Rule of Law" is an essential principle of any civilised community, and this applies not only in those spheres which are covered by the criminal code, and the world of business, and of human relations, but also in sport. No game can be played effectively if all the players are not observing the same laws, hence the need for uniform laws, and, as far as possible, uniform interpretation. Other-

wise, one person or team may feel that they are at a disadvantage because the other side either have or interpret laws to their own advantage. Such a situation leads to bad feeling between opposing sides, people labouring under a sense of injustice or "having a chip on their shoulder", and then probably bad behaviour. This is to the good of neither player nor spectator.

## SAME PRINCIPLES

The same principles apply to the game off the table. Everyone must "play to the same rules" to avoid injustice either actual or apparent. Everyone must be considered equal before the law, and that means also equal before the Rules. If a Committee is left to "treat each matter on its merits", the opportunity immediately arises for accusations of favouritism or victimisation, bias or prejudice, and the feeling that Rules are twisted or interpreted for the benefit of some but not of others, or worse, that there is, deliberately, no Rule to cover a particular situation, so that one person may, without impropriety, be treated quite differently from another.

It may not be within the knowledge of many people, but the last resort of a dissatisfied member is to take legal proceedings. It is therefore essential that any Rule which deals with subject-matter about which a member might feel sufficiently strongly to make him go to court, should be a good Rule, and that it should be meticulously observed. Clearly it is in the interests of any sport not to be involved in litigation, and to this end it is wise not to leave such gaps in the Rules as might give rise to it.

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WESTERN LEAGUE BULLETIN by Grove Motlow

# Bristol Monopoly

NEWPORT Ladies came away pointless from their weekend trip to Plymouth and Exeter losing in each case 5-4, both results being in the balance until the last set.

At Plymouth, Adele McCarthy, an ex-Newport player, beat Barbara Roden 2-1 in the final set. Once again Nancy Hollywood was the home team's star winning all three, whilst Mavis Scott did well to beat Mrs. Roden. For Newport Elizabeth Gray won two and Stella Jones two.

Exeter Ladies have certainly found a good substitute for Kath Le Milliere in Maureen Spray who did well in her team's victory over Newport. She won two, as did Joan Ware with Valerie Addicote supplying a solo. For Newport, Elizabeth Gray won three and Stella Jones one.

Exeter Ladies had an easy victory over Swindon 8-1 and again Mrs. Spray was in excellent form winning three as did Mrs. Ware.

Unfortunately Swindon were without Gwen Hazell through illness.

In the men's division, Bristol II at home, beat Bath 7-2. J. Wise winning three, B. Reeves and D. Shears two each.

Bristol, in their home match against Cheltenham, won a closely contested affair 6-3. Eric Hall was again in brilliant form and paved the way for Bristol's victory with three wins supported by Ron Bowden (two) and F. Wiggins (one). M. White for Cheltenham won two whilst J. Marshall beat Wiggins.

Bristol Ladies had an easy win over Swindon, who once again were without Gwen Hazell. For Bristol, Joan Collier and Mrs. Massey both won three.

Both Bristol teams, men's senior and women, remain unbeaten.

Men's Section						
	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Bristol	4	4	0	26	10	8
Cheltenham	6	4	2	33	21	8
Weston	4	2	2	21	15	4
Exeter	4	2	2	17	19	4
Plymouth	4	2	2	16	20	4
Bristol II	5	2	3	21	24	4
Bath	4	1	3	12	24	2
Newport	5	1	4	16	29	2

Ladies' Section						
	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Bristol	8	8	0	57	15	16
Plymouth	6	4	2	31	23	8
Newport	6	3	3	29	25	6
Exeter	7	3	4	29	34	6
Weston	8	2	6	27	45	4
Swindon	9	2	7	25	56	4

## The "Dark Horses"

by F. G. Manooch



(Left to right) Bernadette McGrorty, Paula Brenchley, Lynda Chesson  
(Photo by courtesy of the KENT MESSENGER)

IN the March issue of Table Tennis News, Leslie Davis gave his view that the Sittingbourne team were the "dark horses" of the Bromfield Trophy Competition. This might well describe the position as this is the first year that Sittingbourne has entered a team and no doubt they have surprised many people by working their way to the final.

The secret of their success so far, appears to be in the fact that they make an exceptionally well-balanced team, whereas most other teams appear to have a mixture of strong and weak players.

The three girls in the team—Bernadette McGrorty, Paula Brenchley and Lynda Chesson are members of Crescent Club and they comprise the Crescent first team in the Sittingbourne League, a senior league of seven divisions. Last year this trio were in Division III but it was decided this year to let them try their luck in Division II in which they had to meet all-male teams. They had a disastrous start, losing the first three matches and only making a rather weak effort for the next few matches, until they managed to secure an 8-0 win against a lowly placed team. This win inspired them so much that they have won every match since.

### YO-YO'S

In the County Junior ranking lists, these three have been going up and down like three yo-yo's for the past two or three years but the Kent selection committee have at last given up the struggle and wisely ranked them as joint No. 3. As the present Nos. 1 and 2 will no longer be juniors next season the odds are that the trio will step up to the top positions.

They have this season played in all the Kent Junior matches, one of them having to stand out in each match, and at the end of the matches they have each got exactly the same number of wins, having each played against the strongest teams and the weaker teams.

It is not always that these three are in the same team! In the Kent Schools team tournament, both last year and this year, the three girls' team trophies have been won by Crescent or ex-Crescent girls but playing for different schools. In the Kent League, Lynda has been playing in the Sittingbourne Junior "A" team, whilst Paula and Bernadette have played in the Sittingbourne Ladies' team. The latter team look like winning their division.

All of the same age, i.e. 14, all three girls have another three years as juniors and if they continued to show the vast improvement which they have done recently they must surely all come under the notice of the national selection committee.

### EQUALITY

In the Sittingbourne tournaments recently there was an excellent example of the equality of the girls. In the senior tournament, Bernadette swept the board by winning the women's singles, women's doubles and mixed doubles. The following week, in the junior tournament the position was reversed and the titles were won by Lynda, with Paula as partner in the doubles events. In fact between them they took all the titles in both tournaments, with the exception of the under-13 singles.

What of the future for the Crescent girls? Well, there are already three more on the County ranking list, i.e. Elizabeth Mannering, Ann McGrorty and Beryl Bushrod, and there are several more younger ones knocking on the door who are rapidly catching the others up and are already becoming well known at various tournaments. For the past fifteen years there have always been more Crescent girls on the ranking list than from the rest of the County put together. With a total membership of over 150 girls, some 50 to 60 of whom play table tennis, there is no reason why this state of affairs should not continue.

## JERSEY JOTTINGS by Brian Nicolle Le Masson Fills Breach

THE Jersey teams for the European Championships have been announced as follows—Men: B. Wykes, H. Carver and M. Le Masson. Women: E. Bulman, C. Abraham. Originally selected for the men's team was 16-year-old Frank Bougeard but following his unfortunate accident Marcel Le Masson sportingly stepped in at the last moment.

With the Jersey League now completed, main interest is centered on the forthcoming Annual Island Tournaments. Will John Turner retain his Jersey and Channel Island title in his last season before leaving for Australia? Or will Kenny Eloury, the leading player this season, turn the tables on his team-mate? Harry Carver, also reported to be in his last season in Jersey, will be challenging to regain this title which he won two years ago, while Barry Wykes and Zamonn Buckley will both be striving for their first success and cannot be discounted. In the women's events Eileen Bulman will be aiming at gaining her third successive triple title and it looks a distinct possibility as our younger players, although improving, still have a long way to go.

The Jersey Table Tennis League winners are as follows:

- Division 1: Pegasus "A" (K. Eloury, J. Turner, F. Bougeard)
- Division 2: Caesaren Cycling Club "A" (G. Clarke, D. O'Callaghan, A. J. Richardson)
- Division 3: Pegasus "A" (S. Deeley, G. Prigent, A. Turner)
- Division 4: Play-off necessary between Pegasus "A" (C. Perree, A. Quemard, Miss J. Corfield) and Caesaren Cycling Club (D. Ecobichen, P. Newman, Mrs. D. Petit)
- Division 5: Post Office (W. Soper, F. Connor, R. Le Gallais)
- Division 6: Aquila Top Twenty Club (T. Journeaux, C. Cole, Miss C. Borfiga)
- Division 7: St. Helier School "A" (M. Gunn, T. Dawson, N. Kittow, A. Loyer).

## Editor's Postbag

### Why Resort to Subterfuge?

KEITH Watts has rendered a service to the game by drawing attention to the fact that the rule laying down a £5 limit in the value of prizes for open events has become a dead letter (January issue of Table Tennis News).

Now Kent County T.T.A. are proposing an E.T.T.A. rule change to increase the limit to £100, and the North Yorkshire League are putting forward proposals for different limits, with an alternative for "no limit".

Circumstances have greatly changed in recent years, and there are now many sponsors willing to donate valuable prizes. This kind of sponsorship has become recognised as a worthwhile sales promotion and publicity medium by businessmen, and many big businesses (and some not so big ones!) have set aside funds for this sort of exercise.

Quite recently organisers of an open tournament had to turn down the offer of a refrigerator and a washing machine as prizes, in order not to fall foul of the E.T.T.A. rule.

Players must recognise that tournament finances cannot stand anything except nominal prizes, but where sponsors come on the scene, we should not deprive players of their chance to gain rewards for their skill. Tournaments must, of course, be protected against unreasonable demands, and it is not beyond human ingenuity to cover this by means of carefully drafted regulations.

Even if we thus put our house in order, we must still, as Keith Watts says, observe I.T.T.F. rules. I.T.T.F. rule No. 7.16.1 clearly states that for Open Table Tennis Competitions there is a prize limit of 75 Swiss francs—say £7.

It is true that in some countries big prizes have been given in recent years: gold watches, motor

scooters, even a car. These are given as "presents" after the championships, and it is said they are not prizes, but it seems perfectly obvious that this method is just a subterfuge.

Leading I.T.T.F. officials have told me that they think an amendment increasing the maximum values of prizes would stand a good chance, and I think we should propose to the I.T.T.F. that they change their rule to allow up to £100 automatically, and more by special dispensation.

To win a big tournament is an achievement. Let such achievement be rewarded by suitable prizes without petty restriction, where it is possible to do so.

CONRAD JASCHKE

Casa Mia  
Church Road  
Footscray  
Sidcup, Kent

### No Local Phenomena

MANY players in Cambridge-shire are seriously concerned about the quality of table tennis balls now available. My enquiries on this subject reveal that it is no local phenomena and that there has been a definite and marked deterioration in quality. The general consensus of opinion is that only about one ball in every 12 is correctly shaped!

Perhaps the explanation for this situation lies in the manufacturing monopoly in this field—it might also, incidentally, explain the high price of 1s. 10d. I feel this is matter which ought to be taken up urgently by the English Table Tennis Association with the manufacturers bearing in mind the effect it is having on the standard of play. If no improvement is forthcoming perhaps the use of foreign balls could be considered (assuming there are suitable ones available).

JOHN THURSTON

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**COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND-UP**  
By JOHN WRIGHT

**Essex Again as Surrey Plunge**

NEARING the end of another hectic season, a few matters still remain unsettled.

Essex duly wrapped up their third title in four seasons with Yorkshire second and Sussex third. Surrey, in their 21st season, and one of the two counties never to have left the Premier, do so this time accompanied by Lancashire.

Fighting for promotion are Kent (2nd South), Northumberland (2nd North), Warwickshire (2nd Midland) and Worcestershire (2nd West). I cannot see Worcs doing well but a real scrap seems likely between the other three. These matches will be played at the Nottingham T.T.C. H.Q., Beech Avenue, New Basford, on Saturday/Sunday, April 20/21.

Hampshire II, Warwickshire II and Norfolk take the three regional

divisions, the first two retaining titles and Norfolk gaining their first ever.

Kent, Warwickshire, Essex and Monmouthshire take Junior divisions South, Midland, East and West, respectively, and will be joined in the Challenge matches by the winner of the twice postponed Roses match. The venue for these matches has yet to be fixed: the dates are Saturday/Sunday, April 27/28.

There will almost certainly be a new Junior County next season as Derbyshire have expressed a keen interest. It is hoped that Cambridgeshire will return.

**Premier**

**Cheshire 5, Sussex 4**

M. Johns bt R. Chandler -14, 19, 15; bt P. Williams 17, -6, 13. D. Schofield lost to Chandler -16, -19; lost to S. Ogundipe -17, -19. R. Hampson lost to Williams 8, -17, -16; bt Ogundipe 10, 10. Hampson/Johns bt Chandler/Williams -19, 7, 19. Miss J. Heaps bt Miss J. Williams -18, 5, 16. Schofield/Mrs. Johnson lost to Ogundipe/Miss Williams 16, -15, -20.

A vital match for Cheshire who made certain of staying in the top flight. Exciting and sporting with the highlight the women's singles which had many fine rallies. Judy Williams almost caught Judy Heaps who had established a big lead, but the Cheshire

girl pulled herself together in time. Mike Johns took both singles; each time he has done this Cheshire have won.

**Lancashire 1, Gloucestershire 8**

K. Forshaw lost to Harrison -6, -15; lost to R. Morley -6, -18. J. Clarke lost to Harrison -14, -11; lost to B. Merrett 14, -13, -18. B. Farnworth lost to Morley -11, -11; lost to Merrett -18, -15. Clarke/Farnworth lost to Harrison/Merrett -12, -14. Miss M. Leigh bt Mrs. C. Hawkins 16, 19. Forshaw/Mrs. Gleeson lost to Morley/Mrs. Hawkins -18, -13.

The result never really in doubt and only Mary Leigh's greater steadiness prevented a whitewash. Harrison again superb, and how much Gloucs have owed to him this season! One defeat only (by Connie Warren) and Neale, Barnes, Gibbs, Wright, etc., all defeated. Roy Morley also impressive but Bryan Merrett had to struggle a bit.

**Yorkshire 1, Essex 8**

D. Neale lost to C. Barnes 17, -19, -13; bt S. Gibbs 11, 11. A. Hydes lost to Barnes 18, -11, -18; lost to R. Stevens 19, -19, -9. P. Duncombe lost to Gibbs -10, -14; lost to Stevens 21, -19, -15. Neale/Duncombe lost to Barnes/Stevens -19, -14. Miss P. Dainty lost to Mrs. L. Radford 15, -16, -15. Hydes/Miss Dainty lost to Gibbs/Mrs. Radford 19, -12, -22.

Chester Barnes looked well beaten when trailing Denis Neale by a game and 14-19 but took the next seven points to win this game, then played some glorious stuff to take the third

**Surrey 1, Middlesex 8**

C. Warren lost to B. Wright -16 -11; lost to L. Haslam -18, -15. M. Creamer lost to Wright -12, -18; lost to M. Sugden -10, -10. R. Penfold lost to Haslam -8, -15; lost to Sugden 19, -14, -5. Penfold/Warren lost to Haslam/Sugden -16, -14. Mrs. M. Wright bt Miss K. Smith 20, -13, 15. Creamer/Mrs. Wright lost to Wright Miss Smith -17, -14.

Never before have these two counties met in a relegation battle. Mike Creamer fought well against Briar Wright, using his long reach to great advantage and playing some spectacular stuff. The match as such virtually won in the second set when "Les" Haslam destroyed "Connie" Warren (the latter doing well to recover from 7-15 to 13-17 in second). Ron Penfold delighted the crowd by taking the first from Malcolm Sugden after trailing 16-19 but got progressively worse—had a couple of the four points from a 4-all in the third gone his way there might have been a different result. Both doubles to Middlesex who led 5-0 at the interval. Mary Wright, looking rather tired, successfully defended her record against Karenza Smith.

**2nd South**

**Hampshire 6, Buckinghamshire 4**

The placing of Jill Shirley in the W.S. and X.D. and sacrifice of W.D. paid off for Bucks but the home were too strong for their below strength opponents. Fine, and vital, wins by Derek Holman over Alec Watson to make score 4-3.

**Hertfordshire 0, Kent 10**

Nothing really ran for Herts who gave John Kedge his first outing for this team.

**Surrey II 9, Sussex II 1**

**2nd North**

**Cumberland 1, Durham 9**

A very workmanlike performance by the visitors who clinched the division M.D. and the last two singles (East v Chilvers, Beaumont v Lennie) all hard fought but Brian Hill and Brian Burn the set of the evening. Maureen Heppell's all-out attack impressed.

**2nd Midland**

**Derbyshire 4, Warwickshire 6**

A near-sensation here, with Derby so close to victory. Colin Deaton

had a win over Derek Backhouse 29, 20; M.D. defeat (with Tony Hunt) -20, 14, -21 from Ralph Gunnion/Backhouse; and an excellent match with Derek Munt (losing 20, -18, -13). Exceptionally good X.D. with John Wallhead/Miss Joan Walker just too good for Munt/Doreen Griffiths.

**Leicestershire 6, Oxfordshire 4**

With loser to finish bottom this was close and tense. Charlie Jacques the home hero with two singles and M.D. win; against Arthur Davies he trailed by a game and 8-16 yet won 11 in third. Late substitute David Horse took both singles and X.D. for visitors.

**Monmouthshire 3, Staffordshire 7**

Staffs worthy winners, and Dorothy Deeley retains her unbeaten W.S. record.

**2nd West**

**Somerset 6, Devon 4**

Best crowd of the season saw Tony Kinsey's 100 per cent record spoilt by junior David James (he won -10, 19, 19). Rodney Hiscocks, on debut, lost both singles but had a good tussle with Devon closed champion Mike Rattne.

**Southern**

**Hampshire II 9, Berkshire 1**

This convincing win by Bill Moulding, Peter Smith, Phil Brown, Angeline Mills (all Soton) and Thelma Clay (S.E. Hants) retained the divisional title for Hants II. Both Moulding and Smith had excellent wins over Duncan Campbell and Angeline Mills gained revenge on Carol Aldridge for last season's defeat.

**Eastern**

**Norfolk 10, Northants 0**

Flattering to Norfolk as much of the play was interesting and of good standard.

**Junior South**

**Hampshire 4, Buckinghamshire 6**

A pity that either side has to lose a match as friendly as this. Shock 14 and 16 win for C. Shetler and Stuart Tannahill over Robin Napper and Michael Wald.

**Junior North**

**Cumberland 0, Durham 10**

Durham stronger in all departments, with their two young girls D. Codling and Cynthia Waite looking very promising.

**Junior East**

**Hertfordshire 8, Suffolk 2**

Even without Trevor Taylor and Paul Harmer, Herts too good. Linda Arr for Suffolk was successful in both doubles.

**Essex 5, Hertfordshire 5**

The one point needed by Essex for the Championship came as a result of some good play by the whole team. Special credit to Stevie Smith who celebrated his promotion to No. 1 by beating Paul Harmer, then combined with Michael Read to take B.D. against Harmer and Trevor Taylor. Tina Dale successful in both G.D. (with Sandra Folds) and X.D. (Frank Kennedy).

**KENT CLOSED**

**Men's Singles: A. Piddock** bt D. Basden 15, 7.

**Women's Singles: P. Piddock** bt J. Ellis 13, -15, 9.

**Men's Doubles: H. Buist/Piddock** bt Basden/M. Ellis 10, 21.

**Women's Doubles: Piddock/P. Baker** bt P. Brenchley/L. Chesson 17, -13, 8.

**Mixed Doubles: Piddock/Piddock** bt G. French/C. Basden 13, 19.

**MIDDLESEX SCHOOLS COMPETITION**

**U-19 Boys' Singles: Robert Gibson** (Ambrose Fleming) bt Ian Steele (Islington High) 15, 9.

**U-15 Boys' Singles: Robert Aldrich** (Chace) bt Richard Lesley (Kingsbury) 17, 10.

**U-19 Girls Singles: Sbeila Hamilton** (Southall) bt Danielle Fedida (North London Collegiate) 13, 15.

**U-15 Girls' Singles: Sheila Hamilton** bt Avril Starling (Hendon) 11, 4

**Norfolk 5, Northamptonshire 5**  
A successful day for the home girls who recorded wins in all events—in each case for the first time this season.

**Suffolk 1, Middlesex 9**

Except in the girls' events, where Suffolk gave a good account of themselves, this was very one-sided.

**Divisional Tables to March 16**  
**FINAL PREMIER TABLE**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Ps
Essex	7	7	0	0	52	11	14
Yorkshire	7	5	0	2	38	25	10
Sussex	7	5	0	2	32	31	10
Middlesex	7	3	0	4	37	26	6
Gloucestershire	7	3	0	4	30	33	6
Cheshire	7	3	0	4	30	33	6
Surrey	7	2	0	5	24	39	4
Lancashire	7	0	0	7	9	54	0
Sussex II	(Games: Gloucs 70-73; Cheshire 69-79)						

**2nd SOUTH**

Kent	6	6	0	0	51	9	12
Middlesex II	6	4	0	2	33	27	8
Hampshire	6	3	0	3	31	29	6
Hertfordshire	6	3	0	3	29	31	6
Surrey II	6	2	1	3	29	31	5
Buckinghamshire	6	2	1	3	26	34	5
Sussex II	6	0	0	6	11	49	0

**2nd NORTH**

Northumberland	6	5	1	0	50	10	11
Lancashire II	5	3	2	0	37	13	8
Yorkshire II	5	4	0	1	34	16	8
Durham	6	2	1	3	25	35	5
Lincolnshire	6	1	2	2	26	34	4
Cheshire II	6	2	0	4	25	35	4
Cumberland	6	0	0	6	3	57	0

**2nd MIDLAND**

Warwickshire	6	6	0	0	48	12	12
Staffordshire	6	5	0	1	43	17	10
Derbyshire	6	2	2	2	35	25	6
Monmouthshire	6	2	2	2	27	33	6
Glamorgan	6	2	1	3	22	38	5
Leicestershire	6	1	1	4	22	38	3
Oxfordshire	6	0	0	6	13	47	0

**2nd WEST**

Worcestershire	5	4	1	0	31	19	9
Wiltshire	5	3	1	1	26	24	7
Somerset	5	2	2	1	30	20	6
Cornwall	5	0	4	1	24	26	4
Devon	5	1	1	3	23	27	3
Dorset	5	0	1	4	16	34	1

**EASTERN**

Norfolk	5	5	0	0	37	13	10
Suffolk	5	3	1	1	33	17	7
Cambridgeshire	5	3	1	1	31	19	7
Bedfordshire	5	2	0	3	25	35	4
Northamptonshire	5	1	0	4	16	34	2
Huntingdonshire	5	0	0	5	8	42	0

**JUNIOR SOUTH**

Kent	5	4	1	0	37	13	9
Surrey	5	4	0	1	34	16	8
Buckinghamshire	5	3	1	1	30	20	7
Hampshire	5	2	0	3	27	23	4
Sussex	5	1	0	4	13	37	2
Berkshire	5	0	0	5	9	41	0

**JUNIOR NORTH**

Lancashire	4	4	0	0	38	2	8
Yorkshire	4	4	0	0	38	2	8
Cheshire	5	3	0	2	22	28	6
Durham	5	1	1	3	21	29	3
Northumberland	5	1	1	3	18	32	3
Cumberland	5	0	0	5	3	47	0

**JUNIOR EAST**

Essex	5	4	1	0	41	9	9
Hertfordshire	5	4	1	0	34	16	9
Middlesex	5	3	0	2	36	14	6
Norfolk	5	1	1	3	17	35	3
Northamptonshire	5	1	1	3	13	37	3
Suffolk	5	0	0	5	9	41	0

**JUNIOR WEST**

Monmouthshire	5	5	0	0	37	13	10
Glamorgan	5	4	0	1	39	11	8
Somerset	5	3	0	2	32	18	6
Gloucestershire	5	2	0	3	18	32	4
Worcestershire	5	0	1	4	13	37	1
Wiltshire	5	0	1	4	11	39	1

Final Tables for the Southern, Midland, Junior Midland and Junior West Divisions were published last month.

**Ventilation via "Ombudsman"**

DURING the course of a Table Tennis Season many grouses, complaints and criticisms are aired, but battles against red-tape seldom see the light of day. Alleged rights of a player are often felt to be shelved by an indifferent committee. I hope through this column to bring out these cancers and try and effect a cure. I have on my committee two legal minds and we will pursue each query that comes into us. Every letter will be confidential and no names of writers will be mentioned unless permission is first obtained. Address your letters to: "OMBUDSMAN," E.T.T.A., 26-29 Park Crescent, London, W.1.

Below I give you two items that have come into my possession. "Why is it that I, as a regular subscriber to T.T. News, very often see Lou Hoffman selling the News at tournaments before I have received mine?"

This is a legitimate grouse that I have heard many times, so I contacted the publishers to find out the workings on the despatch side. The News is published as near as possible to the 10th of each month. Lou Hoffman, who works very near to the publisher's office, goes to collect his supplies of copies each month. Should the date of his collection be on a Thursday, Friday or Saturday and on that week-end there is an Open Tournament, then Lou Hoffman is able to sell his allocation before some people get theirs in the post. I feel that the good which is done in this instance far outweighs the bad.

The following came into my possession with the caustic remark that it would never be printed. Here it is in its entirety.

**MORE PROFESSIONALISM NEEDED?**

Our sport may boast it has solved the amateur/professional problem but Table Tennis selection policy seems sadly lacking in professionalism.

- Where was Ian Harrison?** On their selection of Mike Johns and Alan Hydes for the Rumanian/Czechoslovak tour—England's selectors must have been dazzled by the glow from their crystal ball? Apparently they did not see Ian's brilliant display in the Middlesex Open, when as well as beating Hydes two-straight in the semi, he also tamed "Les" Haslam who had just demonstrated top form by a victory over Johns in the other semi. Perhaps Ian's play in the English Closed was not quite successful enough to bring him back into favour, since this year he only reached the final! This is not written in disparagement of Alan and Mike, but I think it is time that international selection was seen to be based on current form and top class results. At the moment there seems to be a tendency to put in the younger trialist before he has consolidated his position in that elusive elite grading.
- Is Chester in or out?** Table Tennis enthusiasts might be forgiven for thinking they were watching cricket, as they tried to follow the the workings of the official mind as it grappled with the problem of Chester Barnes. This highly-ranked player, who most students of the game agree is in the highest class, was dropped from the International Squad as a disciplinary measure in the early part of the season.

To be effective, discipline must have obvious purpose. Presumably, Chester was to learn the hard way that he was off the England Selectors short list, since his absence from the squad appears to have made no difference either to his ability, or the official view of it as expressed by the Tournament seeding list. However, early in February, Chester (having, we assume learnt his lesson) is recalled, but wait a moment... is he? True, he is back in the Squad as from March 1 but he cannot be selected for the European Championships—i.e. the top European event and accordingly that which the England Selectors are no doubt concentrating most upon winning. But why can't Chester be selected? After all, the European doesn't take place until the end of April! The logic is apparently that Chester was not a member of the International Squad at the time of selection, although he had been forgiven at that time—to the extent of being told he would be rejoining it three weeks hence. I venture to suggest that there are very few club captains who would even consider making team selections for a league match on a basis of this type.

Surely, England's selection policy ought to get back to fundamentals:—

- Who are England's best players?
- Are they fit, on form and available for selection.
- Is there any valid reason which disqualifies them from representing their country at the time of the playing of the event in question?

Only single-minded concentration on the purpose of international selection will enable our selectors to pick what they honestly believe to be the best available team for the event. Does anyone really believe