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Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

Edited by George Yates

No. 25

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Price 1/6

TABLE TENNIS JOINS FORCES WITH COCA-COLA

The English Table Tennis Association have agreed with the Coca-Cola organisation an ambitious sponsorship scheme which could completely alter the future of the sport at all levels.

Several months of negotiations have resulted in the establishment of a £5,000 'pilot' programme for the 1969/70 season, and this could form the basis of a long-term contract giving the E.T.T.A. an assured income from Coca-Cola of £35,000 over the next four years.

Making the announcement at a London press conference, Conrad Jaschke, Chairman of the E.T.T.A., said: "This agreement marks an important step forward for the E.T.T.A., and the financial and promotional support from Coca-Cola will enable us to develop the potential of table tennis in England to the full in the next four years. I am sure this initial year will show just how fast table tennis can be popularised in this country with the proper backing".

So ran the press notice announcing on 18th August, 1969, what had been one of the sport's best kept secrets throughout the many months of detailed negotiations with Coca-Cola by an E.T.T.A. team consisting of Chairman Conrad Jaschke, supported by General Secretary Derek Tremayne and Publicity Committee Chairman Bill Vint.

Negotiations with Coca-Cola's public relations' manager, Eric Churchward, had started in March following an introduction by Emlyn Jones, the Director of the Crystal Palace Sports Centre, who brought the two sides together, convinced that table tennis and Coca-Cola would both gain from a partnership.

Of course the E.T.T.A. had tried for sponsorship of specified events in the past, but on the whole the schemes put up had lacked that professional touch needed in these days when

COCA-COLA
PRESS CONFERENCE
WALDORF HOTEL,
LONDON
AUGUST 18/69

Eric Churchward and Conrad Jaschke, talking to Jill Shirley. Derek Tremayne in background. (right)

The top table. Left to right: Bill Vint, Eric Churchward (Coca-Cola), Conrad Jaschke, Tom Blunn and Derek Tremayne. (below left)

Bill Vint (on right) talking to Peter Hunt, Head of Public Relations, Northern European Area, for Coca-Cola. (below right)



many sports compete for sponsors. Conrad Jaschke conceived the idea that what was needed was not just sponsorship of one or two events, but rather an overall sponsor who would become identified with every aspect of English table tennis and who would have the whole E.T.T.A. programme to choose from for promotional schemes.

As long ago as December, 1967, he had explained to the National Council that the first step towards sponsorship must be a glossy mailing piece which could bring table tennis to the notice of commerce and industry, and although the E.T.T.A. were at that time desperately short of money, Tom Blunn, the Honorary Treasurer of the Association, supported this view and

a sum of several hundred pounds was allocated. Subsequently the Federation of British Manufacturers of Sports and Games generously contributed 50% towards the production costs.

The Sponsorship and Publicity Committees of the E.T.T.A. combined

Continued on page 5

This month's Star Feature

A Tribute to Ron Crayden by Aubrey Hill

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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DEDICATION

WHAT a tremendous and complex organisation the English Table Tennis Association has become as evidenced by the composition of the many and varied sub-committees listed elsewhere in this issue under the heading of Official News.

And how easy it is to fall for the temptation to thumb over this particular page without so much as a second glance oblivious of the tasks confronting the various individuals and groups of dedicated souls at the outset of yet another season.

Not for them the fulfilment of a weekly local league fixture and a day out, when the spirit moves, at some open tournament or other but an administrative slog lasting throughout the playing season and beyond.

Kudos there may be in holding high office, or in being a member of the Management Committee or National Council, but with such roles go the rigours of government and the strain on nerve and sinew is no less demanding than on those whose ambition it is to become a top-flight international player.

Perhaps the work of a lifetime has its reward in the bestowal of Life Membership but otherwise the accomplishment of managerial purpose remains the sole satisfaction.

So spare a thought as you compete for those bigger and more glittering prizes for those whose labours have brought about such fruition and yet will take no active part other than to applaud the winners.

It was ever thus that an official should stand aside for the spotlight to beam on the player, and rightly so, but behind every winner is an organisation whose role and accomplishments are also deserving of acknowledgement.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen.

President: T. Austin Harrison.

Chairman: Conrad Jaschke.

Hon. Treasurer: Tom Blunn.

Management Committee:

Maurice Goldstein, Malcolm E. Scott, Keith Watts and George R. Yates.

International Round-up

by **Conrad Jaschke**

Chairman of the E.T.T.A.

Thank you, D.T.T.B. At the start of the new season I think we should take one final look back to Munich last April, when the German players and officials did more for European table tennis than has been done in many a year. To find a table tennis hall packed to capacity, session after session, with a total aggregate attendance that cannot have been far short of 100,000 spectators, is something we have not seen for quite a long time in Europe. To see players rise above themselves in response to the crowd's enthusiasm as the German players did, shows what is required of our own players when we hold the World Championships in London in 1973. The German spectators raised the roof as their team advanced to the Swaythling Cup final, and as Schöler progressed to the men's singles final. The whole presentation gave a new dimension to the game.



EBERHARD SCHÖLER

Photo by Cliff Darley

There is no doubt that German table tennis will reap rich rewards in the next few years from this success. The Germans have set a standard and a target, and we know what we have to aim at for 1973.

The financial foundations for the 1973 venture are already well advanced. The organisational structure will soon be the subject of discussion and decision. And the training strategy to build a winning team for 1973 begins this season, with Johnny Leach in full control under his mandate from the National Council.



JILL SHIRLEY

Photo by Peter Madge



Conrad Jaschke is seen in the bottom left hand corner of this photograph, having just presented Shigeo Ito with the St. Bride Vase for winning the World Championship.

The photograph also formed the cover of the June issue of the Japanese magazine "Table Tennis Report".

Denis and Jill in Japan. When these lines appear in print our rising young star Jill Shirley will already have completed a pre-season training period in Japan, made possible by her sponsors, A. G. Spalding & Bros. and the generosity of Koji Goto, President of the Japan Table Tennis Association.



DENIS NEALE

Photo by J. O'Sullivan

Our reigning champion Denis Neale is now in Japan on an eleven-match tour as a member of the European table tennis team. The Japanese paid Denis the great compliment of asking specially that he be included in the side of three men and two women, and he should gain greatly from this unique opportunity.

New Officials. The Hungarian Table Tennis Association have appointed Tibor Horvath as their new secretary to succeed Tibor Bihari. Dr. E. Harangozo (President) and Dr. György Lakatos (Vice-President) are the Hungarian officers best known to us and I understand they will be personally concerned with international arrangements.

The Czechoslovak Table Tennis Association have appointed Joseph Nekvasil as their new international secretary. He has paid a number of visits to England in the past and is highly regarded as the Chairman of I.T.T.F. Technical Committee.

Stuart Gibbs emigrates. Former Essex and England international, Stuart Gibbs, has emigrated to Australia and the E.T.T.A. have given him clearance to represent his new country. So we may well see Stuart in Japan in 1971 as a member of the Australian Swaythling Cup team.



STUART GIBBS

Photo by Dennis Offer

European League line-up for 1969/70
PREMIER DIVISION

- Czechoslovakia
- England
- Federal Germany
- France
- Hungary
- Soviet Union
- Sweden

SECOND DIVISION

- Austria
- Belgium
- Denmark
- Ireland
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Switzerland

U.K. DIVISION

- Guernsey
- Jersey
- Scotland
- Wales

Date	Title and Venue	Additional to normal events	Organising Secretary
1969			
Oct. 11/12	BELGIAN OPEN		
..	17—Nissen Invitation Tournament		
..	27—v. Netherlands		
..	28—v. Netherlands		
..	29—v. Federal Germany (European League)		
Oct. 31/Nov. 2	HUNGARIAN OPEN		
Nov. 6/8	YUGOSLAV OPEN		
..	20—v. Hungary (European League)		
..	21—v. Hungary		
..	22/23—Hungary compete in Southend Open		
..	24—v. Hungary		
..	25—v. Finland		
..	27/30— SCANDINAVIAN OPEN		
Dec. 3—v. U.S.S.R. (European League)			
..	4—v. U.S.S.R.		
..	16—v. Sweden		
..	17—v. Sweden		
..	19—v. Sweden		
1970			
Jan. 1/3	English Closed Championships		
..	9—v. Sweden (European League)		
..	17—Yugoslavia compete in Lancashire Open		
..	23—v. Yugoslavia		
	(A Yugoslav team will be in England from Jan. 12-16 for a high-level training session)		
Jan. 31/Feb. 2	CZECHOSLOVAKIAN OPEN		
Feb. 5/8	RUMANIAN OPEN		
..	12—v. Federal Germany		
..	14— IRISH OPEN		
..	17—v. France (European League)		
..	18—v. France		
..	21/23— FEDERAL GERMAN OPEN		
..	24—v. Czechoslovakia		
..	26/28— ENGLISH OPEN		
Mar. 3—v. Czechoslovakia (European League)			
..	4—v. Czechoslovakia		
..	7/8— WELSH OPEN		
..	14/15— SCOTTISH OPEN		
April 1/8	EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS		
May 2/3	English Junior Open		
..	16/17—English Junior Closed (Provisional)		
Aug. 4/9	EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS		

Date	Title and Venue	Additional to normal events	Organising Secretary
Oct. 4/5	Newbury Junior Open, Corn Exchange, Market Place, Newbury.	U-11, -13 & -15 BS & GS	Mrs. G. M. Smith, Greenacres, Pinchington Lane, Newbury, Berks.
..	5—Central Open (Falkirk).	U-15 BD GD XD	Mr. L. C. Cook, 16 Highfield Cres. Linlithgow.
..	10/11—North of England Open	JBS JGS	Mr. L. W. Jones, 261, Mauldeth Rd., Burnage, Manchester, M19 1EH.
..	11—Aberdare Open		Mr. E. J. Thomas, 63 Ynysllwyd St., Aberdare, Glam.
..	17—Nissen Invitation		Mr. A. W. Shipley, ETTA Secretariat, 26-29 Park Cres., London, W1N 4HA.
..	18/19—34th Sussex Open, White Rock Pavilion, Hastings.	MVS	Mr. D. N. Tyler, Prudential Cham., 1 York Buildings, Hastings, Sussex.
..	19—North Herts. Junior Open	U-15 BS GS BD GD XD	Mr. A. Harding, 66, Cowslip Hill, Letchworth, Herts.
..	25—North of Scotland Open.	U-13 BS & GS U-11 BS & GS	Mr. D. Fuller, 30 Eday Road, Aberdeen.
..	26—Merton Restricted Open.	J5	Mrs. J. N. Coop, 96 Headswell Av., Bournemouth, Hants.
..	31—Ulster Open.		Mr. C. Walker, 11 Woodlands Park North, Lambeg, Lisburn, Co. Antrim
Nov. 1—			Mr. C. Davidson, 11 Glanmoor Park Road, Sketty, Swansea.
Nov. 1—Swansea Open.			
..	1/2—Kent Junior Open, Marine Pavilion, Folkestone.	U-11, -13 & -15 BS GS U-13 BD GD U-15 BD GD XD	Mr. G. Daniels, 89 Harvey Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent.
..	2—Hull & East Riding Open	JBS JGS VS	Mr. J. Popham, The Kennels, Hotham Park, York.
..	8—Birmingham Open	JBS JGS JBD VS	Mr. M. Goldstein, 415 Moseley Rd., Birmingham, 12.
..	8—Bristol Restricted Open	JBS JGS VS	V. Adams, 28 Greenfield Cres., Nailsea, Somerset.
..	8—Midland of Scotland Open		Mr. I. A. Dunbar, 5 Montraive Place, Dundee.
..	8/9—Woolwich Open	JBS	Mr. M. R. Ellis, 18 Limetree Close, Downview Estate, Chatham, Kent.
..	16—Portsmouth Open, Wimbledon Park Hall, Southsea.		Mr. P. Goldring, 52 Winter Road, Southsea, Hants.
..	16—Hastings Tigers Restricted Open		Mr. J. F. Wyles, 48a Eversfield Pl., St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

Closing dates approximately 14 days prior to event.

FOR SALE

CLOTH CLUB BADGES made to your own design in any quantity. Low prices - Quick delivery — S. A. CORY & COMPANY, 35b Tooting Bec Gardens, Streatham, S.W.16.

Further Staff Coach

THE E.T.T.A. is to appoint a further Staff Coach on a full-time basis. Necessary qualifications are an E.T.T.A. Coaching Diploma, a high personal playing standard and either, a Physical Education qualification or a practical knowledge of modern fitness training methods.

The duties of the Staff Coach will include organisation of general coaching within the E.T.T.A. coaching scheme and supervision of training of International Squad members and leading junior players. The person appointed would be expected to work in either the Midland or Southern region.

A salary of not less than £1000 per annum is offered and negotiations are at present in hand with the Department of Education and Science with a view to the adoption of an attractive salary scale. Starting salary will be based on age and experience.

Applications, giving full particulars, to be received by 16th October, 1969, should be sent to:

D. R. Tremayne,
46, Perry Street,
Wendover, Bucks.

(Envelopes to be marked "Coach").

EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE European Table Tennis Union have entrusted the English Table Tennis Association with the organisation of the 1970 European Junior Championships to be played on Teesside from August 4th—9th, 1970.

It is apparent that much more needs to be done for junior players in Europe if the gap between Asia and Europe is to be fully closed and with this in mind it will be the aim to organise this event on the same scale as a senior European Championship.

Equipment adopted for this event by the E.T.T.A. is the Dunlop ball, and the Dunlop Championship table, nets and posts.

SECOND YEAR

THE 1969-70 season marks the second of the five-year Agreement with Messrs. John Jaques & Son for the exclusive adoption of the Jaques table for all major E.T.T.A. events in this country. The Agreement provided for John Jaques & Son to pay to the E.T.T.A. an annual cash sum, to loan permanently to the E.T.T.A. specified numbers of top grade tables—a number which was generously exceeded last season—and to provide a wide range of equipment and services to the E.T.T.A. free of charge.

THE NEW RANKING LISTS

by The Editor

THE National Selection Committee really got down to business at Ultra Electronics, Acton on Sunday, Sept. 14, when, at the conclusion of the Final Junior Trials, they not only issued a ranking list for the Juniors but did likewise with the Seniors in a hangover session from the previous evening at London Central Y.M.C.A.

No one can deny the right of Yorkshire's Alan Hydes to leap up from No. 10 to No. 3 after his stirring performances at Munich, an upgrading which can be considered to be fully deserved.

The top four men and top two women will, for the present, constitute the "A" or Elite Group from which the European League teams will be chosen. From the ruck of players beneath Jill Shirley will eventually emerge, it is hoped, at least another two players to bring the group up to the same numerical strength as the men.

All the rest, with the exception of Ron Penfold and Kath Perry will constitute the "B" Groups from which teams to play in International matches of lesser importance will be selected.

Omitted from the previous men's list (Seeding) are Stuart Gibbs who has emigrated to Australia and Peter Williams, whilst Jackie Billington is the sole departure from the women's list.

Yet another Yorkshire discovery tops the Boys list, in Nicky Jarvis of Middlesborough, and he replaces, at No. 1, Trevor Taylor now overage as is Melvyn Waldman (Middx.), Ian Robertson (Northumberland) and Paul Freeman (Durham). Following in Trevor's footsteps, however, is younger brother Peter up from No. 9 to No. 3.

Susan Howard takes over the top position in succession to Jill Shirley in the Girls list. Like Jill, Linda Bashford (Yorks.), Jenny Cornock (Warwks.) and Sandra Lee have gone "over the top" of the junior age limit.

Biggest leap is that of Lancashire's Susan Lisle who has risen from No. 12 to No. 4. The full rankings are:—

- MEN**
1. Denis Neale (Yorks.) (1)
 2. Chester Barnes (Essex) (2)
 3. Alan Hydes (Yorks.) (10)
 4. Trevor Taylor (Herts.) (3)
 5. Brian Wright (Middx.) (5)
 6. "Connie" Warren (Surrey) (4)
 7. Mike Johns (Cheshire) (6)
 8. Tony Piddock (Kent) (9)
 9. "Les" Haslam (Middx.) (7)
 10. David Brown (Essex) (8)
 11. Tony Clayton (Yorks.) (—)
 12. Ron Penfold (Surrey) (—)

- WOMEN**
1. Mary Wright (Surrey) (1)
 2. Jill Shirley (Bucks.) (3)
 3. Pauline Piddock (Kent) (5)
 4. Judy Williams (Sussex) (2)
 5. Judy Heaps (Ches.) (6)
 6. Karenza Mathews (Middx.) (4)
 7. Maureen Robson (nee Heppell) (N'ld.) (7)
 8. Lesley Radford (Essex) (8)
 9. Diane Simpson (Essex) (9)
 10. Sue Howard (Surrey) (=10)
 11. Linda Bashford (Yorks.) (=10)
 12. Kath. Perry (Warwks.) (—)

- BOYS**
1. Nicky Jarvis (Yorks.) (5)
 2. John Dabin (Kent) (2)
 3. Peter Taylor (Herts.) (9)
 4. Tony Boasman (Lancs.) (6)
 5. Alan Fletcher (Yorks.) (8)
 6. Neil Fulstow (Yorks.) (A)
 7. Robert Hellaby (Essex) (10)
 8. David Rayner (Yorks.) (A)
 9. Simon Heaps (Ches.) (7)
 10. Peter Abell (Yorks.) (A)
 11. Michael Read (Essex) (11)
 12. Ian Horsham (Essex) (A)

- GROUP "A"**
- Paul Bishop (Surrey) (A)
 - Paul Guttormsen (Kent) (—)
 - Marcus Hall (Warwks.) (B)
 - Brian Johns (Ches.) (—)
 - Colin Jones (Kent) (B)
 - David Newton (Lancs.) (A)

- GIRLS**
1. Susan Howard (Surrey) (2)
 2. Susan Beckwith (Essex) (7)
 3. Linda Howard (Surrey) (8)
 4. Susan Lisle (Lancs.) (12)
 5. Christine Mann (Middx.) (5)
 6. Carol Randall (Sussex) (10)
 7. Lesley Pacitto (Bucks.) (9)
 8. Paula Brenchley (Kent) (A)
 9. Lynda Chesson (Kent) (6)
 10. Sheila Hamilton (Middx.) (A)

- GROUP "A"**
- Pat Beazer (Somerset) (—)
 - Sylvia Broadhurst (Yorks.) (—)
 - Janet Hellaby (Essex) (A)
 - Valerie King (Yorks.) (—)
 - Ann Painter (Middx.) (A)
 - Linda Sutton (Yorks.) (A)

THE COCA-COLA AWARD

AS announced elsewhere in this issue, the Coca-Cola sponsorship arrangements will include a special award for players. This will take the form of a competition based on results at the following specified events:

- European Championships
- European Team Events
- Open National Tournaments at home and abroad. (includes English Open and English Closed).
- International Matches and team events at home and abroad.
- Open and Restricted Open Tournaments.

The points basis will be the same as that used for the E.T.T.A. Ranking List for Open Tournaments and is set out in details on this page.

The Award is open to all affiliated members of both sexes and relates to singles events only.

For the first year there will be only one Award for all players, but consideration is being given to a special Award to the top junior.

The total value of the Awards will be no less than £300.

The first £100 will be a straight forward cash prize and £200 will be used in consultation with the E.T.T.A. to benefit the winner's table tennis career.

There is no entry form required but only the names and points earned of the top twenty players will be published monthly in the magazine.

The scheme will be controlled by the E.T.T.A. whose decision shall be final.

RANKING v. SEEDING

continued

by Tom Blunn

Chairman, National Selection Committee

FOLLOWING many years of discussions as to the use of the Open Tournament Seeding list, the Selection Committee has decided to experiment this season with a points system, whereby the list will be revised during and at the end of the season in accordance with a 'League table'.

The players and the Press have always regarded the list as a Ranking list, so to compromise and clear up all doubts the list will be called a 'Ranking list for Open Tournaments'. The main purpose will still be for seeding in Open Tournaments but now that there is a possibility of sponsored invitation tournaments on the lines of the Nissen tournament, with cash prizes, the Selection Committee will use the list for choosing the players for these invitation tournaments.

It still remains the policy of the Selection Committee to have a free hand in choosing teams for international matches and tours. This may bring in policy considerations and attempts to give experience to younger players, and the list will be used only as a guide to assist in these considerations. In recent years there have been several unpleasant incidents concerning selections made, and letters have been written complaining about selections not being in accordance with the ranking list. The Selection Committee cannot be expected to explain every individual

selection and in future any correspondence received will be acknowledged and considered by the Committee but no discussions will be entered into.

The points system is set out in detail below and it is emphasised that this is an experiment for this season and that adjustments may well have to be made in the light of experience. Criticism of the system will be welcomed but the scheme must be given a good run for a full season before any alterations are made. A lot of thought has been put into the scheme and it is hoped that it will prove fair to all players.

Full records of all players likely to be involved will be kept and the list will be revised at the beginning, in the middle, and towards the end of the season. The revised list will be published in the magazine in October, January and April of each year and will be used for seeding in Open Tournaments. Any tournament in the early part of these months will be notified in advance of any change in the list. The points will be totalled up at the end of November, February and May, and a new start will be made from 1st June each season.

The policy of having international squads will continue but this season there will be an elite 'A' squad from whom the European League teams and teams for the top grade international matches will normally be chosen. The normal or 'B' squad will provide the teams for the remaining events although certain policy decisions may require 'B' squad players being chosen for top events. The composition of the two squads will be at the discretion of the Selection Committee and will be reviewed periodically but will be capable of revision for a particular reason at any time. The points scheme will be used as a guide but will by no means be the main criterion.

POINTS SCHEME FOR AFFILIATED PLAYERS

TO BE USED FOR THE RANKING LIST FOR OPEN TOURNAMENTS AND THE COCA-COLA AWARD SCHEME

	Winner	R.U.	S.F.	Q.F.
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS	500	250	125	75
OPEN NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS:				
1st grade (with entries from 6 out of top 12 players ranked in Europe)	250	125	75	50
2nd grade (with entries from 4 out of top 12 players ranked in Europe)	200	100	50	25
3rd grade (with 2 or less entries out of top 12 players ranked in Europe)	100	50	25	10
OPEN AND RESTRICTED OPEN TOURNAMENTS				
1st grade (with top 4 ranked players entered) ...	100	50	25	10
2nd grade (with top 3 ranked players entered) ...	75	40	20	—
3rd grade (with top 2 ranked players entered) ...	50	25	15	—
4th grade (with 1 or no ranked players entered) ...	25	10	5	—
INTERNATIONAL TEAM EVENTS				
		Per Singles set won		
Against a team ranked in positions 1-4 in Europe ...				50
Against a team ranked in positions 5-8 in Europe ...				25
Against a team ranked in positions 9 and over in Europe ...				15
EUROPEAN LEAGUE MATCHES				50
BONUS POINTS				
For beating a World ranked player				100
For beating a European ranked player				50
For beating a higher ranked English player				10
				points per position

COMPENSATION POINTS
A player may be awarded points to compensate for losing the opportunity to earn points in an Open Tournament in England because of international service abroad, limited to 50 per cent of what he could have earned had he entered and won the tournament.

Table Tennis joins forces with Coca-Cola
continued from page 1

in producing "Spotlight on Table Tennis" which, when it was mailed to some 3,500 firms, as well as to education authorities, governing bodies of sports, government departments, and to selected public relations firms, was received with overwhelming praise and enthusiasm.

Soon, approaches from firms interested in table tennis sponsorship were pouring into the E.T.T.A. secretariat, and the E.T.T.A. Chairman and Secretary between them personally met representatives of more than 30 firms.

Negotiations with a number of firms were proceeding well and offers were coming in, when Emlyn Jones arranged the Coca-Cola interview. It was immediately apparent to the E.T.T.A. negotiators, that Coca-Cola would be the ideal partner, and after his very first meeting with Churchward, Jaschke ordered all other negotiations to be put into cold storage, even though one international company was at that time considering a £10,000 scheme for a one-year trial.

What impressed the negotiating team was the way Eric Churchward thought along similar lines to those cherished by the E.T.T.A. Not only did he make it clear right away that Coca-Cola had no wish to interfere

in E.T.T.A. administration, but he stressed from the beginning that while Coca-Cola would naturally want recognition for their contribution to table tennis, their main emphasis would be on long-term development of the game by providing funds that could be used for training and coaching schemes, and by making technical know-how available so that publicity and promotion of the game could be improved, and public presentation perfected.

With guidance from his two colleagues, E.T.T.A. Secretary, Derek Tremayne prepared a detailed scheme which after negotiation was accepted by Coca-Cola, with one important alteration; Coca-Cola wanted the first

year to be used for a pilot scheme, as there was insufficient time to arrange to sponsor the whole of the E.T.T.A. programme for 1969/70. Though this meant that the E.T.T.A. would benefit by only £5,000 in the first year, the E.T.T.A. side were convinced that the long-term considerations more than justified acceptance on these terms.

Quite apart from the financial considerations, Coca-Cola is clearly the ideal partner for English table tennis. It has the image of a clean, healthy and energy-giving product, and is highly regarded by sportsmen and women all over the world. Coca-Cola is a drink which appeals greatly to young people. Table tennis is one of the most energetic of sports, and at the top level it is dominated by the young. This closeness of image is an important consideration in ensuring good publicity value to the sponsor and to the sport.

In this first year Coca-Cola sponsorship will centre on the major international matches and English Championships, plus the special Coca-Cola Award, details of which are to be announced shortly. If, as expected, the full scheme goes ahead after the initial year, sponsorship will extend also to open tournaments, coaching, and the proficiency award scheme.

It is clear that the Coca-Cola company must assess the first year's results before making a definite decision about spending a further £30,000 on table tennis sponsorship, and it is now up to every table tennis player and official to do his utmost to cooperate with the E.T.T.A. in the requests that will flow from headquarters, designed to ensure that in publicity up and down the country, the Coca-Cola name is firmly and repeatedly linked with table tennis activities. Local leagues and tournaments stand to gain enormously if the full scheme is proceeded with, and by helping the E.T.T.A. in 1969/70 they can ensure for themselves substantial benefits in the following three seasons.

In due course the range of soft drinks manufactured by the Coca-Cola company will be made available to players and officials at many table tennis events, and full recognition of this service should be given in programmes, in local and national publicity, and in appropriate cases the Coca-Cola name should be incorporated on posters and in literature announcing table tennis events. It will take the E.T.T.A. a little while to organise all this on a national basis, but in the meantime any local player or official who can help in this publicity drive should contact Derek Tremayne at the E.T.T.A. headquarters without delay.

Coca-Cola have made a name internationally for the help the company has rendered to different sports, but the scheme for table tennis is unique insofar as it virtually amounts to a partnership between the two sides, giving Coca-Cola a direct interest in the development of table tennis into a major national sport. The amount of financial help envisaged in the full scheme is larger than amounts granted by Coca-Cola to any other sport.

If full advantage is taken of these opportunities, table tennis can make rapid strides, making it more worthwhile and enjoyable for players at all levels to participate in the sport.

JAQUES T.T. TABLES



*again
selected
exclusively
by the ETTA
for all
major events
this season*

Illustrated is JAQUES Metal under-carriage Table. Lighter than the conventional type but built for hard usage. With JAQUES special features

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OFFICIAL NEWS

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

I have to inform you of the resignation of Walter Mitton from the office of Deputy Chairman. Serious irregularities in the E.T.T.A. Fund Raising schemes have come to light and are now being investigated. Mr. Mitton accepts full responsibility for these.

CONRAD JASCHKE,
Chairman.

The election of National Councillors for the 1969-70 season resulted as follows:—

Beds.: P. E. HARMER; *Berks.: A. M. LIJINSKY; Bucks.: L. THOMPSON; Cambs.: J. D. CORNWELL; Ches.: J. K. KENNERLEY; Cornwall: L. F. LANDRY; Cumb.: G. R. YATES; Derbys.: P. NORMAN; *Devon: K. T. O. PONTING; Dorset: D. MEECH; *Durham: A. RANSOME; Essex: H. WALKER; Gloucs.: L. C. T. DAVIS; Hants.: M. S. GREATREX; Herts.: H. G. STEVENS; Hunts.: S. ROBERTS; Kent: C. M. WYLES; Lancs.: A. E. UPTON; Leics.: P. REID; Lincs.: K. W. DEWAR; Middx.: L. HOFFMAN; Norfolk: E. J. FAIRHEAD; Northants.: K. J. MARCHANT; Northld.: D. ROBSON; Notts.: E. TAYLOR; Oxon.: A. J. HOBDAV; Somerset: D. POPE; Staffs.: M. E. SCOTT; Suffolk: D. J. BARRETT; Surrey: C. J. CLEMETT; Sussex: K. WATTS; Warwks: M. GOLDSTEIN; Wilts.: MISS K. WATERS; Worcs.: I. R. CRICKMER and Yorks.: F. BRIGGS.

*Ballots resulted:

Berks: A. M. LIJINSKY—7 votes, ELECTED
R. Smith—2 votes, not elected
Devon: K. T. O. PONTING—9 votes, ELECTED
Mrs. F. Jarvis—1 vote not elected
Durham: A. RANSOME—9 votes, ELECTED
E. Reay—7 votes not elected

Shropshire is now the only county without an elected representative.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

At the first meeting of the National Council, held in London on July 19th, the election of the Management Committee resulted:

G. R. YATES — 24 votes
K. WATTS — 20 votes
M. GOLDSTEIN — 18 votes
C. M. WYLES — 15 votes

Unsuccessful in the ballot were L. Hoffman (11 votes) and I. R. Crickmer and M. E. Scott each with 10 votes.

APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Chairman Conrad Jaschke explained the new method of grouping sub-committees, some groups reporting to a co-ordination committee. As an example, the Coaching and Selection Committees were both concerned with the advancement of players and the policies of the two committees would

be closely linked under the guidance of a co-ordination committee. There would also be a Home Programme Co-ordination Committee. Other sub-committees would report direct to the Management Committee as before.

(a) **Home Programme Co-ordination**
W. Mitton (Chairman), T. Blunn (Vice-Chairman), D. R. Tremayne (Secretary), M. Goldstein, C. M. Wyles and G. R. Yates.

Terms of Reference:

1. To co-ordinate all competitive play under E.T.T.A. control, in England.
2. To draw up the home programme for international matches and supervise its execution.
3. To supervise all English Championships.
4. To exercise overall control over the policies of the Tournaments and National Team Championships' Committees.
5. To assist and advise the Archives & Library committee, particularly in connection with displays at E.T.T.A. events.
6. To co-ordinate E.T.T.A. and County Championships' dates.

(b) **Archives & Library** (Report to Home Programme Co-ordination)

I. R. Crickmer (Chairman & Secretary),
M. E. Scott and
A. W. Shipley.

1. To collect and specify specimens of table tennis materials of all kinds.

2. To give information from the Archives as required.

3. To arrange exhibitions of table tennis materials at suitable functions.

4. To purchase items for the Archives within the allocated budget.

(c) **National Team Competitions** (Report to the Home Programme Co-ordination)

M. Goldstein (Chairman), L. C. T. Davis (Secretary) and E. Taylor.

1. To be responsible for the management of the National Team Competitions.

2. To advise the National Council on matters concerning the Competitions.

(d) **Tournaments** (Report to Home Programme Co-ordination)

C. M. Wyles (Chairman),
G. R. Yates (Vice-Chairman),
F. Briggs (Secretary),
L. F. Landry, K. T. O. PONTING, P. Reid and D. Robson.

1. To advise the National Council on matters concerning tournaments and competitions.

2. To consider applications from Open Tournament organisers and to allocate dates.

3. To issue new or amended tournament regulations as necessary.

4. To proceed with the grading of tournaments.

5. To keep under review the Tournament Regulations contained in

Appendix 'B' to the Rules and refer to the Rules Committee any alterations or additions which may be considered desirable.

(e) **International and Coaching Co-ordination**

T. Blunn (Chairman), C. Jaschke (Vice-Chairman), D. R. Tremayne (Secretary), J. Leach, M.B.E. and A. G. Steggall.

1. To co-ordinate the work of the Selection and the National Coaching & Schools' Committees, and to exercise overall control over their policies.

2. To progress plans towards an amalgamation of the above two committees.

3. To consider new coaching and selection policies designed to achieve a substantial improvement in overall playing standards by 1972-3.

4. To keep under review the International Contacts Regulations contained in Appendix 'D' to the Rules and refer to the Rules Committee any alterations or additions which may be considered desirable.

(f) **National Coaching & Schools** (Report to Int. & Coaching Co-ordination)

A. G. Steggall (Chairman),
M. E. Scott (Vice-Chairman);
D. R. Tremayne (Secretary);
J. H. Carrington, J. D. Cornwall, H. Dignan, L. Gresswell and P. Simpson.
Northern Panel: H. Dignan (Chairman), P. Simpson (Secretary), S. Frohlick, J. K. Kennerley, W. Mitton, A. Ransome and D. Schofield.

Eastern Panel: J. D. Cornwall (Chairman), J. H. Carrington (Secretary), D. Arr, L. F. Landry, K. J. Marchant, P. Reid and H. G. Stevens.

Midland and South Western Panel: D. R. Tremayne (Chairman), L. Gresswell (Secretary), B. Hayward, B. Merrett, M. E. Scott, L. Thompson and J. Waterhouse.

1. To be responsible for the administration of the National Coaching Scheme.

2. To set and apply the qualifying standards for Coaches.

3. To administer the E.T.T.A. Schools' Centres.

4. To co-operate with the English Schools' T.T.A. in promoting table tennis activities for schools, in accordance with the policy of the National Council.

(g) **Selection** (Report to Int. and Coaching Co-ordination)

T. Blunn (Chairman), R. J. Crayden (Vice-Chairman), D. R. Tremayne (Secretary), J. Leach, M.B.E. (Team Manager), L. Gresswell, L. F. Landry, B. Merrett, D. Schofield and P. Simpson.

1. To assist and advise the Team Manager.

2. To compile seeding and/or

ranking lists and nominate International Squads.

3. To organise trials as necessary.

4. To organise and/or supervise training periods for selected players and to liaise in this respect with the National Coaching and Schools' Committee regarding the use of official trainers and/or coaches.

The post of Junior Team Manager was abolished, the operative ruling for this season being that the Team Manager would appoint senior and junior captains, and select senior and junior teams.

(h) **Rules Committee**

K. Watts (Chairman), E. G. White (Vice-Chairman), A. J. Wickens (Secretary), W. Goldfinch and M. S. Greatrex

1. To advise the National Council and Sub-Committees on matters concerning the Rules and Regulations of the Association and the interpretation thereof.

2. On behalf of the National Council to give an official ruling on the interpretation of any Rule or Regulation of the Association.

3. To draft for submission to a General Meeting any changes to the Rules to be proposed by the National Council.

4. To draft for submission to the National Council any changes in Regulations proposed by any Sub-Committee.

5. To give systematic review to the Rules and Regulations, and to advise the National Council on any considered changes considered necessary or desirable.

6. On request, to give such advice on drafting as is practicable direct to intending proposers of changes in the Rules.

7. To provide, on request by the Disciplinary Committee, advice to the Disciplinary Committee through the attendance of its Chairman or Secretary at meetings of the Disciplinary Committee, with power for the Chairman to appoint another member of the Rules' Committee as deputy for either.

8. To exercise the powers and fulfil the duties of the National Council under Rule 32 (c) to approve or refuse approval of the Rules and Regulations of a County Association or any amendment thereto, acting if it thinks fit through a panel or sub-committee of its members.

9. To provide one member to attend each meeting of the County Boundaries Committee.

(i) **County Boundaries** (Report to Rules Committee)

D. Robson (Chairman), H. Walker (Secretary), K. W. Dewar, D. Pope, J. M. Wright plus a representative of the Rules' Committee.

1. To adjudicate on all matters concerning the boundaries of areas administered by the County T.T. Associations, in accordance with E.T.T.A. Rules and Regulations.

2. To arbitrate in disputes concerning definition of boundaries arising between Counties and/or Leagues.

(j) **Marketing** (Report to Management Committee)

M. Goldstein (Chairman and Secretary), T. Blunn, L. Hoffman and A. G. Steggall.

1. To investigate the possibilities of E.T.T.A. deriving income from the marketing of table tennis equipment and other goods, either direct or through an associated company, or by arrangement with an independent company.

2. To put to the National Council definite proposals to this effect as soon as possible.

3. To administer marketing arrangements approved by the National Council, under the direction of the Management Committee.

(k) **Disciplinary**

A. E. Upton (Chairman), K. Watts (Vice-Chairman), E. N. Mitchell (Secretary), E. J. Fairhead and M. E. Scott.

1. To recommend to the National Council—if necessary after consultation with the Rules' Committee—disciplinary action to be taken against any affiliated persons or organisations.

2. To take emergency disciplinary action through its chairman acting in consultation with the Officers of the Association.

3. To be consulted, through its chairman acting on its behalf, by any E.T.T.A. official dealing with disciplinary matters (to ensure uniform interpretation of National Council policy) and by its chairman to interview all parties concerned in possible disciplinary action.

4. To keep under review the Disciplinary Regulations contained in Appendix 'E' to the Rules and refer to the Rules Committee any alterations or additions which may be considered desirable.

(l) **Equipment**

R. J. Crayden (Chairman), H. Spraggs (Secretary), A. M. Lijinsky, D. R. Tremayne and A. J. Wickens.

1. To watch the quality of table tennis equipment used in England, and to carry out tests with a view to ascertaining the standard of equipment, and advise the National Council thereon.

2. To be empowered to stop the use of equipment which does not comply with relevant I.T.T.F. Regulations or Rules.

3. To propose to the National Council and/or manufacturers any improvements in equipment which are considered desirable.

4. To draw up detailed proposals for the setting up of a "seal of approval" scheme, for the consideration of the National Council.

5. To liaise closely with the person designated by the National Council as E.T.T.A. Representative to the Trade.

(m) **Life Members & Vice-Presidents**

C. Jaschke (Chairman), T. Blunn, M. Goldstein and A. K. Vint, O.B.E.

1. To advise the National Council on matters concerning Life Members, President and Vice-Presidents.

2. To consider nominations for Life Members, President and Vice-Presidents and to make appropriate recommendations to the National Council.

(n) **Publicity and Publications**

A. K. Vint, O.B.E. (Chairman), C. M. Wyles (Vice-Chairman), A. W. Shipley (Secretary), F. Clay (P.R.O.), G. R. Yates (P.O. North), J. Pike (P.O. Mid-

lands), J. Woodford (P.O. South), Mrs. P. Kydd, L. Hoffman, J. Leach, M.B.E., P. Mulcahy, D. R. Tremayne and E. G. White.

1. To be responsible for general publicity on behalf of the E.T.T.A. in all or any of the media available.

2. To be responsible for specific publicity as and when required by the National Council.

3. To make recommendations to the National Council on publicity aimed at informing the membership about table tennis activities in general.

4. To assist where required County and Local Associations and Leagues to formulate publicity programmes in their own areas.

5. To advise the National Council on all matters affecting the internal and external public relations of the E.T.T.A.

6. To assist the E.T.T.A. Press/Publicity/Public Relations' Officers in their work.

7. To assist and advise the Editor of "Table Tennis News".

8. To take overall responsibility for all E.T.T.A. Publications.

9. To keep under review the Dress and Badge Regulations contained in Appendix 'C' to the Rules and refer to the Rules' Committee any alterations or additions which may be considered desirable.

(o) **Umpires and Referees**

G. James (Chairman), A. J. Hobday (Vice-Chairman), C.

Clemett (Secretary), W. Goldfinch, G. A. Owen, A. W. Shipley, H. Spraggs, E. G. White and A. J. H. Wickens.

1. To be responsible for the administration of the County Umpires' organisation.

2. To set and apply, in conjunction with the County Umpires' Committees the qualifying standards for County and National Umpires.

3. To arbitrate on behalf of, and to advise, the National Council on matters concerning the Laws of the game, the relevant I.T.T.F. Regulations and the responsibilities of Umpires and Referees.

4. To nominate or approve Referees for International matches,

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OFFICIAL NEWS continued

Open Tournaments and such other events as may be specified by the National Council and to maintain lists of Referees, one for Open Tournaments and one for International matches.

5. To nominate or approve Umpires for International matches and such other events as may be specified by the National Council.

6. To disseminate information about all aspects of the work of Umpires and Referees.

It was agreed that the Finance Committee not be re-appointed and the work of this Committee be undertaken by the Management Committee, thus giving more responsibility to this Committee in accordance with the views expressed at the A.G.M.. It was also agreed to appoint M. S. Greatrex as Hon. Assistant Treasurer.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES, PANELS & APPOINTMENTS

- (a) **World Championships, 1973 Steering Committee**
The Officers, Secretary and A. K. Vint.
- (b) **European Junior Championships 1970**
C. Jaschke (Chairman), W. Mitton (Chairman of Local organising Committee), T. Blunn (Treasurer and Vice-Chairman of local organising committee), D. R. Tremayne (Secretary), J. M. Wright (Referee), I. R. Crickmer, C. M. Wyles (liaison with local organising committee), and, when required A. Ransome.
- (c) **Appeals Board**
F. C. Newell, G. James, G. A. Owen, N. K. Reeve, M. D. Shaffner, A. K. Vint, R. M. White, J. M. Wright, A. J. H. Wickens was appointed as Clerk to the Board and if any member was unable to serve, it was agreed to ask W. Goldfinch to substitute.
- (d) **Victor Barna Award**
V. Barna, T. Blunn, M. Goldstein, C. Jaschke and J. Leach.
- (e) **English Open** (Report to Home Programme Co-ordination)
Organiser: D. R. Tremayne, Referee: S. Eane.
- (f) **English Junior Open** (Report to H.P.C.)
Organiser: C. M. Wyles, Referee: G. A. Owen.
- (g) **English Closed** (Report to H.P.C.)
Organiser: D. R. Tremayne, Referee: H. Spraggs.
- (h) **Handbook Supplement** (Report to Publicity and Publications)
E.T.T.A. Secretariat
- (i) **Table Tennis News** (Report to P. & P.)
Editor & Circulation: G. R. Yates, Advertisements: E.T.T.A. Secretariat.
- (j) **C.T.T.C. Representative** (Report to H.P.C.)
W. Mitton
- (k) **C.C.P.R. Representative** (Report to Int. & C.C.)
D. R. Tremayne
- (l) **E.S.T.T.A. Representatives** (Report to Int. & C.C.)

D. R. Tremayne and P. Simpson.

- (m) **Liaison with I.T.T.F. E.T.T.U. Foreign Associations and Trade**
C. Jaschke
- (n) **Nomination and Returning Officer**
A. J. H. Wickens
- (o) **Scrutineers**
P. Hyde and F. Milligan
- (p) **Assistant Treasurer**
M. S. Greatrex
- (q) **Assistant to Secretariat**
H. Walker
- (r) **Solicitors to the Association**
Messrs. Oswald Hickson, Collier & Co.

Attendance of Non-Members at National Council Meetings

Approval was given for the Chairman to invite non-members to National Council Meetings. These would be Chairmen of Sub-Committees, A. J. H. Wickens as Secretary of the Rules' Committee, F. Clay, J. Leach and others at the Chairman's discretion.

MASTER POINTS SCHEME

APPLICATIONS and correspondence concerning the Master Points Scheme previously dealt with by Mrs. W. Mitton should, henceforward, be addressed to the E.T.T.A. Secretariat, Room 323, 26-29, Park Crescent, London W1N 4HA.

COMFORTABLE WIN

A WELL organised match at the City Hall, Sheffield on June 6 resulted in a 7-2 win for England over Federal Germany.

Alan Hydes played brilliantly seeming to improve with every game but Denis Neale played only well enough to win. He seemed sluggish until his final game against Wilfred Lieck, when he struck top form.

Trevor Taylor was not at his best and played impatiently, obviously lacking practice. Results:

D. NEALE bt K. Schmittinger 16, 19; bt M. Ness -15, 15, 18; bt W. Lieck 19, -19, 10.

A. HYDES bt Ness -19, 18, 6; bt Lieck 14, 16; bt Schmittinger 18, 15. T. TAYLOR lost to Nieck -20, -14; bt Schmittinger 15, 12; lost to Ness -12, -17.

EUROPEAN JUNIOR

YORKSHIRE E.C. member Cliff Darley has been appointed Assistant Referee to John M. Wright for the European Junior Open Championships to be held at Thornaby Pavilion, Teesside (Aug. 4-9, 1970). He is currently circularising all umpires in the north with a view to them gaining experience should they be desirous of officiating at the 1973 World Championships which are scheduled for this country and will probably be played in London.

Offers of assistance, from those umpires duly qualified, should be addressed to Cliff at 13, The Booths, Pontefract, Yorks.

CAR-STICKER COMPETITION

The £5 prize offered by the E.T.T.A.'s Publicity Committee in the April edition of 'Table Tennis News' was won by Mr. Ron Weir, of London, a former Chairman of the Dulwich League.

Mr. Weir's prize-winning submission, reproduced hereunder, had the words "TABLE TENNIS" in white on a green background with the words "JOIN THE 'T.T.' SET!" in black on a white background.

TABLE TENNIS

JOIN THE T.T. SET!

Such was the standard of all entries, and the ingenuity shown, that the task confronting the judges proved a difficult one.

Two other entries also combined, the same slogan as that submitted by Mr. Weir, but as his was the first received, with art-work of a very high quality, to him went the £5 prize.

Judges comprised E.T.T.A. Chairman Conrad Jaschke, Publicity Committee Chairman A. K. "Bill" Vint, O.B.E., and Mrs. Sam Kydd, the former International "Pinkie" Barnes and now a member of the Publicity Committee.

SWAYTHLING CLUB

VICTOR BARNA reports that the Swaythling Club—founded in 1967 at the World Championships in Stockholm, for table tennis champions and officials who have represented their country in a World Championship—is hopeful of greater financial support as a number of firms (not necessarily sports firms) have promised substantial assistance.

At the Club's A.G.M. in Munich, it was decided that in addition to the publication of a Bulletin, at least twice a year, a booklet will also be published listing the names and addresses of members, so that if they are travelling to another country they can contact and get help, if required, from their fellow Club members.

Following the example of the Danish and Portugese Swaythling Clubs, the Australian Swaythling Club are to hold their own regular get-togethers.

For the next World Championships in 1971, the Japanese Association has offered hospitality for approximately

20 Swaythling Club members and it is hoped that some of the members will be in attendance at this season's European Championships to be held in Moscow next April.

President of the Swaythling Club is Victor Barna, Vice-President: Ochiro Ogmura, Hon. Secretary: Dr. Zarko Dolinar, P.O. Box 33, Basle 7, Switzerland; and Hon. Treasurer, Hugo Urchetti, Av. de Crozet, 46 1211 Geneva, Switzerland.

Committee members comprise: Ivan Andreadis, Dr. Dieter Mauritz, Bengt Grive and Joe Veselsky.

The photographic line-up reads (from left to right): Dr. Mauritz, President of the Deutscher Tisch-Tennis Bund, Joe Veselsky, Irish non-playing captain, Jimmy McCormack, Hon. Secretary of the Scottish T.T.A., Hugo Urchetti, President of the Swiss T.T.A., Victor Barna (five times World men's singles champion) and Ichiro Ogmura (Japan) men's singles champion in 1954 and 1956.



EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Brian Mitchell

RESTRICTED TAYLOR CAUSES DISAPPOINTMENT

THE largest English party to go to a European junior championship returned from a casualty-prone week in beautiful downtown Obertraun, Austria, in July, slightly the worse for wear, and possibly slightly disappointed.

Main cause of the disappointment was Trevor Taylor's injury, sustained whilst indulging in a limbering-up football match with the Czechs, and others, which caused his play to be very restricted in losing to the Czech, Pavel Pospiech in his first round. In addition, Trevor had to scratch from both doubles.

England's other main hope, Jill Shirley was out of touch after an eventful return from a fortnight's holiday in Spain and went down to Alicia Grofova in the quarters.

Susan Howard, after playing so well in the team event, lost surprisingly to Ellen Klatt of the Netherlands. However, our two top girls reached the semis of the girls' doubles.

The singles brought no great achievements. In the boys' event only John Dabin progressed past the second round, but then ran up against the 18-year-old Vladimir Zlenko, the only surviving member of last year's Russian junior first team. Although Zlenko did not play in this year's team event he is without doubt their most experienced player.

Out of the second round went Nicky Jarvis to Czochanski (Poland), Melvyn Waldman to Stellan Bengtsson (Sweden), Tony Boasman to Zeks (Yugoslavia) and Ian Robertson to Balent, a compatriot of Zeks.

Of our three girls not already mentioned, Linda Bashford won her first round against Ruth Richter (Fed. Germany) but then had the misfortune to meet Gabriela Smekal, the very good home No. 1 girl, and was beaten quite decisively.

Jenny Cornock led 20-17 in the third against Ilva Guntsch (Sweden) but lost the next five points. Our youngest girl, Linda Howard, reached the quarters of the under-14's but lost to the Soviet's Matweeva.

The boys' singles was won by Milan Orlovski, a surprise for many but no less a surprise was his final opponent, Russia's Vitaliy Ostrovski, who beat defending champion Jiri Turai with amazing ease in the semi-finals.

In the girls' singles, Carmen Crisan of Rumania regained her title in a disappointing final against Asta Gedraitite, whose form after her incre-

dible team event performance seemed to deteriorate. She did, however, beat Ilona Vostova in the semis, recovering from 14-18 in the second and 16-19 in the decider.

RESULTS

Boys' Singles, Round 1:

Waldman bt J. Vonach (Aus) 21, 11; Boasman bt Hribernigg (Aus) 18, 17.

Round 2:

Dabin bt Kolimbadis (Gr) 14, 8; Taylor lost to Pospiech (Cz) -13, 12, -10; Jarvis lost to Czochanski (Po) -18, 20, -19; Robertson lost to Balent (Yu) -11, -18; Waldman lost to Bengtsson (Sw) -10, -6; Boasman lost to Zeks (Yu) -18, -20.

Round 3:

Dabin lost to Zlenko (USSR) -12, -13.

Quarter-finals:

TURAI (Cz) bt Mustafin (USSR) 14, 12; OSTROVSKI (USSR) bt Scheibel (Lux) 17, 16; ORLOWSKI (Cz) bt Bengtsson (Sw) -11, 13, 18; DVORACEK (Cz) bt Klampar (Hu) 18, 17.

Semi-finals:

OSTROVSKI bt Turai 18, 11; ORLOWSKI bt Dvoracek -19, 8, 18.

Final:

ORLOWSKI bt Ostrovski 19, 19.

Girls' Singles, Round 1:

Cornock bt Kubouec (Au) 6, 5; Bashford bt Richter (F.G.) -14, 17, 17; S. Howard lost to Klatt (Ne.) -15, 19, -6.

Round 2:

Cornock lost to Guntsch (Sw) -11, 19,

-20; Bashford lost to Smekal (Au) -8, -3; Shirley bt Khjuva (USSR) 25, 12.

Round 3:

Shirley bt Duganic (Yu) 5, 15.

Quarter-finals:

CRISAN (Ru) bt Izzo (Hu) 19, 9; GROFOVA (Cz) bt Shirley 13, 20; GEDRAITITE (USSR) bt Smekal 23, -20, 16; VOSTOVA (Cz) bt Andersson (Sw) 19, 17.

Semi-finals:

CRISAN bt Grofova 16, 14; GEDRAITITE bt Vostova -15, 19, 18.

Final:

CRISAN bt Gedraitite 8, 15.

Boys' Doubles, Round 1:

Boasman/Waldman bt Baranowski/Czochanski (Po) 19, -18, 19; Dabin/Robertson bt Ovarik/Smid (Cz) 10, -15, 9.

Round 2:

Boasman/Waldman lost to Kyst/Meline (Dk/Fr) 11, -12, -17; Jarvis/Taylor (scratched); Dabin/Robertson bt Constant/Roesch (Fr) 11, 16.

Round 3:

Dabin/Robertson lost to Mustafin/Ostrovski -12, -17.

Semi-finals:

ORLOWSKI/TURAI (Cz) bt Rubashkin/Zlenko (USSR) 14, 10; MUSTAFIN/OSTROVSKI (USSR) bt Chikan/Klampar (Hu) 19, 15.

Final:

ORLOWSKI/TURAI bt Mustafin/Ostrovski 15, 10.

The sooner you start using Spalding the better.

Jill Shirley is only 17 and she's England's Number 2 Senior. Around the world, at Spalding's expense, she will learn to beat the world. And whenever she wins, she'll win with a Spalding bat. The sooner you start using Spalding the better.

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European Junior continued

Girls' Doubles, Round 2:

S. Howard/Shirley bt Kuchar/Schneider (Hu/Au) 14, 8; Bashford/Cornock bt Dom/Geib (Lu) 15, 18.

Round 3:

Bashford/Cornock lost to Crisan/Gedraitite (Ru/USSR) -10, -2; Howard/Shirley bt Berger/Kubovec (Aus) 11, 12.

Quarter-finals:

Howard/Shirley bt Duganic/Srbec (Yu) 16, 15.

Semi-finals:

GROFOVA / VOSTOVA (Cz) bt Howard/Shirley 17, 18; CRISAN/GEDRAITITE bt Kettnerova/Polackova (Cz) 11, 18.

Final:

CRISAN/GEDRAITITE bt Grofova/Vostova -19, 18, 19.

Mixed Doubles, Round 1:

Waldman/L. Howard lost to Heimo/Kogler (Au) -17, 8, -18; Dabin/S. Howard bt Hollbacher/Szendy (Au/Hu) -11, 15, 17; Boasman/Klett (Ne) bt Wachter/Hock (Au) 8, -16, 14; Jarvis/Bashford bt Ruiner/Travsil (Ar) 17, 16.

Round 2:

Dabin/S. Howard bt Mesaros/Puhr (Ju/Au) -16, 9, 10; Taylor/Shirley (Scratched); Robertson/Cornock bt Smid/Vratna (Cz) 12, -19, 14; Boasman/Klatt lost to Klampar/Juhos (Hu) -10, 19, -18; Jarvis/Bashford lost to Rubashkin/Danilenko (USSR) -20, 15, -14.

Round 3:

Dabin/S. Howard bt Kinner/Schmied (De) 10, 18; Robertson/Cornock lost to Stipanec/Srbec (Yu) -15, 15, -14.

Round 4:

Dabin/S. Howard lost to Bengtsson/Andersson -11, -13.

Semi-finals:

TURAI/VOSTOVA bt Balent/Duganic (Ju) 17, -18, 11; ORLOWSKI/GROFOVA bt Sarkisian/Antonyan (USSR) -14, 13, 18.

Final:

TURAI / VOSTOVA bt Orlovski / Grofova -19, 17, 16.

U-14 Boys' Singles:

Semi-finals:

OVARIK (Cz) bt Baum (De) -16, 18, 12; FURSOV (USSR) bt Preuss (De) 18, 10.

Final:

FURSOV bt Ovarik 16, 11.

U-14 Girls' Singles:

Semi-finals:

SZENDY (Hu) bt Matweeva (USSR) 16, 17; ANTONYAN (USSR) bt Molnar (Hu) 12, 15.

Final:

ANTONYAN bt Szendy -10, 18, 23.

Consolation Singles (Boys), Round 1:

Waldman bt Falkner (Au) 13, 15; Jarvis bt Wachter (Au) -20, 21, 17; Boasman lost to Bar (Au) 21, -9, -18; Robertson bt Hinterdorfer (Au) 11, 18.

Round 2:

Waldman bt Meline (Fr) 18, 18; Jarvis lost to Bar -12, -20; Robertson lost to Suchopar (Cz) -12, -14.

Round 3:

Waldman bt Kinner (De) 20, 15.

Round 4:

Waldman bt Derkinderen (Be) 16, 16.

Semi-finals:

FRACZYK (Po) bt Waldman 16, -17, 17; CANOR (Fr) bt Wollnik (De) 19, 14.

Final:

CANOR bt Fraczyk 17, 21;

Consolation Singles (Girls), Round 1:
Cornock bt Hock 12, 6.

Round 2:

Bashford bt Lechner (Au) -18, 16, 19; Cornock bt Kyriakou (Gr) 12, 11; S. Howard bt Wagner (Au) 26, 18.

Round 3:

Bashford bt Hendrikson (Sw) -24, 19, 19; Cornock bt Khjuca (USSR) 12, 11; Howard bt Dom (Lu) 18, -19, 14.

Round 4:

Bashford lost to Lottaler (Hu) -18, 13; Howard bt Cornock 16, -19, 11.

Semi-finals:

LOTTALER bt Kneip (De) 26, -18, 16; HOWARD bt Bergeret (Fr) 19, -9; 8.

Final:

LOTTALER bt L. Howard 20, 19.

EUROPEAN JUNIOR TEAM EVENTS

by Laurie Landry

SUE HOWARD SETS THE SEAL

Leaning heavily on stars Jill Shirley and Trevor Taylor, England's Girls and Boys teams came third and seventh respectively in the European Junior event.

The Girls did really well under Bryan Merrett's captaincy and whilst they looked to Jill Shirley to lead the way, it was Sue Howard's "best-ever" win over Europe's Junior champion and World Championship quarter-finalist, Carmen Crisan, that set the seal on the defeat of Rumania.

Defending well and delicately picking hits, Sue was simply too steady for Crisan's all-or-nothing attack. Jill followed this with a close win over Hariga. The doubles was a wonderful display from the English girls.

The match against Czechoslovakia was a really close one even though we lost 0-3. Jill was a little tense against Grofova and missed those vital hits. Sue Howard then slowed Vostova down and won the first and went to 10-5 in the second. After that Vostova showed far better form. The doubles also went to three games.

The Boys started very well beating Austria and Norway, all five boys getting a match. Our win over Austria 5-1, was better than Sweden's which was 5-3 against this country.

For the match against Sweden, Taylor, Dabin and Jarvis played. We lost 1-5 but it could possibly have been 3-3. John Dabin was with Johansson all the way but suffered some very unlucky shots at the end.

Then Trevor Taylor, after winning the first game against Olofsson, seemed quite unable to keep up his quick over-the-table returns. After this, the Swedes were too good for us. In the last group match Greece were our opponents. Nicky Jarvis played really well as he had threatened to from the beginning. A good match was won 5-1.

At this stage we were all set to come 5th and Taylor was vital to achieve this position. But fate dictated otherwise and it was without him, due to injury, that we battled in vain for a win that would otherwise

have been ours. Even so both Boys and Girls did better than ever before with their final placings.

RESULTS—

Boys' Group

England bt Norway 5-0.

Taylor bt Heggelund 10, 12; bt Nilson 12, 13; Waldman bt Heggelund 18, 17; bt Nessoy 18, 14; Robertson bt Nilson -14, 14, 19.

England bt Greece 5-1.

Taylor bt Vazukios 18, 6; bt Kostopulos 8, 12; Dabin bt Kostopulos 14, 14; lost to Kolidatis -19, -14; Jarvis bt Vazukis 15, 9; bt Kolidatis 13, 16.

England bt Austria 5-1.

Taylor bt Schöberl 15, 14; bt Suda 13, 12; Dabin bt Suda 15, 11, bt Bär 5, 14; Jarvis bt Schöberl 16, 17; lost to Bär 20, -12, -15.

England lost to Sweden 1-5.

Taylor bt Johansson 18, 13; lost to Olofsson 15, -11, -16; Dabin lost to Johansson -16, 12, -18; lost to Bengtsson 17, -14, -14; Jarvis lost to Olofsson -16, -9; lost to Bengtsson -16, -19.

Group Placings

	P	W	L	F	A
1. Sweden	4	4	0	20	5
2. England	4	3	1	16	7
3. Austria I	4	2	2	14	11
4. Greece	4	1	3	8	15
5. Norway	4	0	4	0	20

Play-off for 5th to 8th places.

England lost to Yugoslavia 2-5.

Dabin lost to Balent -13, -7; lost to Mesaros 24, -17, -13; Waldman lost to Stipanec -18, -24; bt Balent 13, -12, 20; lost to Mesaros -10, -15; Jarvis lost to Stipanec -16, 13, -11; bt Mesaros 16, 15.

Semi-finals:

HUNGARY bt U.S.S.R. 5-1; CZECHOSLOVAKIA bt Sweden 5-2.

Final:

CZECHOSLOVAKIA bt Hungary 5-2. Turai bt Gergely 13, 16; bt Benak 6, 11; bt Klampar 24, 15; Orlovski bt Gergely 19, 18; lost to Klampar -17; -17; Dvoracek bt Benak 10, 16; lost to Klampar -19, 10, -15.

Girls' Group

England bt Poland 3-0.

Shirley bt Ja'locha 9, 14; Bashford bt Pawelczyk 17, 17; Shirley/S. Howard bt Jalocho/Pawelczyk 5, 8.

England bt Greece 3-0.

Shirley bt Kyriakou 8, 13; S. Howard bt Marmara 16, 15; Bashford/Cornock bt Louka/Marmara 17, -15, 20.

England bt Rumania 3-0.

Shirley bt Hariga 23, -12, 19; S. Howard bt Crisan -17, 19, 18; Shirley/S. Howard bt Crisan/Hariga 17, 19.

Semi-finals:

England lost to CZECHOSLOVAKIA 0-3.

Shirley lost to Grofova -17, 21, -16; S. Howard lost to Vostova 21, -17; -17; Shirley/S. Howard lost to Grofova/Vostova -14, 11, -16.

U.S.S.R. bt Yugoslavia 3-0.

Final:

U.S.S.R. bt Czechoslovakia 3-1. Gedraitite bt Grofova 9, 15; bt Vostova 10, 12; Volkova bt Vostova 18, -18, 14; Gedraitite/Volkova lost to Grofova/Vostova -20, -19.

FINAL PLACINGS

Boys

1. Czechoslovakia
2. Hungary
3. Sweden
- U.S.S.R.

5. Yugoslavia
6. Rumania
7. England
- Poland
9. Federal Germany
10. Austria I
11. France
- Belgium
13. Austria II
14. Luxembourg
15. Greece
- Denmark
17. Norway
- Switzerland

Girls

1. U.S.S.R.
2. Czechoslovakia
3. England
- Yugoslavia
5. Hungary
6. Federal Germany
7. Rumania
- Sweden
9. Netherlands
10. Austria I
11. Poland
- France
13. Greece
14. Austria II
15. Denmark
- Luxembourg

TEESSIDE JUNIOR OPEN

by Laurie Landry

PETER TAYLOR FOLLOWING IN BROTHER'S FOOTSTEPS

SUSAN LISLE DESERVES 'CAP'

SOME really first-class play was seen at Eston Sports' Centre, Middlesbrough over the weekend of August 30/31, commencing with the team event in which Hull came through to win.

Alan Fletcher was unbeaten; ably supported by Neil Fulstow who lost only to Jarvis and beat Boasman in the final against the Lancs./Cheshire combination. Simon Heaps was unable to produce his best form for the runners-up.

Young Heaps came in for some more surprises, for although he beat Donald Parker, the up-and-coming Prestonian, in the U-14 event and won this title, he lost to the same opponent in the U-15's and then to David Rayner in the main singles' competition.

Peter Taylor was really superb, allowing his opponents to come to him, he half-hit back, slowing them down and came in with the harder one. His final with Boasman had some excellent rallies but what a tragedy for Tony as he served off twice at 18-19 to lose the set.

Susan Lisle pressed her claim for international recognition with a resounding victory in the U-17's singles. Only the vastly improved Sheila Hamilton of Middlesex gave the Lancastrian girl any trouble. Her sound over-the-table game and good hard hitting won the day.

In the younger girls' event, Gillian Macrae beat Gillian Locke, the England U-13 champion. The Surrey girl thus gained revenge for her defeat in this U-13 event at the hands of her young Essex opponent. Lesley Paciton beat Gillian Macrae in the U-15 final and once again Macrae beat Locke.

Results:

Team Event:

Semi-finals: HULL (A. Fletcher and N. Fulstow) bt Teesside I (P. Abell and N. Jarvis) 3-1.

LANCASHIRE / CHESHIRE (A. Boasman and S. Heaps) bt N. Herts. (P. Taylor and M. Harper) 3-2.
Final: HULL bt Lancs./Chesh. 3-0.

U-17 Boys' Singles:

Semi-finals: P. TAYLOR (Herts) bt D. Rayner (Yorks.) 14, -9, 17; A. BOASMAN (Lancs.) bt A. Fletcher (Yorks.) 10, 19.
Final: TAYLOR bt Boasman 13, -21, 18.

U-17 Girls' Singles:

Semi-finals: S. LISLE (Lancs.) bt V. King (Yorks.) 13, 14; L. PACITTO (Bucks.) bt L. Sutton (Yorks.) 17, 8.

Final: LISLE bt Pacitto 12, 10.

U-17 Boys' Doubles:

Semi-finals: N. FULSTOW (Yorks.) /RAYNOR bt Boasman/Fletcher 16, 14; S. HEAPS (Ches)/TAYLOR bt P. Abell/N. Jarvis (Yorks.).
Final: HEAPS/TAYLOR bt Fulstow/Rayner 18, -15, 19.

U-17 Girls' Doubles:

Semi - finals : S. BROADBENT (Yorks)/SUTTON bt Lisle/J. Newham (N'land) 20, 16; S. HAMILTON (Middx.)/PACITTO bt J. Dyer/J. Green (Lancs.) 12, 16.
Final : HAMILTON / PACITTO bt

Broadbent/Sutton 12, 10.

Semi-finals: FULSTOW/SUTTON bt

U-17 Mixed Doubles:

Semi-finals: FULSTOW/SUTTON bt Taylor/Lisle 19, -17, 18; BOASMAN/KING bt P. Guttormsen (Kent)/Pacitto 17, 18.

Final: FULSTOW/SUTTON bt Boasman/King 18, 24.

U-15 Boys' Singles:

Semi-finals: TAYLOR bt I. Horsham (Essex) 10, -19, 16; GUTTORMSEN bt D. Parker (Lancs.) 14, -19, 9.
Final: TAYLOR bt Guttormsen 10, 14.

U-15 Girl's Singles:

Semi-finals: G. MACRAE (Surrey) bt G. Locke (Essex) 14, 16; PACITTO bt Dyer 12, 17.

Final: PACITTO bt Macrae 10, 18.

U-14 Boys' Singles:

Semi-finals: HEAPS bt D. Starkie (Yorks.) 15, 11; GUTTORMSEN bt E. Atkins (Yorks.) 18, -14, 22.
Final: HEAPS bt Guttormsen 19, 20.

U-14 Girls' Singles:

Semi-finals: MACRAE bt J. Barker (Yorks.) 5, 10; LOCKE bt J. Walker (Yorks.) 18, 15.

Final: MACRAE bt Locke 15, -11, 19.

U-14 Boys' Doubles:

Semi-finals: GUTTORMSEN/HEAPS bt A. Bartle/R. Bartle (Yorks.) 14, 9; B. CROOK (Lancs.)/PARKER bt Atkin/J. Robson (Yorks.) 12, 19.

Final: GUTTORMSEN/HEAPS bt Parker/Crook 15, 16.

U-14 Mixed Doubles:

Semi-finals: HEAPS/MACRAE bt R. Bartle/J. Rutter (Yorks.) 16, 15; GUTTORMSEN / K. MASHFORD (Bucks.) bt J. Fuller (Norfolk)/Locke 13, -15, 16.

Final: HEAPS/MACRAE bt Guttormsen/Mashford 19, 10.

U-13 Boys' Singles:

Semi-finals: J. KITCHENER (Suff.) bt S. Jennis (Yorks.) 12, 15; D. ALDERSON (Yorks.) bt P. Edon (Yorks.) 9, 17.

Final: KITCHENER bt Alderson -15, 8, 11.

U-13 Girls' Singles:

Semi-finals: WALKER bt Rutter 12, 10; MASHFORD bt Barker 12, 19.

Final: WALKER bt Mashford 14, 16.

ESSEX JUNIOR OPEN

by Laurie Landry

JARVIS SUPREME AT HARLOW

SOME excellent play by Nicky Jarvis was the highlight of the Essex Junior Open played at Harlow Sports Centre over the weekend Sept. 6/7. His final against Alan Fletcher was a superb exhibition of controlled hitting.

Susan Beckwith, on the other hand, found her opposition more resistant. She just pipped Paula Brenchley, at 22-20 in the third game, and then caught up from 14-20 in the decider against Carol Randall. Results:—

UNDER-17

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:

N. JARVIS (Yorks.) bt P. Abell (Yorks.) 15, 8.

A. FLETCHER (Yorks.) bt M. Read (Essex) 19, 17.

Final: JARVIS bt Fletcher 12, 14.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:

L. PACITTO (Bucks.) bt C. Mann (Middx.) 12, 14.

S. BECKWITH (Essex) bt C. Randall (Sussex) 16, -15, 24.

Final: BECKWITH bt Pacitto 23, 17.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:

R. ALDRICH (Middx.)/N. FULSTOW (Yorks.) bt Fletcher/Read -13, 17, 18.

ABELL/JARVIS bt P. Bishop (Surrey)/M. Locke (Essex) 12, 19.
Final: ALDRICH/FULSTOW bt. Abell/Jarvis 19, 18.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:

BECKWITH/MANN bt L. Lambert/E. Tarten (Essex) 6, 9.

P. BRENCHLEY (Kent)/RANDALL bt S. Hamilton/A. Painter (Middx.) 17, 17.

Final: BECKWITH/MANN bt Brenchley/Randall 21, 15.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:

READ/BRENCHLEY bt Jarvis/L. Oliver (Yorks.) 15, 12;

FLETCHER/MANN bt Locke/Beckwith 13, 11.

Final: FLETCHER/MANN bt Read/Brenchley 18, 16.

UNDER-15

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:

ALDRICH bt R. Morris (Herts.) 18, 12.

J. FULLER (Norfolk) bt M. Harris (Herts.) 9, 17.

Final: ALDRICH bt Fuller 10, 20.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:

PACITTO bt L. Mashford (Bucks.) 6, 13.

G. LOCKE (Essex) bt S. Read (Essex) 7, 7.

Final: PACITTO bt Locke 16, 14.

Boys' Doubles:

Final: ALDRICH/HARRIS bt P. Firbank/Sweeney 18, 12.

Girls' Doubles: Final:

G. MACRAE (Surrey)/S. NOWALL (Middx.) bt Mashford/P. McCall (Middx.) 20, 17.

UNDER-13

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:

M. THORNE (Essex) bt P. Hemmings (Herts.) -14, 24, 12.

D. DINO-SMITH (Kent) bt P. Hunt (Essex) 18, 17.

Final: DINO-SMITH bt Thorne 12, 12.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:

MASHFORD bt L. Holtam (Kent) 20, 19.

C. STONELL (Sussex) bt C. Randall (Sussex) 14, -23, 17.

Final: MASHFORD bt Stonell 11, 12.

UNDER-11

Boys' Singles (two groups) Final:

C. ROGERS (Leics.) bt G. Harding (Herts.) 13, 15.

Girls' Singles (two groups) Final:

HOLTHAM bt L. Wales (Sussex) 19, 11.

E.T.T.A. CONFERENCE

A Conference of Press Officers and Tournament Organisers was held at Halifax Hall, University of Sheffield over the period September 19-21. It was most successfully accomplished and a full report will be featured in the November issue, together with photographs taken by Cliff Darley.

Maureen Heppell Weds

THERE was a double wedding at St. Mary's R.C. Church, Hexham when English International, Maureen Heppell, and her sister Catherine, warmed the hearts of a huge local gathering who braved inclement weather to pack the streets of the small county town.

Among the guests at Maureen's wedding to Newcastle United footballer Bryan "Pop" Robson were Alan Ransome, Pam Richmond, Barry and Pauline Meisel and Alan and Joyce Morpeth. Alma Taft was a bridesmaid. Several of Bryan's teammates also attended the best man being United full-back Frank Clarke.

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Ron Crayden

a tribute to a dedicated man — by AUBREY HILL

FOLLOWING his retirement as an England Captain—announced at the conclusion of last season—the familiar figure of Ron Crayden will now be sorely missed from the International Arenas of the World.

For more than twenty years, Ron has been in the spotlights as both player and team Captain, visiting 22 countries (including China and Russia) in pursuit of table tennis.

Even in these days of statistics his overall number of appearances is remarkable—they exceed the 240 mark! Ron has captained England more than any other person—225 times—and for good measure has played for his country on 16 occasions.

LEGENDARY FIGURE

In the South London and Surrey areas, Ron is a truly legendary figure with results that read like a fairy tale. He has played for Surrey County (all competitive matches) over 100 times and led them to their first Premier Division title as player-Captain in 1955-56 and has been County Captain ever since.

Since the War, he has won 24 Individual South London titles and is now the League's respected President. With Jackie Head and Harry Venner was a member of South London's famous Wilmott Cup team that won the All-England team title from 1949-50 to 1953-54. London Business Houses singles, Printing and Allied Trade singles, London League singles and Wandsworth League singles were all notched up in these fruitful years.

Among his positions at a National level, Ron is a Vice-President of the E.T.T.A., Chairman of the Equipment Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Selection Committee, a qualified coach, County Umpire and was the first English-born player promoted to captain England for a complete season.

The incomparable Victor Barna said this of him "I am surprised to hear that Ron Crayden is retiring as England's Captain. He has done a marvellous job for English Table Tennis and I suppose everybody who has been connected with the game will be sorry to hear this news."

FIRST INTERNATIONAL

Ron's first International was against Wales (1948-49) when he won both his singles and doubles. Later that season he played against Ireland at Liverpool, and even in the company of Richard Bergmann and Johnny Leach was acclaimed as star of the match.

In November 1949, he toured Sweden with Johnny Leach and they beat France (Haguenaer and Lanskoj) in the final of an International Tournament. Other successful Internationals followed and in September 1950 Ron and Harry Venner became the first two Englishmen to be invited to the Yugoslavian Open at Opatija. In the Adriatic Cup Com-

petition, they lost only to Yugoslavia, beating teams from Austria, Sweden and Federal Germany.

The highlight of Ron's playing career came in March 1951, when he so deservedly was selected for the Swaythling Cup Team and won seven out of his nine sets played. It was there, in Vienna, that Johnny Leach won his second World singles' title and the Rowe twins their first doubles title.

Bryan Merritt, himself a rival of Ron on the table and an International of 100 appearances, pays his tribute by saying: "Regarding his captaincy, both on and off the table, I have played under every post-War Captain since Adrian Haydon, and I regard Ron as the finest captain of them all."

SPECIAL INTEREST

In the days of hard rubber, many wonderful games of controlled attacking play were witnessed, and the Wilmott Cup matches seemed to hold a special interest. In 1950 South London's all-out attacking team (Crayden, Head and Venner) beat Birmingham 5-0 in the final to start their famous run.

In 1951 they downed Manchester 6-3 in the final, then in 1952, Staines by the same score and in 1953 they beat off a final challenge from Huddersfield by 7-2. It was the last year 1954, that brought the crowning and fitting climax for South London, producing the sort of table tennis so seldom seen today.

On February 27, 1954 at Romford, with all the players of both teams rising to inspired heights, South London beat Staines 5-4. But let one of Ron's teammates, Jackie Head, pay his contribution.

"The outstanding memory that I have was of Ron's deciding set in the Wilmott Cup final of 1953-54 against the late Bernard Crouch at Romford.

"This match was one of the best 'cliff-hangers' I was ever involved in myself or, for that matter, ever witnessed. The match had been going on for over four hours when Ron walked out to play the ninth and deciding set against his bogey-man Bernard Crouch.

"The last buses had gone and the hall was still packed to capacity. Ron rose to the occasion magnificently and despite badly blistered feet secured the Cup for South London. Truly a night to remember." (Ron won two-straight 6, 19).

Also relevant at this time would be a word from Micky Thornhill, who after remembering with enthusiasm these matches (he played for Staines) says of Ron—"His sportsmanship could not be better and because of these characteristics he was extremely popular and undoubtedly these qualities served him and England particu-

larly well as a non-playing captain. I cannot help feeling that England will be poorer for his retirement."

JOINED THE AIR FORCE

Ron Crayden first started playing seriously in 1938 and joined the Ravensbourne Club in South London. He began making his mark on the testing tournament circuit during 1939-40 and then joined the R.A.F. to serve his country for six years.

It was in the Service that he met Johnny Leach and Jack Carrington in Northern Ireland and they teamed up and gave exhibitions for charity.

Late 1946 he came back to Civvy Street and into the game with a bang, taking a game from the great Barna in his first tournament. In December of that year Ron won his first Open, taking the Triple Crown in the Nth Midland's Open and beating his friend Jack Carrington in the singles final.

Later that season he achieved a unique double, winning two major tournament finals in the same day—the Surrey Open and South of England Open, leaving a trail of International scalps in his wake. From obscurity and in one season he had crept into the National rankings.

CAUSED A STIR

In October, 1947 he was invited to the National Trials and caused a stir by emerging undefeated from the collection of sixty-odd players there, but his International selection was still a long way off. With his long reach and deceptive forehand, Ron became a specialist at doubles and with Ken Merrett as his partner inflicted on the famous Leach/Carrington combination their first defeat for three years.

Successes followed regularly and in 1949-50 season he reached his peak, appearing in nine major tournament finals and toppling no fewer than 22 International players.

Aubrey Simons, hero of England's only capture of the Swaythling Cup in 1953 said "It is a long time since the success of his playing days but he was always a first class sportsman both on and off the table. He served under me on the Selection Committee and was always most fair, he was a 'players' administrator always commanding respect. I know the players will be sorry to see him go and this is the finest tribute of all."

One of the players with whom Ron had many of his doubles successes, Jean Head (née Winn) and herself a great fighter, had the following words to say: "I belonged to the same club (West Norwood Tennis Club) as Ron for many years and recall the great encouragement he gave me on the way up. I remember him best for his equable temperament when, win or lose, he remained the same, calm, easy-going character—of how many players can that be said today?"



A typical action photograph of Ron in his playing days taken by Peter Madge.

Married and with a daughter, Ron did not chase the tournaments so much in the fifties but still managed to pull the big one out of the hat, as instanced in the 1952-53 season when he won the South of England Open again from a top class International field including Johnny Leach.

ETERNAL MONUMENT

With the passage of time his many articles on the game stand as an eternal monument to the fertile and creative brain of Ron Crayden. Even today his constructive thoughts ring true and many are worth recalling.

His writings started as early as 1946 with a featured article "A Quest for Rhythm" and then later "No Easy Way to the Top" from that article I quote, "Coaching points the way, the rest is up to the skill, fortitude and efforts of the individual. Half measures are no good, training and practise must not be a haphazard affair but a complete operation. Personally I have a sneaking feeling that with so much help being given, too many are taking too much for granted."

In October, 1958 an excellent article on Jean and Jackie Head titled "Heads—We Lose" then in 1959, some sound thoughts under the heading of "Getting to Grips with Sandwich" Quote—"A sandwich bat is not a magic wand charged with supernatural qualities, there is still no substitute for talent."

In 1961 some profound thoughts were expressed under the title of "Bat Chat" such as: "Sponge and sandwich have completely altered the face of the game and from the viewpoint of audience appeal, detrimentally so, the accent and emphasis in the future will be on spin, rallies will get less and so will spectators. Who knows, the wheel may turn full circle and rubber once more be on the ascendancy."

WELL KNOWN VIEWS

Ron's views on the Penholder grip and its apparent advantages in the light of the Asiatic strangehold on the World Championships since Bombay, are well known. In May, 1961 after returning from Peking he wrote "I feel we must be more flexible in our

approach to the game in our coaching. We must encourage the development of all styles."

Later he expressed his views on making progress and said "The importance of absolute physical fitness cannot be stressed too strongly, only with the mind and body working in full accord can players expect to reach world class."

In January, 1965 Ron wrote what I thought was a memorable article: "Memo to the Young and Venture-some". He said "It is a characteristic of our race to proceed cautiously when there is a hint of change in the wind, or even to bury our heads in the sand when something arises that tends to conflict with our traditional beliefs and methods (he was referring to the Penholder grip).

"With the modern power game, the attacker holds most of the aces and the pen-grip affords definite advantages to all would-be attackers."

"When the Chinese played at Wembley in May 1965, Ron wrote in the programme: "Let us study in detail the skills of our opponents, it could be that we are playing the wrong game."

His programme articles and pen pictures of players are avidly read by all and many glowing reports were received about his write-up of International players in the souvenir programme of Wembley's European.

PERIOD OF CAPTAINCY

Let us now concern ourselves with his period of captaincy which has produced so many honours for England. His first assignment in a non-playing capacity came in December 1955, when he took an England team to Glasgow to trounce Scotland 9-1.

Impressed with his leadership, the Selection Committee gave him a more difficult task in September, 1956, making him official Captain of a party of 19 to play matches in Federal Germany. Other trips followed and then, in 1959, he took over the reins as Captain of England for all senior International matches—he made a dramatic impact.

His first big test came at the end of the season at the European Championships in Zagreb. He welded together a team labelled as 'no-hopers', who shamed their critics and obtained their best-ever overall ranking.

The Men (Ian Harrison, Bryan Merrett and Derek Burridge) finished in 3rd place and the Women (Diane Rowe and Kathleen Best) finished as runners-up, beating the way Rumania who fielded seven-times-World-Singles Champion, Angelica Rozeanu and "Miss Poker-face" herself, Maria Alexandru.

John Bromley of the 'Daily Herald' wrote of Ron these memorable words: "Throughout the long hours of battling to glory under the blazing arc-lights, I shall always remember the part played by England Team Captain, Ron Crayden. The lean and hungry-looking Crayden was often at the court-side from eight in the morning to twelve at night with only a couple of hours break in between. But his knowledge of the game, his great tactical sense and his ability to inspire a drooping player were vital reasons for England's success."

PEKING

A year later came Peking and at these amazing World Championships against a top-weighted Asian challenge, Ron still managed to guide his teams to high ranking positions—both Men and Women being classified in the top six nations. During the summer of 1961 he was appointed to the Selection Committee.

As I went along to support our players in Prague 1963, I saw for myself what a tower of strength and calmness Ron is in the white-hot tension of a World Championship. I recall him consoling a very tearful Mary Shannon after a Corbillon Cup match and then restoring her confidence so that she came back later and played a spell-binder.

The girls finished fifth in the World and were only a point away from a team victory that would have lifted them up to third place. It was also in Prague that his two close friends and charges, Mary and Di, reached



Cheers! With Di Rowe (Schöler) in Munich 1969. A farewell drink to England captaincy.

the final of the Women's Doubles—a tremendous performance as both the Japs and Chinese were competing in strength.

Both girls have nothing but respect for his advice and leadership. In her own words Mary writes "The number of years that Ron Crayden has been Captain of England speak for themselves, but I would like to add that together with his great understanding of the game of table tennis, he also has a wonderful understanding of the players around him. He has become a close personal friend of mine and has unselfishly helped me on numerous occasions. I would like to say thank you Ron and the best of luck in all you do in the future."

SUB-ZERO TEMPERATURE

In January 1964, Ron went to Czechoslovakia with Mary and Di where in sub-zero temperatures they were forced off a high pass by a skidding lorry. Their car somersaulted into a field twenty feet below, but miraculously they all came safely out of the wreck. What is more, they went straight on to their destination, Ron got up and made one of his witty speeches and the girls played an international match. No wonder they had such unity and collectively were such wonderful ambassadors for their country.

In November, 1964, Ron had his proudest moment when in Malmo, Sweden, he led his girls (Diane Rowe, Mary Shannon, Lesley Bell and Irene Ogus) to win the Team Championship of Europe and for good measure his respected twosome Di and Mary to take the Doubles title.

Again in 1965 at the World's in Ljubljana I saw his planning and leadership at work, the girls finishing 3rd behind China and Japan out of 31 competing teams—a fantastic effort. Later that year he took our teams to Hungary and Poland where they captured five National Open titles and six of the largest "Pots" it is possible to imagine.

The European followed at Wembley, in April, 1967, another World's in Stockholm. With a newly-formed team, England finished a creditable 5th out of 24 competing countries. It was also in 1967 that Ron had another moment of pride when he was

at the court-side at Brighton advising and spurring on his friend Mary, when she won the coveted English Open singles title.

Then it was another European Open at Lyon and his final World's match at Munich. His friend, partner, co-Captain and currently England's Team Manager, Johnny Leach (twice World Champion) has this to say:

"After the War, Ron became one of England's most respected players, winning many team honours, including the Swaythling Cup, and tournament victories. In particular I have always admired his temperament. He is always prepared to take calculated risks and is never beaten until the last point is decided.

"He was a natural choice for the England captaincy and lost no time in establishing his reputation for shrewd judgement, forthright decisions and absolute fairness at all times. In my view Ron has been an outstanding England Captain, and as long as I remain Team Manager I shall never make a major decision without seeking his opinion and advice."

PRIVILEGE

I count it a privilege to have been asked to write this article; it is a long one, but I hope readers will not feel I have over indulged. The tributes by the great International stars are, by themselves, a measure of the affection, respect and natural feelings held for that lean figure in a Surrey or England blazer that is Ron Crayden.

How better can I close than by quoting from a special letter received from Germany by the one and only Diane Schöler (formerly Rowe)—"My first World's in Vienna is of course an event I'll never forget, as it was successful; but also it was a trip of many happy memories—not least of which was the inclusion of Ron Crayden in the team.

"Ron, having made the team, decided he would give his wife a trip too and although this was not the first time of meeting, it was the beginning of a long friendship with the Crayden family. It was one of the happiest teams I have travelled with during my career.

(Continued overleaf)



Third in the World's at Ljubljana in 1965, Ron is here seen with his team of (l. to r.) Lesley Bell, Diane Rowe, and Mary Shannon. China were the winners of the Marcel Corbillon Cup, with Japan the runners-up.

DON'T FORGET THE DEFENCE

. . . says Sports Master Gennadi Averin

"Ron's own playing career is of no mean achievement, he was an extremely clever player and a fighter—his selection for the Swaythling Cup in Vienna was well earned. In later years he turned his talents to "Captaincy". During the many years he was my Captain our friendship has remained and my respect for him as a Captain could not be higher.

"He has sat through the most exciting wins and the most depressing losses and always kept his level thinking and sense of humour, which is not easy to do when you are dealing with temperamental players.

"I thank him for his help over the many years of table tennis and I think we should all say thank you to Jean Crayden who I know has had to forego holidays to enable Ron to captain a team.

"English table tennis will miss you Ron, but more important, I know that the players and friends will miss you. Don't disappear altogether from the scene as you still have a lot to give the game."

POP'S CLUB IS 40!

FRANCIS ("Pop") Riley created his own junior table tennis club, Twelfth at Hastings in 1929. Forty years on, Pop and his club are still going from strength to strength—the club celebrated its 40th birthday recently by winning the Patterson Trophy, the Hastings junior team K.O. competition, when they beat Civil Service, 8-1.

Mr. Riley who is a bachelor has devoted most of his spare time over the years to the junior game in Sussex, mainly as Sussex junior secretary and more recently as Vice-Chairman of the Sussex T.T.A. He is one of those 'priceless' officials from whom you can be sure of getting a prompt reply and can be relied on to organise his events with complete responsibility.

Last season was the best ever for the members of the Hastings club. They won the Division 2 and Division 6 titles, the junior inter-league tournament, the Youth League Division 1 title and the Patterson trophy for the third year running.

At the presentation of the trophy handsome verbal acclamations were paid to Mr. Riley by Mr. Cyril Downham, a vice-president of the Hastings T.T.A., and by Mr. Charles Wyles, the Hastings president.

One of Pop's biggest annual successes in Sussex is the organisation of the Sussex Junior Closed Championships. This event makes a regular financial profit for Sussex, has a massive entry, runs with no trouble at all and even finishes at a reasonable hour—what finer tribute can be paid to the man who shoulders this burden so magnificently? — The toast is Francis Riley!

J.W.

THE recent world table tennis championships in Munich brought the Soviet team great satisfaction. Our girls have long been aiming at the top rung of the victory stand, and now finally Svetlana Grinberg and Zoya Rudnova were presented gold medals. And at that, two sets in one go; for team victory and their triumph in the women's doubles. To remind you; in the last eight years not a single European team had managed to curb the monopoly of the Japanese girls.

Another pleasant event awaited the Soviet team after the finish. The F.R.G. Table Tennis Federation arranged an unusual and very interesting encounter between the picked teams of Europe and Asia (actually a Japanese team). And the European all-star squad included Svetlana Grinberg and Stanislav Gomozkov. An obvious recognition of the achievements of the Soviet table tennis school!

However, I would like to deal not about the joys that the world championships brought us, but about the disappointments . . . and there were quite a number of them. I am referring to the extremely unsuccessful performance of the U.S.S.R. men's team.

In the team event, the men had to be content with eighth place, while in the individual programme Gomozkov alone broke through into the final octette. The rest dropped out long before the final encounters. The bronze medal was received by Gomozkov and Anatoli Amelin in the doubles is poor consolation, at least for the reason that this tandem was second in the preceding world championships.

REASONS FOR DEFEAT

I would like to deal here with the main reasons that led to the defeat of the Soviet players.

The attack is the main weapon in modern table tennis. Nonetheless, and this is corroborated by the championships, there are also adherents of the defensive style of play among the leaders of the teams fielded by different countries. And strange as it may be, exactly half of the players of the U.S.S.R. squad fell victim precisely to the defensive players.

Being a sportsman myself, I am aware of how rueful it is to prepare a whole year for encounters with players of a sharply attacking style (they make up the vast majority in the sports realm) only to lose to the adherents of defence strategy (and there are very few of them). Nevertheless, play against such opponents should have been expected, and special preparations made for such possible encounters.

How are the training games in the U.S.S.R. national team conducted? Only attack and counter-attack, the offensive combining with offensive. But what is one to do against pure defence strategy? Our leading masters Gomozkov, Amelin and Sarkis Sarkhoyan ably use top spins, compelling the opponent to lift the ball, but to

the concluding stage frequently make mistakes.

It is difficult to penetrate massive defence by a serial attack, hence it is necessary to base the play tactics on one powerful hit. But this effective method has been forgotten by the leading Soviet players. The reason for this is not simply that the coaches and sportsmen devote little attention to studying the elements of the attack against attack; neither shall I claim that all-out defence in table tennis is super-powerful and impenetrable.

The trouble lies somewhere else: we have no experience at all in play against massive defence precisely in official games.

NO DEFENSIVE PLAYERS

Soviet table tennis today has no defensive players of a new type, such as the West German sportsman Eberhard Schöler or the Hungarian Janos Börzsei. Our men are not prepared psychologically to wage a lengthy and methodical siege against the fortress put up by their opponents.

What is modern defence in table tennis? The representatives of this playing style, as distinct from their recent predecessors, are capable of attacking and counter-attacking without preliminary preparations at any moment. As a consequence, the offensive side is always under strain and is compelled to make haste in winding up the attack.

Besides, the modern defensive player, putting all kinds of spins on the ball, makes the attacker's play "apprehensive". This means that one has to prepare specially for encounters with adherents of the defensive style. What is required for this is not only sparring partners with whom one can practice during training, but also high-class defence masters who could put up serious resistance also at contests. Then our leading Soviet stars would be steeled also psychologically.

Our coaches, however, train exclusively masters of the attack and counter-attack. But as a matter of fact it may be assumed that now, when the pure defence players, Schöler and, among the women, Gabrielle Geissler (East Germany) captured the second spots in the world championships, the popularity of the "concrete-wall defence" in European table tennis will increase. And whether one likes it or not, he will have to adapt himself to the new conditions.

There is another circumstance that strikes the eye. Frequently the Soviet masters could not stand the pace in their encounters with European players. It is common knowledge that the high class of player is determined primarily by the ideal precision in play. To put it more simply, a high-class player must be stable, and he has no justification for simple mistakes in exchanging shots or volleying.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTOR

Here the psychological factor is also of importance: a player who is not threatened with mistakes in simple situations does not have to hurry to

wind up the attack, for he has the possibility of methodically and purposefully building up his attacks, changing tactics and imposing his will on the opponent.

This is a tangible advantage in an encounter between equals. Unfortunately, on the U.S.S.R. national team only Gomozkov possesses such an advantage, it seems to me. In this respect the encounter with the English team is indicative.

The English players reduce play to a drawn-out exchange of countershots in inconvenient points of the table, compelling the opponent either to lift the ball or make a mistake. And our players did not pass the test—they ceded the match to the tune of 4-5.

The U.S.S.R. team suffered defeat at the hands of opponents whom it had comparatively easily beaten on the eve of the world championships. Evidently we attach too great an importance to friendly meets, and the motto "Victory Alone!" is not always beneficial.

Take for instance the world championships, the Japanese, who we engaged without special difficulty prior to Munich, where we lost to them twice. It isn't hard to guess that the Japanese did not show their real play until the time came to do so, whereas we laid our trumps on the table ahead of time.

STRENGTH REQUIRED

Now and then words like "tired" and "reeling with fatigue" in respect of Soviet players appeared in the reports from Munich. Indeed, table tennis is a sport that requires strength and one cannot count on success with poor physical condition. The world championships demand of the sportsmen a tremendous amount of physical and nervous strain. That is why it is difficult to conduct all the matches with an invariable composition of players who are facing, in addition to team matches, also the individual events in singles, doubles and mixed doubles.

The U.S.S.R. national team, however, has an amazing bench of reserves, to put it in basketball parlance. The main burden of the struggle at the world championships was borne by Grinberg and Rudnova among the women, and Gomozkov, Sarkhoyan, and Amelin among the men.

As soon as Amelin would play unsuccessfully, the trio disintegrated, for there was no equal replacement. This is the more alarming since a worthy shift for illustrious players is developing among our chief rivals.

I can mention Turai and Orlowski (Czechoslovakia), Timar and Klampar (Hungary), Jansen (FGR) and Hydes (England).

The 1970 European championships will be held in Moscow. We would like the Soviet players to give a successful account of themselves at home. For this very reason it is necessary to speak already now, about what should be done. The golden lustre of the women's team should not blind us.

NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS

by Les Davis

SIGNIFICANT LEAP IN JUNIOR ENTRIES

JUST to remind new readers, the results of the 1968-69 Competition Finals were:—

Wilmott Cup—

Bolton 3, Willesden 5.

Rose Bowl—

Northumberland 4, Central London 5.

Carter Cup—

North Herts. 5, Barking 3.

Bromfield Trophy—

Slough 5, Sittingbourne 3.

In recent years both **Bolton** and **Willesden** have contested Wilmott Cup semis and finals many times but ever-enthusiastic Bolton have yet to win. Willesden have had better fortune having won the coveted trophy for the second consecutive season.

Central London's energetic Secretary, Mr. A. S. Howard, must be delighted with his side's first Rose Bowl triumph.

Juniors are nearly always an unknown quality — essentially due to the age limit—but it is particularly noticeable that this was the second successive year that **Slough** have won the Bromfield Trophy by beating **Sittingbourne**.

So much for Season 1968-69. This year we have another large entry. No fewer than 110 leagues have responded by entering 259 teams into the competitions.

The most outstanding feature is the increasing number of leagues who have entered teams in all competitions.

In fact, 23 leagues have "filled the card" compared with an average of four during the previous three seasons. Furthermore this includes smaller leagues like **Bognor Regis**, **Chichester**, **Harlow**, **Newbury** and **Dagenham**.

Here are the comparative figures:—

	1969-70	1968-69	1967-68
Wilmott Cup	100	96	102
Rose Bowl	63	72	71
Carter Cup	65	54	56
Bromfield Trophy	31	21	22

Totals 259 243 251

It will be noted that although Senior Women's entries are down, there is a significant leap in the Junior totals.

In conclusion it must be stated that the sub-committee regrets the omission of large leagues like Bradford, Liverpool, North Middlesex, Insurance Offices, Wolverhampton and other old contestants.

Nissen Invitation Tournament

The First £100 Prize

ENGLISH table tennis history will be made at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, London, S.E. 19 on the evening of Friday, October 17th, 1969.

It will be the first occasion at which a prize of £100 is available for the winner of a table tennis match in England.

(Prior to this season an I.T.T.F. Rule prevented the awarding of prizes higher than £5, but an E.T.T.A. proposal to raise the maximum to £100 was passed at the I.T.T.F. Congress held during the World Championships at Munich in April last).

Nine men have been invited to compete for a cash prize of £100, with £50 for the runner-up. Six women players will compete for a prize of £50, the runner-up to receive £25.

The tournament is being sponsored to the extent of £450 by the Nissen Trampoline Co. Ltd. of Brentwood, Essex, and their Nissen Tuck-Away tables will be used.

Play will be on a knock-out basis, commencing at 7-30 p.m. Admission at the door will be 5/- adults, 2/6d. children. Invitations have been sent to the following players:—Men: Chester Barnes (Essex), Graham Davies (Wales), Alan Hydes (Yorks.), Mike Johns (Cheshire), Jimmy Langan (Ireland), Malcolm Sugden (Scotland), Trevor Taylor (Herts.) Brian Wright (Middlesex) and "Connie" Warren.

Women: Karenza Mathews (Middlesex), Pauline Fiddock (Kent), Jill Shirley (Bucks.), Mary Wright (Surrey), Judy Williams and Judy Heaps.

(Denis Neale will be unable to compete as he will be in Japan for a series of Japan v. Europe matches).

The draw will be made and announced after all invitations have been accepted.

HULL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE Hull and East Riding Open Championships, sponsored by the Hull Brewery Co. Ltd., will be held on Sunday, 2nd November, 1969 and not the 1st as listed in the Tournament Diary and in the initial Calendar circulated by the E.T.T.A.



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ENGLISH CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Leslie Davis

THIS season, the National Team and Club Competitions Sub-Committee have decided to invite Leagues to enter their best club (Men's and Ladies) teams into the National Club Championships.

Up to this season, only Counties were allowed to enter their champion teams but entries were low and, to sum it up, the Championships were not the success we had hoped. Hence the new approach.

Each League may enter one Men's and one Ladies' side representing clubs that are acknowledged champions of their own League.

The clubs shall be represented in each tie by three players who have been bona-fide members of their clubs for at least six months and have played for their club on at least four occasions in the local league competition. The occasions must have taken place during the present and/or the immediately preceding season. No player may represent more than one club in one season without the permission of the Committee.

Entry Forms will be distributed only to League Secretaries. Each

League wishing to enter a club into the competitions shall ensure that the entry fee of £1 per club team, together with the properly completed Entry Form is received by the Committee Secretary by the second Sunday in October.

In each round teams shall play each other in a tie of nine sets, each set being the best of three games. The entrants shall be divided by the Committee into two areas, which shall be further divided into groups. The competitions shall be played on the knock-out principle to determine successively group and area winners; the area winners being the finalists of the competitions.

Should the E.T.T.A. decide to enter the European Club Championships, the club winning the English Men's Club Championship will be invited to enter for the Europa Pokal Trophy and the club winning the English Ladies' Club Championship for the Coup des club Femines.

Should the E.T.T.A. decide to enter the European Fairs Towns Competition, the runners-up of both the English Men's and Ladies' Club Championships will be invited to compete for the European Fairs Towns Club Championships.

Expenses for all rounds including the finals will be borne by clubs or their Leagues. The E.T.T.A.'s financial responsibility begins only when

the winners of the competitions are known and if the National Council decides to enter these teams into the European Competitions.

Where authority to take part in a European Competition is given by the E.T.T.A. all financial and disciplinary matters are the sole responsibility of the E.T.T.A.

Closing date for entries is **October 12th, 1969.**

EUROPE CLUB CUP 1969-70

There is a record entry of 21 men's teams and 12 women's teams in the Europe Club Cup — two more than last year in each section.

The outcome of the two matches from last season's men's final—between Slavia Prague and Mariestads Bois, Sweden—will determine whether Moelndals BTK, Sweden or VSKG Ostrava go into the draw, the country of the champion club being entitled to a second entry in the competition.

BSG Aussenhandel Berlin, the holders from East Germany, are top of the draw of the women's section. First round matches must be completed by October 12th, 1969.

MEN'S TEAM DRAW

Round 1, Desch-Tennis Hollerich, Luxembourg v. Tennis Barcino, Spain; Spartak' Plevan, Bulgaria v. Moelndals BTK, Sweden or VSKG Ostrava, Czechoslovakia; Sport Lisboa E.

Benfica, Portugal v. SC Amiens, France.

Round 2, Slavia VS Prague or Mariestads Bois.

In the second round **Ormesby TTC, Yorkshire** have been drawn away to Royal Standard, Leige, Belgium and in the first round of Women's Team Draw, **Gainsford TTC, England** have a bye and meet the winners of the tie Statistika PSC, Hungary v. Spartak-Pleven, Bulgaria, in Round 2.

WANTED

THE Coaching Scheme has undergone many changes in the last eighteen months and it now needs coaches of high playing standards who will become Diploma Coaches.

The Coaching Award Scheme has been completely re-organised and allows for the introduction of Coaches at varying levels. It is a known fact that standards of play can be greatly improved at all levels with the highest standard of Coaching possible.

Coaching requires players who are able to pass on their knowledge to up and coming youngsters. The E.T.T.A. is generally adopting a policy of encouraging younger blood and the Coaching Scheme must do likewise. It is possible to Coach by



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word of mouth and by demonstration but it is well known that young players will respond to someone of experience and known practical ability.

It is for this reason that we must have players of proven standards to become coaches and if you wish to obtain further information write to

A. G. Steggall,
Chairman,
National Coaching and School
Committee,
c/o E.T.T.A. 26, Park Crescent,
London, W1N 4HA.

Prospective Coaches are reminded that in addition to being mentally stimulated and rewarded by Coaching activities there are also opportunities for financial reward. Education Authorities and the Youth Service generally ask the advice of the E.T.T.A. and its affiliated bodies if they wish to employ a table tennis coach and it is hoped that the opportunity of financial reward will soon increase within the Coaching Scheme itself.

The Coaching Committee will this year place greater importance on the Coaching of the Coaches of the future. Improve your play whilst Coaching and help develop the stars of the future by becoming a qualified coach.

Details of Coaching Awards are set out below:—

1. Teaching Certificate.
2. Club Coach.
3. Diploma Coach* (One Star).
4. Diploma Coach** (Two Star).
5. Senior Diploma Coach***.
6. Senior Trainer Coach***.

Further details and requirements for these awards may be had on application.

Under 13 Singles Competition

by Ian Crickmer

TOMORROW'S stars in action today! This clearly was the impression taken away by the spectators, amongst them many of the top coaches in the E.T.T.A. Scheme, who witnessed the finals of the first-ever English Under-13 championships, sponsored by A. G. Spalding & Brothers Ltd., and held at Hartshill School, Nuneaton on June 21st.

The attractions of Summer activities were cast aside as the country's last eight boys and last eight girls—they had come forward to this stage from the area qualifying groups played at five centres on May 31—strove to become the holders of the trophies generously donated by Gymnasia Ltd., and the Association's President, T. Austin Harrison.

Beckenham representative Paul Guttormsen's forehand dominated the boys' proceedings, and he was taken close only once, by the Cheshire youngster, John McNee of the Wirral League.

Whilst Guttormsen was making short work of his opponents, however, some dour struggles developed on other tables, and application of the Expedite Rule was avoided by seconds only in one case, as the two Johns, Fuller of Great Yarmouth and McNee of Wirral, battled for second place in the top group.

This use throughout of the group system gave each finalist five singles, three in a preliminary group, and two in a final pool. Both the girls' preliminary groups resulted in triple ties with three girls recording two wins and one defeat.

The group positions had then to be resolved on games average and the actual points scored. Having gone forward to the top group on one of these decisions, Gillian Locke of Barking took the title by beating first Julie Holtham (Sittingbourne) and then Karen Rogers (Leicester), the

third of her opponents to earn a deciding game.

Trophies were presented by Gordon Steggall, Chairman of the Coaching Committee and John Maxwell, Headmaster of Hartshill High School. The latter has always worked indefatigably to prepare his school for yet another Saturday invasion! Scores for the top four read:

Girls' Singles:

Gillian Locke bt Janet Rutter -18, 12, 17; Karen Rogers bt Julie Holtham 13, -22, 16; G. Locke bt J. Holtham 17, 16; K. Rogers bt J. Rutter -12, 15, 20; J. Holtham bt J. Rutter 12, 11; G. Locke bt K. Rogers -10, 15, 14.

1st, G. Locke; 2nd, K. Rogers; 3rd, J. Holtham; 4th, J. Rutter.

Boys' Singles:

Paul Guttormsen bt John McNee 16, 20; John Fuller bt David Starkie 12, 13; McNee bt Starkie 17, 27; Fuller bt McNee -17, 22, 16; Guttormsen bt Starkie 9, 10; Guttormsen bt Fuller 8, 16.

1st, Guttormsen; 2nd, J. Fuller; 3rd, J. McNee; 4th, D. Starkie.

FINAL GROUPS AT HARTSHILL



Jeffrey Brixton Southampton 8th	John Fuller Gt. Yarmouth 2nd	Anthony Southcott M'lesex Schools 7th	David Starkie Barnsley 4th
John McNee Wirral 3rd	Tony Clark Bletchley 6th	Paul Guttormsen Beckenham 1st	David Atkin N. Yorks. 5th
Gillian Locke Barking 1st	Judith Walker Sheffield 5th	Paula Clemett Portsmouth 6th	Wendy Salter Evesham 8th
Julie Holtham Sittingbourne 3rd	Janet Rutter Hull Schools 4th	Sandra Harding N. Herts. 7th	Karen Rogers Leicester 2nd



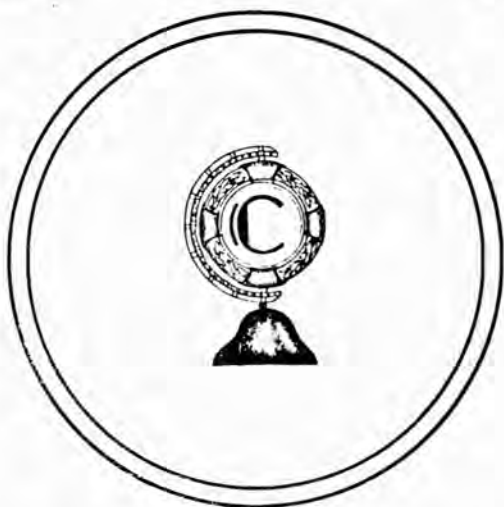
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'Pocket Rockets' at Bognor

THE "Boy and Girl" of the year in the 15th Annual National Coaching Scheme at Butlin's Holiday Camps are 14-year-old Ian Horsham, of Hornchurch, Essex, and 13-year-old Lynda Jones, of Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorgan. Both are all-out attackers of exciting promise.

These two 'pocket rockets' were elected on September 11 at Butlin's, Bognor Camp by the majority vote of our nine international coaches who last week put all eighteen finalists through their paces and, for the first time, played against each one in a practical test.

They found so little to choose between the finalists that in the end it was the allowance for age-bonus which enabled Ian and Lynda to pip their closest rivals. That the standard of play was high is not surprising.

The total entry this summer was a record 40,233 (2,088 more than last year) and altogether our coach adjudicators were able to award no less than 166 official E.T.T.A. Bronze and Silver Proficiency Awards.

Ian has been battling towards this supreme honour since he first entered our Scheme at the age of 8. He has at last fully justified the high opinion Chester Barnes has long held of his ability.

Lynda Jones is our first Welsh winner since Howell Jones in 1956. Eric Sutherland, the Scot, who coached her at Butlin's Barry Camp this year is convinced she will be the Welsh No. 1 player of the future.

Robert and Janet Hellaby from West Ham, an exciting new 'Brother and Sister act,' took runners-up awards. Robert, who celebrated his 16th birthday on arrival for Finals Week, has already won the Essex



Ian Horsham and Lynda Jones, "Boy and Girl of the Year" 1969.

Junior Open (last season). Janet, 14, has only been playing Table Tennis for 18 months, yet her coach Alan Hydes already considers her the hardest hitter among English girls today.

The competition to reach the final of the first all-male Coach and Pupil Challenge Cup competition was so fierce that in one section Alan Hydes and Robert Hellaby finished level both on matches and games with Chester Barnes and Ian Horsham. When all the points were added up the former pair were found to have an advantage of two, which took them through to the Final against Colin Deaton and David Rayner. The eventual winners were:

Filey Camp—Colin Deaton and David Rayner who defeated Bognor Camp—Alan Hydes and Robert Hellaby 21-14, 21-15.

Mr. Ron Bacchus (Publicity Manager of the "News of the World") and Derek Tremayne (General Secretary of the E.T.T.A.) presented the trophies and awards.

Harry Walker, National Councillor for Essex, was the Assistant Organiser of the Finals and Pat Neale, wife of England's No. 1 player, Denis, assisted with the administration.

Observing the competitors being adjudicated were Jack Carrington (Director of Coaching), Ron Crayden (Vice-Chairman of the National Selection Committee) and Les Gresswell (National Trainer/Coach) representing the E.T.T.A.

The Grand Final Points Chart was as follows with the competitors ages shown in brackets:—

BOYS	Points
1. Ian Horsham, Hornchurch, Essex (14)	134
2. Robert Hellaby, West Ham, London (15)	132
3. Tony Boasman, Manchester, Lancs. (15)	131
4. David Rayner, Sheffield, Yorks. (15)	126
5. Ian Johns, Northwich, Cheshire (16)	116
6. Jim McCormick, Belfast, Northern Ireland (16)	111
7. Chris Shepherd, Newcastle, Northumberland (16)	109
8. Paul Randall, Wigston Magna, Leicester (16)	106
9. Gordon Reid, Luton, Beds. (16)	105

GIRLS	Points
1. Lynda Jones, Merthyr Tydfil, Wales (13)	128
2. Janet Hellaby, Hornchurch, Essex (14)	125
3. Susan Lisle, Warrington, Lancs. (16)	122
4. Wendy Slade, Newbury, Berks. (15)	116
5. Judith Walker, Sheffield, Yorks. (12)	110
6. Valerie King, Hull, Yorks. (15)	108
7. Rebecca Bryant, Chard, Somerset (15)	106
8. Elinor Turner, Dublin, Eire	102
9. Ann Jessett, Battersea, London (16)	100

Resident Coaches were, at Ayr: Ian Barclay, Bognor: Alan Hydes, Barry: Eric Sutherland, Clacton: Chester Barnes, Filey: Colin Deaton, Minehead: Derek Munt, Mosney: Graham Davies, Pwllheli: Brian Burn and Skegness: Denis Neale.

Middlesex Open

BIG event in Middlesex this season will undoubtedly be the Middlesex Open Championships to be staged at the new venue of Hampstead Civic Centre, Swiss Cottage. With sponsorship from the Gillette Co., the prize fund has swelled to £151 and it is hoped that the popularity of the tournament will continue.

LETTERS

to the Editor

BACK TO SQUARE ONE

TWO editions ago Mrs. Archdale wrote giving her personal views on the difficulties of keeping a high standard of umpiring. From her experience at many tournaments she spoke of the weaknesses and offered a solution—that referees be as highly qualified as possible.

Her letter received two peculiar replies. One from a "crank" too scared to sign his name to his opinions, and one from Geof. James.

As it is many years since Geoff. spent a full day scoring at an open tournament he is unable to support his views with recent experience, so tries to impress by using his official position—Chairman of the N.U.R.C.

Mrs. Archdale never claimed her views were anything but personal—and this really applies to Geoff, as well.

In their report the N.U.R.C. recommend that all referees should be qualified and at the A.G.M. the Secretary, Colin Clemett says that until a new exam. paper is devised the committee suggest that all County Umpires wishing to become referees should pass the National Umpires theoretical paper.

Now we're back to square one.

Geoff, might sign his letter as Chairman, but I believe the N.U.R.C. never saw that letter until it was sent.

JOHN FORD.

Flat 11,
The Laurels,
Park Road,
Manchester, 3.

SYNONYMOUS

AFTER eight years of loyal service, Laurie Landry's term of office as Junior Team Captain has been terminated and it is indeed the end of an era in Junior Player-Official relationships because Laurie was not just an England Representative Team Captain, but the Captain of every Junior playing table tennis. Certainly no-one has as much knowledge of junior play in England as Laurie and no-one has put as much into the Junior game simply through sheer willingness to do good.

It seems that Laurie's only failing is that he has become a friend to the Juniors instead of an Official and yet his friendship and ability to talk on the same level as youngsters has bred more respect than could ever be cultivated from a purely official attitude. The office of Junior Captain and the name of Laurie Landry have, over the eight years, become synonymous to the extent that it will be difficult to think of the Captaincy as belonging to anyone else.

However, there has to be a successor—or two in this case—Brian and Mary Wright, who have taken on a difficult job when there must be many people hoping for Laurie's return, and as a recent ex-Junior, I wish them good luck in a far from easy job.

BRIAN MITCHELL.

3, Kempnough Hall Road,
Worsley, Manchester.



Although not an Adjudicator himself, Johnny Leach (pictured centre) sits with his nine coaches who formed the panel of Assessors, with the youthful hopefuls behind.

HOW THE SPHERES MOVE FOR YOU in OCTOBER

by Stellar

Since we last went to press, men have walked on the moon and it's a possibility that astronauts of the future might play table tennis there—with certain modifications, of course! And as everyone is so planet conscious these days your Editor thought it would be an innovation to see what the stars foretell for our readers this month.

Born between Sept. 23 and Oct. 22.
Your Zodiacal sign is Libra, your planet Venus.

Librans are good mixers, invariably good looking and fate is usually quite kind to them. But it is a Libran characteristic to be super-sensitive. My advice to Librans this month is, ignore all criticism, concentrate on every point and you will be astounded at the improvement in your game.

Born between Oct. 23 and Nov. 22.
Your Zodiacal sign is Scorpio, your planet Mars.

Forceful types, these Scorpio people, with clever shrewd minds. But they have a passion for justice, so watch out for that fiery temper if a Scorpio doesn't agree with the Umpire's decision.

Born between Nov. 23 and Dec. 20.
Your Zodiacal sign is Sagittarius, your planet Jupiter.

How lucky Sagittarians are, for they are frequently natural sportsmen. All games come easily to them. Unfortunately their changeable natures divert them from one sport to another, with a consequent loss to table tennis. However, this is a good time for Sagittarians who travel, so enter as many tournaments as you can.

Born between Dec. 21 and Jan. 19.
Your Zodiacal sign is Capricorn, your planet Saturn.

Capricornians are most useful as managers and organisers. They do much better as employers than employees and have very good business ideas. Now's the time to put some of them into practice at the local T.T. Club!

Born between Jan. 20 and Feb. 18.
Your Zodiacal sign is Aquarius, your planet Uranus.

Very interesting people, the Aquarians, but sometimes a bit difficult to understand. They love freedom and independence but can be very warm and loving when they find the right person. Aquarians who are consistent and less erratic could rise to the top ranks of Table Tennis.

Born between Feb. 19 and March 20.
Your Zodiacal sign is Pisces, your

planet Jupiter. Pisceans have a great zest for living. No sitting around and waiting for things to happen for them—they make things happen! So if a Piscean starts a new Doubles' combination, preferably with a "Cancer" or "Scorpio" type it should be very profitable.

Born between March 21 and April 20.
Your Zodiacal sign is Aries, your planet Mars.

Like Sagittarians, the Aries types are very keen on sports but their impatience is a drawback. They want to do everything very well without enough practice. But what energy they possess. My advice to Aries players, be tolerant, cultivate more tact, and you can rise to the heights in Table Tennis.

Born between April 21 and May 20.
Your Zodiacal sign is Taurus, your planet Venus.

Taureans are wizards with money and one rarely comes across one who lacks it. They live life to the full and are easy to get on with, though they can be obstinate, and over-emotional at times. Emotions may be roused about the middle of the month for Taureans, so avoid playing an important match during that period, if you can.

Born between May 21 and June 20.
Your Zodiacal sign is Gemini, your planet Mercury.

Mercury people love change, everything about them is quick. Watch them play T.T. Bang, bang, bang

and the game's over! The trouble is they don't concentrate enough. So slow down a bit, concentrate more and you will do wonders at Table Tennis.

Born between June 21 and July 20.
Your Zodiacal sign is Cancer, your planet the Moon.

Lovely family people, the Cancer types. Quiet, thoughtful, often artistic, attached to their parents. Life doesn't always treat them kindly but they have great tenacity of purpose. Apply this tenacity to Table Tennis and you will be surprised the success it brings you this month.

Born between July 21 and Aug. 21.
Your Zodiacal sign is Leo, your planet the Sun.

Leos are born leaders, they are vital, they attract admiration. They make good entertainers and their Table Tennis is spectacular though sometimes inconsistent. So less playing to the public and more watching the ball if you want to win those matches.

Born between Aug. 22 and Sept. 22.
Your Zodiacal sign is Virgo, your planet Mercury.

Typical Virgos are methodical and hard working. They are enquiring souls, fond of "uplift", reading, travel. Unfortunately they sometimes take their Table Tennis too seriously, which makes them difficult Doubles partners. But it's a good month for Virgos if they relax a bit!



Where were the '69 world championships held?

On the Dunlop Barna Table in Munich!

Last season, the Dunlop Barna nominal 1" table was adopted, among other championships, for the 1969 World Championships in Munich. That means the world's top players staked their reputations on the finest high speed surface in the world.

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BARNA

Being the President . . .

by H. Roy Evans

After 16 years as Honorary Secretary of the International Table Tennis Federation, Roy Evans became the top man of international table tennis when he was elected President of the I.T.T.F. in Stockholm in 1967 (writes Conrad Jaschke).

In April 1969 in Munich, Roy was re-elected unopposed for another term, and in the following article which he kindly agreed to write for the readers of Table Tennis News, this dynamic Welshman gives a fascinating insight into the complexities of his task as leader of a rapidly-growing world sport.



Success is the cornerstone of progress, but by what standards does one measure progress as the President of the International Table Tennis Federation? Does one merely strive to maintain the very high standards set by the illustrious Founder President, Ivor Montagu, or is there room within our principles to strike out in other directions?

First of all, let's be clear about this position of President. In most British voluntary organisations the President is a figurehead with little or no executive power. The real "boss" is the Chairman. Elsewhere in the world, maybe with exceptions where British influence has remained, the President is the leading executive, and there is no chairman in name. So that, in fact, as President of the I.T.T.F. I am both nominal head and working "gaffer".

Of course, I'm hardly new to the problems of world government, for as Secretary for sixteen years I was deeply immersed in them. During my time membership of the Federation doubled to its present 93 members, one of the largest international sports organisations in the world. Thus, it may be said that at least I have the knowledge. But knowledge alone is, in this context at any rate, not necessarily power, and one must always ask oneself—"Do I use my knowledge in the best interests of table tennis the world over?"

Like most international organisations, the ITTF has two kinds of problems—the ones that relate to the playing of the game, and the ones that are organisational. To the players in or near the international scene, the edicts laid down by the ITTF in respect to the playing of the game are usually obvious, solutions born of expediency to deal with sets of circumstances. Thus the six-year bitter struggle over the sponge bat. Thus legislation against shiny bats. Players "feel" the effects of our rulings on such major problems as these, but the club player may be forgiven if he feels that rulings are made from a very remote place on matters which may seem to have been over-dramatised.

Fortunately for me, we haven't had any major upsets in the playing field during my first term of office. True, the service problem, like "the poor", is always with us, and I cannot pretend that any of our many solutions really sets down a rule that can be fairly administered. But we shall go on trying, being painfully aware that whatever rule we devise seems always to be circumvented.

If our work on the rules of the game seems to the rank and file of players to come from afar, they must be even more removed from the great field of organisation of the game throughout the world, in which the greatest part of our work and responsibility lie. Here is the area where we come face to face with the most difficult problem of all—international politics.

To the British, whose support is for the most part unhindered by state interference, it is difficult to appreciate how much state policy is exerted through the work of many national sports organisations. In our meetings, the apparent simple choice between black and white, between this person and that, is frequently complicated by the dictates of international politics. Problems have to be studied, not only in the context of their good for the game, but in their potential for unification or splintering.

Two objects of the Federation are "To regulate relations between members of the Federation and between members of the Federation and other bodies," and "To help the spread of table tennis throughout the world, to raise its technical level and to develop the spirit of friendship and mutual assistance among players and Associations." Two very simple and admirable statements of intent, but demanding far more than simplicity of deed!

The Federation is also charged "To promote and supervise, in accordance with the regulations for the time

being in force, the World Championships in team play (Swaythling Cup and Marcel Corbillon Cup) and in individual play."

Time has been when the Federation, not being involved in the great burden of finance to run a World Championships, felt diffident about exercising any further demands after our regulations of venue, playing conditions, hotel accommodation, transport, food, etc., had been met. But the World Championships are OUR event, and I have found it necessary to lay down much more definite guide lines as to our rights. Our World Championships Technical Committee now has much greater authority in control of the method of play, and although we may not yet have the kind of authority the I.O.C. has at an Olympic Games, we are moving nearer to this ideal.

All our Sub-Committees, Classification, Equipment, Rules, Technical, etc., now work independently under their own Chairmen. The Equipment Committee for instance is currently dealing with the suggestion that yellow is the correct colour for the ball.

The Yugoslav Association has been given permission to use Yellow Balls as an experiment in their Championships in November. The Rules Committee is about to publish an International Handbook for Umpires, is working on a similar book for Organisers and Referees, and is taking the first step to set up a panel of international umpires.

At Headquarters we have taken the big step of acquiring an Office at Hastings and a Staff for Hon. Secretary "Bill" Vint, financing this by increasing the annual subscription and levying a fee for our approval of balls. In this latter context we took the view that in our International approval we had a valuable item to sell, and our rules gave us the authority to make this levy.

One of our most difficult tasks at the moment is handling a very insistent demand from several Associations to become members of the International Olympic Committee. I only have to mention that our Constitution does not require our players to be "amateurs" for it to be realised how tricky this proposal is. It is not proposed that we participate in the Olympic Games, but that by becoming members we make it easier for many Associations to receive financial aid from their governing bodies.

These then are a few of the facets of work at International level. There are many more connected with the future of the Federation—to remain as we are untouched by commercial influences, or to try to harness sponsorship to our efforts? Success of sponsorship at national level doesn't necessarily mean success in our sphere, where so many varying ideologies exist.

But someone has to face up to these things!

Disappointing Start

MARY and Brian Wright shared a disappointing start to their new careers as England Junior Team Captains when their young charges could do no more than draw in two matches against the Netherlands.

At St. Edmund's R.C. School, Dover on September 6, it was the girls who failed to capitalise on the good form displayed by the boys, particularly Nicky Jarvis who won both his singles despite trailing one game and 14-17 down to H. van der Zee, and losing 14-17 in the third to Anton Will van Zoelen.

On the following day at Butlin's, Bognor when Brian took over the captaincy from Mary, an altered match programme should have produced the desired result with the boys having the necessary number of sets to achieve such a target.

Both Peter Taylor and Linda Howard played impressively, particularly Linda who came close to beating the considerably stronger and more experienced Ellen Klatt. Susan Howard was not on good form and John Dabin, despite losing the boys doubles in partnership with Taylor, did all that was expected of him and played strictly to the book in overcoming van Zoelen when England were trailing 3-4. Individual results:

At Dover (England 4 Netherlands 4). N. Jarvis bt H. van der Zee, -19, 20, 17; bt A. W. van Zoelen -21, 19, 18, A. Fletcher bt van Zoelen 17, 13, Jarvis/Fletcher bt van der Zee/van Zoelen 19, -22, 13. L. Chesson lost to E. Klatt -9, -14; lost to S. Heltzel 19, -14, -17. L. Pacitto lost to Klatt 18, -10, -13. Chesson/Pacitto lost to Klatt/Heltzel -6, 19, -17. At Bognor (England 4 Netherlands 4). J. Dabin bt van der Zee 21, 10; bt van Zoelen 13, 12. P. Taylor bt van der Zee 10, 14; bt van Zoelen 10, 14. Dabin/Taylor lost to van der Zee/van Zoelen -14, 16, -19. S. Howard lost to Heltzel -19, 15, -20. L. Howard lost to Klatt -15, 17, -18. Howard/Howard lost to Klatt/Heltzel 19, -19, -18.

LETTERS cont.

Rule Change Needed?

COUNTIES lucky enough to be able to field world-class players in the premier division of the county championships are in my opinion, pushing their luck too far if they expect those counties struggling to remain at the top to willingly agree to the postponement of matches because a certain player is on a foreign tour.

Under the present rules of the championships Sussex are forced to agree to a postponement of their match with Yorkshire or concede the tie because Denis Neale will be in Japan on October 4th.

There can be no doubt that foreign tours will continue to increase in number which could lead to wholesale disruption of the county championship's programme unless a rule is changed to prevent this happening.

If reserve players are not strong enough to play that is bad luck; county championship fixture dates should remain fixed to their appointed spots in the already overcrowded calendar.

JOHN WOODFORD,

56 Kings Drive, Eastbourne, Sussex.

STAFFORDSHIRE

by John Pike

HARD ROAD AHEAD

HAVING missed the promotion boat last season, Staffordshire finished a poor third in the County Championship play off at Reading, they now start the new campaign later than most other counties.

By the time they go to Leicester for their opening match at the end of this month, I hope that Reading weekend last April, is well and truly out of their system.

It is history now, but had the team applied themselves differently on that occasion, Staffordshire would this season be lining up with the elite in the premier division.

With the Warwickshire first team now in their section, Staffs. will be hard pressed to even reach the play-off this term. A trip to Glamorgan in February is another match that will have to be won.

I hope the players prove me wrong, but I cannot help feeling that their big chance came and went at Reading.

The county second strings won the Midland division last season and if they can beat their counterparts from nearby Warwickshire, they can again fill the top spot.

The juniors, again under the guidance of Colin Pearse, looked to be in good form, if the recent trials are anything to go by. In the area trials at Nuneaton, Walsall's Helen Blower reached the semi-final and I understand S. Willis from the Potteries also showed up well.

Some Staffordshire officials showed

concern about players from outside the Midlands taking part in these trials.

Two Wolverhampton juniors, Steve Dunning and Keith Fellows, filled the top two spots in the county trials held at the Woodfield Club.

As the new president of the Darlaston League, I was pleased to see they have entered teams in the County League this season. One name that will be missing however is that of Dudley. After 16 years with the county, they were founder members, they have now thrown in their lot with Worcestershire.

Things are on the up and up at Lichfield. Their Secretary, A. T. Smith told me that with more clubs and teams this season, officials are hoping that the standard of play will continue to rise.

After doing a fine job as Secretary, Don Pritchard now takes over the chair in the Walsall League.

While the county is delighted about the way the proficiency award scheme is going, remember Staffs. got this off the ground, they are a little disappointed at the poor response to a Veterans' League. Perhaps we have a wealth of evergreen talent, which over the years has done the game proud. On this same line of thinking, I am glad to report that our Chairman, Malcolm Scott, is now fully recovered from the illness which kept him in hospital earlier this year.

It would be wrong to finish this month's notes without paying a tribute to Stan Ward. With his playing days now behind him, Stan joins the committee as a county selector. Over the years he has given yeoman service to Staffordshire and it is always a pity, for the sake of table

tennis, when a sportsman like Stan has to call it a day.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

by Leslie Constable

COACHING THE MAIN FUNCTION

IN this season's Cambs. League, the entry was so great that another division was formed and so now there are five sectionalised divisions with 107 teams.

Although one or two former teams have not re-entered, there are some new clubs which increase the overall number to warrant another division.

Coaching classes will be the main function of the Cambs. Association this season and Wisbech have now got this working, with Soham also doing their share of coaching for the young players.

It is anticipated that the demand for coaching will be prolific and John Cornwell with his team of coaches will be kept at full stretch, John also being engaged at National level too.

The Cambridge City team who topped the Men's Section of the S.E. Midlands League, will be all-out to maintain their position although they can expect fiercer competition this season. The Juniors will strive for better things and the Ladies should improve on their position despite the loss of two key players in Margaret Cornell and Sue Wakefield who are leaving the district for college activities.

Wisbech, who had a fairly good season last year, are full of confidence

and Ely too are in high spirits with a nucleus of young players.

Cambs. Juniors are re-entering the County Championships in the hope of making a name for themselves.

This season will probably be the last for the running of the Cambs. Open and Closed in the Corn Exchange. The building is being re-distributed and will not be available after March '70. The finding of another suitable venue is posing a problem for County officials.

Tony Brotchie has taken over the secretaryship of the Cambs. League as former Sec. Denis Fenton has left for America, on business, with his family.

At the annual general meeting of the South-East Midlands League, held at St. Neots, the following officers were elected:—Chairman: M. H. Webb, Vice-Chairman: W. F. James, Hon. Sec./Treasurer: H. Fox, Press Officer: L. R. J. Constable.

Messrs. Cornwell, Saywell, English, Obee, Fox and Marchant form the new Tournament Committee and it was agreed to hold a two-day tournament in March. Owing to lack of interest it was agreed to withdraw from the Master Points Scheme.

It was decided that all matches must be completed by April 30 and the next A.G.M. will be held at St. Neots in early May, 1970.

A new event in the form of Junior doubles will be held at the Annual Tournament this season.

BEDFORD

By Ron Cox

3-A-SIDE FOR FIRST TIME

THE Bedford League look forward to another successful season with over 80 teams making up the six divisions.

For the first time ever, the 1st Division will consist of three players per team, playing nine singles and one doubles, whilst all the other divisions continue on the old system—4-a-side.

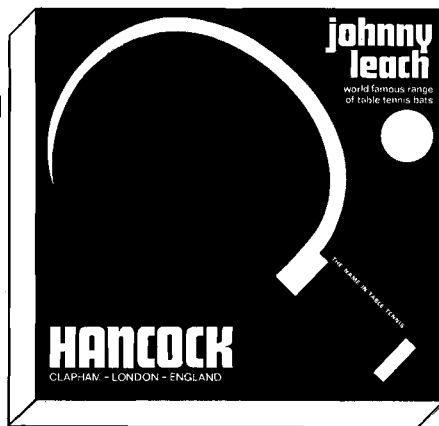
Bedford have again entered all the National Team Competitions and will compete in all four sections of the South-East Midlands League and the newly-formed Junior League within the County.

There are various changes on the administrative side. Philip Beard has moved away from Bedford and Mrs. Dorothy Cowper takes over as League General Secretary. After over 20 years of loyal and efficient service as Tournament Secretary, Mrs. Edith Pacey has given up and is replaced by Gerald Hammond.

The new League coach, Trevor Beard, has made arrangements with the Youth Service, for the use of one of the Service Centres in Bedford, in order to carry out regular coaching sessions for Juniors.

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LANCASHIRE

by George R. Yates

ARTHUR WEATHERS THE STORM

THE critical illness of Arthur E. Upton, Chairman of the Lancashire Association and the Liverpool League clouded an otherwise glorious summer but happily he was due back at his desk on Monday, September 29th with his troubles, we trust, well behind him.

Whilst indisposed, his management committee colleagues on Merseyside decided, by unanimous vote, to confer the 'Stamp Award of Merit' on Arthur for services rendered at County and National level which have enhanced the reputation of the Liverpool and District League. The award was last made in 1964 to Hon. Treasurer, Eddie Cameron.

Following the A.G.M. in Bolton on May 19th, John E. Henderson, the Bury League's Hon. Treasurer and Match Secretary, took over the County coffers from George T. H. Fackrell, now, together with Stan Parr, a Life Member of the Association.

A further appointment reluctantly made was that of County Match Secretary, an office taken over by the Lancashire and Cheshire League Match Secretary, Gordon Campbell of Bolton, from myself attempting to ease the work-load.

Missing from the playing front this season will be County No. 2 John Clarke who has taken up employment and residence in the vicinity of Horsham, Sussex. On September 6th he took unto himself a wife, the former Barbara Heathcote of Kearsley, Lancs. Groomsmen at the wedding were Lancashire County players Brian Mitchell and Bob Kelly.

INTERNATIONAL AT PRESTON

On Tuesday, October 28th, at Atkinson Vehicles Ltd., Walton-le-Dale, England play the Netherlands. Relevant details can be obtained from me by ringing Bolton 42223.

LEICESTERSHIRE

by Philip Reid

CITY BOAST 204 TEAMS

LEICESTER and District League set the scene for another successful season with a further increase in clubs bringing the strength up to 204 teams. New clubs are Fosse Road Meths, Y.C. and Old Lancastrians. Old ones welcomed back to the fold are Leicester Gas, St. Chad's and Leicester University.

Increases reported too in the Loughborough and District League who now have four Divisions and newcomers here are Mustangs, Rawlins, St. Andrew's Y.C., Baxter Gate, Hoton and Moss Sports. The first Summer League was very successful and "Laddies" were the winners.

Interesting new club in the Melton Mowbray and District League is Polish Sports Club. Their new club-room will be extensively used for competitive play. Jan Bielski, who will be remembered equally for his sportsmanship and his ability is their guiding light.

The only League to report a change in Secretaryship is the Coalville and District League where Mr. G. Sparham takes over.

Tom Almey, the quiet but efficient Secretary of the Hinckley and District League tells me their League is building in strength.

Disappointment for the smaller Leagues in the County is that Leicester have decided once again not to enter the Leicestershire Towns' League. Administration difficulties appears to be the main problem and a doubt whether Leicester themselves gain any benefit from competing.

There will be some new faces in the Leicester League First Division. Alan Croome will travel from Nottingham to play for King Richard's Rd. W.M.C. and Chris Francis (Derby) will play for Northwood. With Nigel Ive, formerly of Middlesex and now resident in Leicester, appearing for Leicester Y.M.C.A. the First Division could be very interesting though obviously King Richard's Rd. W.M.C. (Jacques, Holdsworth and Croome) will start favourites.

Ambitious Loughborough hope to stage two major events this season. England are due to play Hungary there in a senior match on November 24th and the English Junior Closed Championships may well be played there on May 16th/17th.

The Leicester and District League, under the Chairmanship of John Ellis, have embarked on an ambitious coaching scheme and they hope to stage a rally in the city in the not-too-distant future. Loughborough have engaged the services of Ralph Gunnion to assist their young players. Loughborough have produced some outstanding junior boys over the past few years—Ivor Billson, Victor Tyc, Peter Main and Chris Brewer have all played for the County—but they have no fewer than six girls attending the County Junior Trials—Wendy Grantham, Francis Poole, Anita Stevenson, Janet Billson, Anne Stone and Trudie Foulkes. Chairman Dave Arterton tips 13-year-old Anita Stevenson to bring off a few shocks in the coming season. Playing in the Loughborough First Division she will certainly have the opportunity! Endowed with her mother's talent and temperament (her mother incidentally has been undisputed Loughborough champion for several seasons) I think Dave could well be right.

Andy Holdsworth and Paul Randall are expected to spearhead the Leicester League's choice for places in the County team. With Alan Philpott and Robert Neal also fighting for a place in the side there is no shortage of talent. Janet Hamer, who already has County experience and Karen Rogers, runners-up in the National Under 13's event are also likely to attend.

NORFOLK

by J. S. Penny

NEW PRESIDENT

AT the Norfolk County A.G.M. on June 10th, Mr. Herbert Cassell was elected President of Norfolk for the next two seasons. He will be well-known to many, especially in the King's Lynn area, and those in the eastern half of the County have often seen him at matches and social functions for which he had to travel many miles. This means we shall have an advocate for encouraging Norfolk players to attend open tournaments, competition in which is so necessary if we are to do well. His wife, Betty, is County Captain, and was herself President of Norfolk in 1960-61.

Edna Allen of Great Yarmouth becomes the new County coach. Her work with younger players is already bearing fruit.

We also have a new County Umpires Secretary, Ken Turner, C.U., who has had umpiring experience with Surrey, and also officiated at the England v. Sweden European League match in Norwich. Let us hope he will be able to recruit, examine and pass out a fresh group of County Umpires. They are badly needed!

David Simpson continues to manage Junior Affairs, and it was good to see him already at work with Junior trials, ably assisted by Jack Fuller of Yarmouth and Dick Wright of Swaffham Youth Club.

So Norfolk have had their brief moment in Division 2 (South) and this season are back again in the Eastern Division. It should be noted that the two home matches v. Hunts. and Beds. will be played at Dereham and King's Lynn thus Norwich will be without a senior fixture. Junior fixtures include home matches against Cambs. at Norwich; Beds, at Dereham; and Herts (H) at King's Lynn. John Fuller and Peter Vertigan, the Norfolk juniors, attended National Area Trials at St. Luke's and finished 7th and 8th respectively.

SUSSEX

by John Woodford

"HARDEST FIGHT EVER"

THE promotion of neighbouring Surrey and distant Northumberland to the premier division of the county championships leaves Sussex with the hardest fight ever to remain with the elite. Peter Williams, Roger Chandler, Sam Ogundipe and Judy Williams are expected to enter their fifth season as an unchanged team when they start at home to Kent on October 25th.

After a very satisfactory last season in the junior division (South), the county juniors will have four very strong players in Graham Good (Hastings), Stephen Marley (Bognor), Mark Bull (Bognor) and Carol Randall (Eastbourne) to keep their challenge rolling.

Finding reserves of young players potentially strong enough for Sussex senior sides of the future is still the

biggest problem facing the county. To this end, a county squad of four young senior players has been formed to attend six open tournaments at Portsmouth, Hanwell, Bournemouth, Essex, Bucks and Bedford. Top prospect for inclusion in the squad will be the Littlehampton and Worthing player Suzanna Kavallierou.

Hastings will again be the venue for the first big Sussex tournament of the season the Sussex Open on October 18-19 when another assembly of star players will compete for the enhanced list of cash prizes.

News from the town leagues shows further increases in the numbers of players, teams and divisions. At Worthing, the league moves from five divisions to six for the first time and at Eastbourne seven divisions instead of six.

The Seaman and Nicholls cups for the top eight men and women players in the county have been omitted from the county programme and placed in cold storage, mainly because of difficulties in securing the entry of the top players.

A big change has occurred in the venue for the five Sussex inter-league events. After 10 years at Bexhill A.A. Centre the new site will be 52 miles to the west at the convent of The Holy Family, Littlehampton where five tables will be used.

At the annual meeting in July, all the officers of the Sussex T.T.A. were re-elected for a further term, headed by Keith Watts as County Chairman. Keith's commitments at national level have now been increased still further. Retaining his seat on the E.T.T.A. Management Committee and Chairmanship of the Rules Committee, he now finds himself elected as Vice-Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee. There is no truth in the rumour that Keith is to buy a London-commuter season ticket to attend his many committee engagements in Town!

KENT

By Charles M. Wyles

FOLKESTONE SET THE PACE

GAUGED from affiliation forms already to hand, an increase of over 5 per cent is assured. But surely Folkestone's amazing record of competing teams this season—showing an increase of over 25 per cent—will be hard to equal anywhere.

The County programme has been slightly reduced to cope with the continued interest in established events. First major event is the Kent Junior Open, at Folkestone, on November 1st and 2nd. After the overwhelming success of the Umpires voucher system at the senior Open last year, a similar inducement will be in operation.

Congratulations to Lynda Cheeson on her first Junior International appearance and to John Dabin on his sustained selection.

Maidstone League's 50th Anniversary will be highlighted by an International on Thursday, December 4th, when England play the Soviet Union, at the 'Y' Sports Centre.

YORKSHIRE
by Cliff Darley

PAYING DIVIDENDS

CONGRATULATIONS to Alan Hydes on being the recipient of the Victor Barna Award by the E.T.T.A.—in succession to Denis Neale—and the Leslie Forrest Award by his home county. His success at the World Championships and the hard work he puts into his game is certainly paying rich dividends and we look forward to seeing his name higher up the seeding list.

The Japanese invited by selection a team of European players to visit Japan this month and we in Yorkshire were delighted that Neale, now a father, was one of them.

A new but by no means unknown name on the County E.C. and Selection Committee is that of ex-Corbillion Cup player Kathleen Thompson (née Best). A warm welcome to you Kathy. Her young son, Christopher, who I recently saw playing at a coaching session could well follow in his parents' footsteps. His father, Alan, also represented Yorkshire on numerous occasions.

Four International matches are scheduled to be played in the County this season. On December 17, Pontefract—celebrating its 500th Mayoral year—stage England versus Sweden, following a similar fixture on Tees-

side the previous evening. Yugoslavia are at Bradford on January 23 and the lively Czechs at Sheffield on February 24 immediately prior to the English Open at Crystal Palace.

The County Coaching Committee, in conjunction with Cyril Villiers of the C.C.P.R. and E.T.T.A. Coach Peter Simpson, have arranged a full season of coaching activities including Personal Performance Coaching, E.T.T.A. Potential Diploma Coach Course, and Coaching and Proficiency Award-assessment days. All Leagues and Local Education Authorities have been sent this information in the form of an attractive leaflet which can be had from the C.C.P.R., 2, Park Sq. East, Leeds, LS1 2NQ.

Betty Clough, the Bradford Yorkshire League Ladies' team stalwart, has expressed a desire not to be considered this season. I have a feeling she will be greatly missed although allowing an opportunity for Junior Sylvia Broadbent to advance her cause.

Would League Officials please note that only the players nominated by Leagues will be invited to attend the Senior Trials. Nominations are to be sent to Mr. H. Dainty at 15, Armitage Road, Balby, Doncaster.

Finally, only two Leagues, Bradford and Hull, responded to my plea for information about current happenings last season. If your league did not receive a mention you now know why!

COUNTY DIARY

FIXTURES AND VENUES FOR OCTOBER, 1969

PREMIER DIVISION		
Oct. 4	Cheshire v. Middlesex. Essex v. Northumberland, Standard Telephones, Harlow. Kent v. Surrey, Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd., High Street, Footscray.	7-00 p.m. 7-15 p.m.
Oct. 5	Surrey v. Northumberland, Goblins Sports and Social Club, Ermine Way, Leatherhead.	4-00 p.m.
.. 25	Cheshire v. Essex. Northumberland v. Yorkshire. Surrey v. Middlesex, Parkhouse School, Peper Harrow, Nr. Guildford. Sussex v. Kent, Round Table Youth Centre, Priory Road, Hastings.	7-00 p.m. 7-15 p.m.
SECOND DIVISION SOUTH		
Oct. 2	Middlesex II v. Essex II, East Finchley T.T. Centre, 142, High Road, East Finchley.	7-30 p.m.
.. 4	Suffolk v. Kent II, Chantry School, Ipswich.	6-30 p.m.
.. 11	Hertfordshire v. Surrey II.	
.. 25	Essex II v. Suffolk, Burnham Secondary School, Burnham-on-Crouch. Kent II v. Middlesex II, E.T.T.A. Centre, Duncan Bowen School, Woodchurch Turning, Ashford.	7-30 p.m. 7-30 p.m.
Nov. 1	Surrey II v. Buckinghamshire, Windmill Press (Heinemann Books Ltd), Lower Kingswood. Hertfordshire v. Suffolk.	7-00 p.m.
SECOND DIVISION NORTH		
Oct. 4	Cumberland v. Yorkshire II, The Grammar School, Millom. Durham v. Cheshire II, St. Joseph's Sacred Heart School, Hart Lane, West Hartlepool. Lincolnshire v. Lancashire, Kitwood C.S. Boys School, Mill Road, Boston.	6-15 p.m. 7-00 p.m. 7-15 p.m.
.. 25	Lancashire v. Cheshire II, Alfred Turner Secondary School, Prospect Road, off Liverpool Road, Cadishead, Irlam. Lincolnshire v. Northumberland II, Victoria Hall, Victoria Road, Louth. Yorkshire II v. Durham.	7-30 p.m. 7-15 p.m.
SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND		
Oct. 4	Monmouthshire v. Derbyshire, Alcan Welfare Hall, Rogerstone, Newport. Nottinghamshire v. Glamorgan. Warwickshire v. Leicestershire.	7-15 p.m.
.. 25	Glamorgan v. Monmouthshire. Warwickshire v. Nottinghamshire.	
.. 26	Leicestershire v. Staffordshire, Loughborough Sports Centre, Granby Street, Loughborough.	3-00 p.m.
SECOND DIVISION WEST		
Oct. 4	Corwall v. Somerset, St. Michael's Hall, St. Michael's Road, Newquay. Dorset v. Worcestershire, Youth Centre, Colliton Street, Dorchester. Gloucestershire v. Devon, Horfield Parish Church Hall, Bristol, 7, Hants. v. Wiltshire.	7-30 p.m. 7-15 p.m.
.. 18	Worcestershire v. Cornwall, New Youth Centre, Back Hill, Ipsley Street, Redditch.	7-00 p.m.
.. 25	Hants. v. Dorset. Somerset v. Devon. Wiltshire v. Gloucestershire, Lawa E.C., Falmouth Grove, Swindon.	
.. 25	Wiltshire v. Gloucestershire, Lawa E.C., Falmouth Grove, Swindon.	7-00 p.m.
SOUTHERN DIVISION		
Oct. 4	Berkshire v. Hants II., Bracknell Sports Stadium, Bagshot Road, Bracknell.	7-00 p.m.
.. 12	Worcestershire II v. Oxfordshire, Cripplegate Pavilion, Tybridge Street, Worcester.	4-30 p.m.
.. 25	Buckinghamshire II v. Worcestershire II. Oxfordshire v. Berkshire, St. Margaret's Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford.	6-30 p.m.
MIDLAND DIVISION		
Oct. 25	Denbighshire v. Staffordshire II. Shropshire v. Warwickshire II, Trinity Church Hall, Shifnal	6-30 p.m.
EASTERN DIVISION		
Oct. 25	Cambridgeshire v. Norfolk, Metal Box Company, Weasenham Lane, Wisbech. Huntingdonshire v. Hertfordshire II, St. Neots Bowling Club, St. Neots. Northants. v. Bedfordshire, Dodderidge Church Rooms, Northampton.	7-00 p.m. 7-00 p.m.
JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH		
Oct. 4	Berkshire v. Kent, Bracknell Sports Stadium, Bagshot Road, Bracknell. Sussex v. Hants., North Mundham Village Hall, North Mundham, Chichester.	3-00 p.m. 4-00 p.m.
.. 25	Berkshire v. Sussex, Y.M.C.A., Parkside Road, Reading. Buckinghamshire v. Surrey. Kent v. Hants., E.T.T.A. Centre, Duncan Bowen School, Woodchurch Turning, Ashford.	3-30 p.m. 2-30 p.m.
Nov. 7	Buckinghamshire v. Middlesex.	
JUNIOR DIVISION NORTH		
Oct. 4	Cumberland v. Yorkshire, The Grammar School, Millom. Durham v. Cheshire, St. Joseph's Sacred Heart School, Hart Lane, West Hartlepool.	3-00 p.m. 3-00 p.m.
.. 25	Lancashire v. Cheshire, Alfred Turner Secondary School, Prospect Road, off Liverpool Road, Cadishead, Irlam. Yorks. v. Durham.	3-00 p.m.
JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND		
Oct. 4	Derbyshire v. Warwickshire, The Police Station, Beetwell Street, Chesterfield. Leicestershire v. Denbighshire, Knighton Park T.T.C., Avenue Road Extension, Leicester. Staffordshire v. Nottinghamshire, Woodfield S. & S. Club, Woodfield Avenue, Penn Road, Wolverhampton.	6-00 p.m. 3-00 p.m. 3-00 p.m.
.. 25	Northants. v. Leicestershire, Wetherbys Sports Centre, Dennington Estate, Wellingborough. Nottinghamshire v. Derbyshire. Staffordshire v. Denbighshire, Raleigh Hall, Sturbridge, Eccleshall.	3-00 p.m. 3-00 p.m.
JUNIOR DIVISION EAST		
Oct. 4	Cambridgeshire v. Bedfordshire. Essex v. Norfolk, Maldon Youth Centre, The Friary, Chequers Lane, Maldon. Hertfordshire v. Suffolk, Brookside Boys Club, Borehamwood. Bedfordshire v. Essex, The Scout Hut, Hockliffe Road, Leighton Buzzard. Norfolk v. Cambridgeshire, C.E.Y.M.S. Rooms, Brigg Street, Norwich. Suffolk v. Huntingdonshire, New Village Hall, Mutford, Lowestoft.	2-30 p.m. 2-30 p.m. 6-30 p.m. 2-30 p.m. 3-00 p.m.
JUNIOR DIVISION WEST		
Oct. 11	Somerset v. Worcestershire, Oriel Hall, Upper Swainswick, Bath.	3-00 p.m.
.. 25	Gloucestershire v. Glamorgan.	
.. 26	Monmouthshire v. Wiltshire, Standard Telephones & Cables, Newport.	3-30 p.m.

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County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

PREMIER HAS INTERESTING LOOK

Three in, three out is a brief summary of the changes in the County Championships line-up. The first match of the 23rd season is on 2nd October with most Counties opening their programmes on the following Saturday.

Northumberland II is one of the new teams, entry made possible by the promotion to the Premier of their first team. Cheshire II return after a gap of one season, and Cambridgeshire Juniors who in recent years had just the 1966/67 season, complete the trio. Lost are Lancashire II (possibly due to lack of officials) and Oxfordshire II and Juniors. Oxfordshire of late have had great difficulty in turning out full strength teams, and I think it probable that the 2nd team would have gone this season even if relegation of the 1sts had not made this unavoidable. But I am sorry to see the disappearance of the Junior side, without a point since October '65, and hope that this season will be spent on a programme to ensure return next year.

In the Premier Division, Surrey and Northumberland replace demoted Warwickshire and Gloucestershire. Essex, without Stuart Gibbs, do not look as strong as in recent years and the division again has an interesting look about it. Essex, Middlesex and Yorkshire, not necessarily in that order, could fill the top 3 places but at present it is unwise to predict further.

Surrey II replace their promoted first team in 2nd South, and Suffolk take Norfolk's place in 2nd South. Both teams could find life hard, and I would not be surprised to find Bucks in the Challenge matches at the end of the season. Northumberland II and Cheshire II enter 2nd North, a Division likely to be dominated by Lancashire, while the only change in 2nd West is the addition of Gloucs, to bring the entry up to 8 teams. Warwicks drop to 2nd Midlands forces their 2nd team down and the other change sees Notts. promoted at the expense of Oxfords. Staffs. v. Warwicks. is the big match here, with Staffs. fancying their chances.

Herts. II, champions of Eastern Division, should again make the running with Norfolk who return from the heights of 2nd South, and Midland Division should again prove comfortable for Warwicks II who finished 3rd last year in 2nd Midland. With Southern Division playing home and away, the five teams involved have the biggest programme in the Championships and a really close struggle could develop.

No changes in Junior North, South or West, where one would expect the leading teams to be Lancashire and Yorkshire, Kent, Middlesex and Surrey (but what an interesting division this promises to be), and Glamorgan and Monmouthshire. The re-entry of Cambridgeshire to Junior East and the loss of Oxfords from Midland mean Northants move over to Mid-

land to even the numbers: Essex and Herts, Warwicks and Leicesters will do well here.

The most important change made by the AGM was to pass Worcs. proposals to standardise the composition of teams in the Junior Divisions at 3 boys and 2 girls. A further proposal to make the Premier 3 and 2, failed by a small margin but could appear again! The Essex suggestion for a Junior Premier Division ran into difficulties but could possibly come into force next season. Automatic promotion and relegation seem to be out of favour, and Alan Shepherd (Essex Junior Match Secretary) will be pleased to have any constructive comments. His address is: 10 Woodedge Close, Forest Side, Chingford, London, E.4.

JUNIOR CHALLENGE MATCHES—BURFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A success here for Kent, their first (in four attempts) since the competition took its present style. With a strong all-round team they thoroughly deserved their four wins and in John Dabin (8 out of 8) and Barry Grimwade, they had the only two unbeaten boys: Ray Tilling won 6 from 8 and Lynda Chesson and Paula Brenchley completed a useful side which also won 7 out of 8 doubles.

The disappointment of the Challenge was the form of Warwickshire, champions for the two preceding seasons. They slumped to fourth place and could have lost to Monmouths as well, scraping home 5-4. Nobody expected much of Monmouths, without Haydn Thomas, but this side fought extremely well and in Michael Nocivelli have a very promising player. Michael won 4 of his 8 singles and came closest to John Dabin, going down by 26, -17, -18 in a first class set. With the whole side eligible next season, they could improve a couple of places.

Lancashire started badly, being 0-3 down to Kent and this match virtually decided the destination of the Cup. Susan Lisle played well throughout, really going for her shots, and disposing of Lynda Chesson, Susan Beckwith and Kim Allen. Only the unbeaten Jenny Cornock stopped her (in both singles and Mixed Doubles). Essex improved two places but never somehow quite looked like taking Kent or Lancs.

Burford is a good venue and Maurice Chalk is to be congratulated on his organisation, in particular of the accommodation. All the players were put up in private homes, and while there were several who had doubts about this on the Saturday evening the verdict on the Sunday was quite different. We hope to return!

Results

	K	La	E	Wa	Mo
Kent	—	6-3	7-2	8-1	8-1
Lancs.	3-6	—	6-3	5-4	6-3
Essex	2-7	3-6	—	6-3	7-2
Warwks.	1-8	4-5	3-6	—	5-4
Monmth.	1-8	3-6	2-7	4-5	—

COMPOSITION OF DIVISIONS

SEASON 1969-70

Premier Division

Cheshire
Essex
Kent
Middlesex
Northumberland
Surrey
Sussex
Yorkshire

2nd South

Buckinghamshire
Essex II
Hertfordshire
Kent II
Middlesex II
Suffolk
Surrey II

2nd North

Cheshire II
Cumberland
Durham
Lancashire
Lincolnshire
Northumberland II
Yorkshire II

2nd Midland

Derbyshire
Glamorgan
Leicestershire
Monmouthshire
Nottinghamshire
Staffordshire
Warwickshire

2nd West

Cornwall
Devon
Dorset
Gloucestershire
Hampshire
Somerset
Wiltshire
Worcestershire

Eastern

Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Hertfordshire II
Huntingdonshire
Norfolk
Northamptonshire

Southern

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire II
Hampshire II
Oxfordshire
Worcestershire II

Midland

Denbighshire
Derbyshire II
Shropshire
Staffordshire II
Warwickshire II

Junior North

Cheshire
Cumberland
Durham
Lancashire
Northumberland
Yorkshire

Junior South

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Hampshire
Kent
Middlesex
Surrey
Sussex

Junior East

Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Essex
Hertfordshire
Huntingdonshire
Norfolk
Suffolk

Junior Midland

Denbighshire
Derbyshire
Leicestershire
Northamptonshire
Nottinghamshire
Staffordshire
Warwickshire

Junior West

Glamorgan
Gloucestershire
Monmouthshire
Somerset
Wiltshire
Worcestershire

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