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Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

EDITED BY **GEORGE YATES**

No. 72

June 1975

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AND SO TO BED



The rigours of a season's play - beneath the towel is Paul Day of Soham, Cambridgeshire

Photo by Tony Ross of Hessele

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TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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Editorial: George R. Yates, 43 Knowsley Road, Smithills, Bolton, Lancs., BL1 6JH. Phone: Bolton 42223 (h); 061-228 2141 Ext. 2698 (b).

CUTTING THE CLOTH

The prospect of second division play for England in next season's European League set-up is hardly one to be welcomed by the English Table Tennis Association, and least of all by Tom Blunn, the Honorary Treasurer.

During seasons past the fee demanded from those organisations staging a Premier Division match has been relatively high, with the resultant revenue helping to finance the overseas programme.

It cannot be envisaged that such fees will be called for next season—less likely the takers if so—therefore the cloth will have to be cut to suit a less opulent coat.

Accordingly, our participation in foreign open championships will have to be curtailed, moreso with the cost of travel, particularly by air, becoming more and more expensive. The fact that no foreign entry was received for this season's English Junior Open, resulting in its cancellation, is indicative of the prevailing trend, for not all countries were otherwise engaged.

Perhaps it might be as well to ponder on the dictates of Herr Jupp Schlaf, the E.T.T.U. President, who for long has advocated the running of national opens biennially. The E.T.T.A. could now establish such a pattern in the junior sphere and possibly expend a little more on a bigger representation in the annual European Youth Championships, which are of considerably more significance.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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On the International Front

by The Editor

EUROPEAN LEAGUE FIXTURES

England will begin their climb back to the Premier Division of the European League with a home fixture against Denmark on Thursday, October 16, in a Second Division—Group A fixture. Their fellow demotees, Federal Germany, will play hosts to Greece on the same date in Group B.

The provisional list of fixtures for the 1975-76 season are:—

PREMIER DIVISION

1975

October 16

Sweden v France
Soviet Union v Yugoslavia
Czechoslovakia v Poland or Austria

November 13

France v Hungary
Yugoslavia v Sweden
Poland/Austria v Soviet Union

December 11

Hungary v Yugoslavia
Sweden v Poland/Austria
Soviet Union v Czechoslovakia

1976

January 21

Poland/Austria v Hungary
Czechoslovakia v Sweden
Yugoslavia v France

February 25

Hungary v Czechoslovakia
Sweden v Soviet Union
France v Poland/Austria

March 4

Soviet Union v Hungary
Czechoslovakia v France
Poland/Austria v Yugoslavia

April 14

Hungary v Sweden
France v Soviet Union
Yugoslavia v Czechoslovakia

SECOND DIVISION—GROUP A

1975

October 16

Luxembourg v Netherlands
England v Denmark
Ireland v Belgium

November 13

Denmark v Luxembourg
Belgium v England

December 11

Luxembourg v Belgium
England v Ireland
Netherlands v Denmark

1976

January 21

Ireland v Luxembourg
Belgium v Netherlands

February 25

Luxembourg v England
Denmark v Belgium
Netherlands v Ireland

March 4

England v Netherlands
Ireland v Denmark

SECOND DIVISION—GROUP B

1975

October 16

Bulgaria or Norway v Austria/Poland
Federal Germany v Greece
Italy v Switzerland



November 13

Greece v Bulgaria/Norway
Switzerland v Federal Germany

December 11

Bulgaria/Norway v Switzerland
Italy v Federal Germany
Austria/Poland v Greece

1976

January 21

Bulgaria/Norway v Italy
Switzerland v Austria/Poland

February 25

Federal Germany v Bulgaria/Norway
Greece v Switzerland
Austria/Poland v Italy

March 4

Austria/Poland v Federal Germany
Italy v Greece

Austria and Poland play off for promotion to the Premier Division and Bulgaria and Norway play off for promotion to Division 2.

NETHERLANDS CLOSED

Bert van der Helm failed in his bid to equal the record of Cor du Buy in winning the M.S. title of the Dutch Closed nine times when beaten in the final by Nico van Slobbe. It was a first championship success for 24-years-old van Slobbe.

Winner of the W.S. title was Sonja Heltzel, aged 21, who won this title in 1971 and 1973. Former Sussex defender, Judy Williams, now resident in Holland, was the defeated finalist, the set, which lasted 1 hour and 10 minutes, going into expedite in the second game when Judy led 20-18.

Bert Schoofs and Miss Heltzel won the mixed title for the fourth successive year.



NICO VAN SLOBBE

Results:—

Men's Singles—Quarter-finals

B. v.d. Helm bt R. Hijne 15, 15, 11.
K. Solka bt R. Jens 14, 9, 18.
H. Hopman bt C. Deken -17, 12, 22, 16.
N. v. Slobbe bt H. Lingen 12, 23, 15.
Semi-finals
v.d. Helm bt Solka -18, 12, 10, 10.
N. v. Slobbe bt Hopman -22, 11, 13, -14, 18.

In the deciding game van Slobbe trailed 14-18.

Final
v. SLOBBE bt v.d. Helm 19, 17, -14, 18.

Women's Singles—Quarter-finals

E. Klatt bt A. v. Moorst -10, 16, 7, 12.
J. Williams bt A. Coltof 12, 12, 14.
M. v.d. Vliet bt M. Wagemakers 13, 13, -16, -18, 13.
S. Heltzel bt C. v. Moorst 13, 17, 15.

Semi-finals

Heltzel bt v.d. Vliet 15, 13, 16.
Williams bt Klatt 19, -15, 13, 13.

Final
HELTZEL bt Williams 19, -19, 18, 13.

Men's Doubles—Final

DEKEN/v. SLOBBE bt v.d. B. Schoofs -23, 15, 15, 18.

Women's Doubles—Final

KLATT/v.d. VLIET bt Heltzel/A. v. Moorst 19, 15, 16.

Mixed Doubles—Final

B. SCHOOFS/HELTZEL bt F. Kraajinga/Williams 13, 19, -12, 14.

EUROPE CLUB CUP

Sparta Praha, of Czechoslovakia, made it a day to remember in Frankfurt on May 9, when their men defeated Europe Club Cup holders, Vjesnik-Zagreb, of Yugoslavia, 5-3 and their women succeeded in beating, by 5 sets to 2, Varbergs B.T.K., of Sweden, who, in the semi-final round, had ousted holders Statistzika P.S.C., of Budapest, Hungary.

Milan Orlowski opened up for the Czech club by accounting for Dragutin Surbek, only for the match score to be equated in the next set when Anton Stipanec had an equally comfortable win over Pavel Ovcarik.

Jaroslav Kunz restored the lead for the Czechs in beating Ivica Stipanec, to be followed by Orlowski getting the better, over three games, of Anton Stipanec. Surbek pulled one back at the expense of Kunz but the 2-set gap was re-established when Ovcarik beat Ivica Stipanec. Again there was only one set in it when Anton Stipanec overcame Kunz, but the Zagreb club's third man, Ivica Stipanec, was not up to denying Orlowski his third win of the match and with it, match victory. Scores:—

- D. Surbek lost to M. Orlowski -16, -18.
- A. Stipanec bt P. Ovcarik 17, 16.
- I. Stipanec lost to J. Kunz -21, -6.
- A. Stipanec lost to Orlowski -17, 12, -15.
- Surbek bt Kunz 19, 18.
- I. Stipanec lost to Ovcarik -14, -11.
- A. Stipanec bt Kunz 17, 13.
- I. Stipanec lost to Orlowski -17, -15.

Two wins each for Hana Riedlova and Jitka Karlikova, and a solo for Ludmila Smidova, carried Sparta Praha to their 5-2 win over surprise finalists Varbergs B.T.K., whose wins were credited to Ann-Christin Hellman, who beat Smidova, and Eva Strömvall, whose victory was accomplished at the expense of Riedlova. Scores:—

- E. Strömvall lost to J. Karlikova -15, -17.
- A.-C. Hellman bt L. Smidova -10, 19, 18.
- B. Olsson lost to H. Riedlova -11, 18, -19.
- Hellman lost to Karlikova 16, -17, -15.
- Strömvall bt Riedlova -16, 9, 19.
- Olsson lost to Smidova -18, -15.
- Hellman lost to Riedlova -21, 15, -16.

NEW EUROPEAN RANKINGS

by George R. Yates

England's Jill Hammersley would appear to have been harshly treated at the hands of the European Table Tennis Union's Classification Committee who, in their revised rankings, issued last month, have demoted the Buckinghamshire international from No. 4 to No. 9.

One can only assume that Jill's decision to defend her national title in the Norwich Union

English Championships, in preference to competing in the European "Top 12" tournament in Vienna, has had this adverse effect. The pity is, of course, that Jill was faced in having to make such a decision when the dates, for such important tournaments, clashed.

As a reward for her success in Vienna, where she was unbeaten, Sweden's Ann-Christin Hellman takes over the No. 1 spot from Judit Magos-Havas, of Hungary, and, on the basis of this impressive performance, one can have no real quarrel.

But, despite her first round defeat by new world champion Yung Sun Kim, of Korea D.P.R., Jill could still boast eleven wins to three losses in the Corbillon Cup competition in Calcutta, which might have stood her in better stead. But, then again, Jill was an absentee in Budapest when invited to compete in the Hungarian Association's Jubilee tournament, which attracted Europe's best.

Senior newcomer, Tatjana Ferdman, of the Soviet Union, comes into the list at No. 6 as a result of her impressive display in the Calcutta world championships, where she was the only European to reach the semi-final stage of the women's singles event.

Rightly, Hungary's Istvan Jonyer, the new world champion, takes over the No. 1 men's spot from European champion Milan Orlowski, the No. 2 position going to the defeated finalist in Calcutta, Anton Stipanec.

England's Denis Neale is elevated from No. 16 to No. 14, whilst Commonwealth champion, Trevor Taylor, is brought in at No. 16. Federal Germany's Jochen Leiss is another newcomer to the men's list, from nowhere to No. 12, presumably on the strength of reaching the last 16 in the world championships at which stage he was beaten 7, 13 and 22 by Russia's Sarkis Sarkhojan.

New rankings (previous position in brackets):—

Men

1. I. Jonyer (Hungary) (3)
2. A. Stipanec (Yugoslavia) (8)
3. D. Surbek (Yugoslavia) (6)
4. K. Johansson (Sweden) (2)
5. M. Orlowski (Czechoslovakia) (1)
6. S. Bengtsson (Sweden) (4)
7. G. Gergely (Hungary) (5)
8. J. Kunz (Czechoslovakia) (11)
9. J. Secretin (France) (10)
10. S. Sarkhojan (USSR) (9)
11. S. Gomozkov (USSR) (15)
12. J. Leiss (Federal Germany) (—)
13. A. Strokotov (USSR) (13)
14. D. Neale (England) (16)
15. J. Börzsei (Hungary) (14)
16. T. Taylor (England) (—)
17. P. Stellweg (Federal Germany) (—)
18. M. Karakasevic (Yugoslavia) (17)
19. F. Timar (Hungary) (—)
20. U. Thorsell (Sweden) (—)

Out from the previous list are T. Klampar (Hungary) (7), I. Wikström (Sweden) (12), W. Lieck (Federal Germany) (18), B. Burnazian (USSR) (19) and Z. Cordas (Yugoslavia) (20).

Women

1. A.-C. Hellman (Sweden) (5)
2. J. Magos-Havas (Hungary) (1)
3. M. Alexandru (Rumania) (3)
4. E. Antonian (USSR) (7)
5. W. Hendriksen (Fed. Germany) (15)
6. T. Ferdman (USSR) (—)
7. Z. Rudnova (USSR) (2)
8. H. Lotaller (Hungary) (16)
9. J. Hammersley (England) (4)
10. E. Palatinus (Yugoslavia) (19)
11. H. Riedlova (Czechoslovakia) (11)
12. A. Grofova (Czechoslovakia) (9)
13. B. Kishazi (Hungary) (6)
14. S. Federova (USSR) (10)
15. C. Bergeret (France) (—)
16. A. Gedraitite (USSR) (17)
17. B. Silhanova (Czechoslovakia) (12)
18. A. Rangelova (Bulgaria) (—)
19. M. Leszay (Rumania) (—)
20. E. Wetzel (Federal Germany) (12)

No longer included are B. Radberg (Sweden) (8), U. Hirschmüller (Federal Germany) (14), Karenza Mathews (England) (18)—now retired—and A. Hernadi (Hungary) (20).

KENT SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS

by BARBARA RUSSELL

On 14th May, 38 miscellaneous Kent Schools' Table Tennis pupils were met at the Crystal Palace "Tower" by "Dad", who took their names and assigned them to rooms. Shy, aggressive, nervous or self-confident, they bounced with energy and enthusiasm.

By Tuesday morning they had been sorted into two groups and were working well, if a little tentatively. Batman had his knees bent; the others seemed exceptionally tall—even the Weasel! Bodge's hammer grip caused some raised eyebrows and, later, some dropped faces as he showed his command of it. Encouraged by Peter Hirst, they learned of touch and spin, speed and length. Theoretical geniuses were put to the test in practical sessions. Patterns of play began to form, body weight and foot movements were studied and put into practice by most, and pupils were becoming players.

The days were long, the sessions were hard for youngsters who perhaps are generally coached for a short lesson a week in school, or one Club session a week; but they all stood the test and were always in G.1 and G.3 waiting for the time to pass and the Coaches to arrive for a new session. They even found the energy to "bump" Birthday Boy on more than one occasion! The "free" period each afternoon was used in playing another sport—badminton, squash, swimming or 5-a-side football. The evening session comprised a "novelty" tournament. Penhold, Brazilian and left-handed tournaments were enjoyed and produced results which sometimes prompted the Coaches to say, "Perhaps you should change your grip!" The four girls were not outclassed; Doris and Maud not only improved, but took the bulk of the ribbing in good part.

What is the value to be gained from such a week? An idea, perhaps, of game development; co-operation; opposition; enjoyment and a look at the future of Table Tennis.

Before the last lunch after the last session, a weary but still enthusiastic 38 improved players, assembled for a last "chat" from Peter and "Dad". "Follow-up" was the message—local Coaches, please note. "Let's see you at the tournaments." The answer from the youngsters was a big "Thank you". See you again next year.

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BIOGRAPHY OF VICTOR BARNÁ CELEBRATED

The successful publication of Philip Reid's biography of Victor Barna, the greatest table tennis player who ever lived, was celebrated recently in London.

Amongst the guests at the lunch party were (left to right): Charles Wyles, Chairman of the English Table Tennis Association; Joe Veselsky, President of the Swaythling Club International; the author, Philip Reid; Mrs. Susie Barna; David Sealey, marketing director of Dunlop Sports Company; John Venmore-Roland, representing Eastland Press, of Lavenham, and Bill Evans, of Dunlop Sports Company.

Welcoming the guest of honour, Mrs. Susie Barna, David Sealey paid tribute to Victor's many achievements and his contribution in making table tennis a world sport. In reply, Mrs. Barna thanked Philip Reid for his painstaking efforts in compiling a unique portrait of her late husband.

Commissioned by the English Table Tennis Association, Victor Barna's biography has been published by the Eastland Press, Lavenham, Suffolk. The book is fully illustrated and is available from most leading booksellers at a cost of £3.00.

JUNIORS ON TOP IN VENRAY

By The Editor

Over the period May 2-5, in Venray, an English junior quintet, in the charge of Brian Burn, excelled in international matches against the Netherlands and dominated subsequent Round Robin tournaments.

Mark Mitchell had the distinction of being unbeaten throughout, whilst Melody Ludi tasted defeat only once to Jolanda Noordam in the Round Robin. Dutch opponents found Douglas Johnson's style unusual, with his sound defence, good serves and follow-up.

Both English girls won many points from the service, especially Melody. In the girls' international Angela Mitchell lost to Miss Noordam after being 20-18 up in the 3rd. She also lost to Melody in the Round Robin from being in a similar position.

Best set occurred in the boys' Round Robin between Mitchell and Chris Sewell, which was much appreciated by the Dutch onlookers, Mitchell winning at "deuce" in the third.

Results:—
Boys — England 7, Netherlands 2

C. Sewell lost to W. IJsselstein 5, -17, -16.

M. Mitchell bt J. Bonants 11, 14.

D. Johnson bt H. Gootzen -24, 15, 14.

Mitchell bt IJsselstein -16, 20, 7.

Sewell bt Gootzen 15, 14.

Johnson bt Bonants 9, 15.

Mitchell bt Gootzen 15, 13.

Johnson lost to IJsselstein -9, -12.

Sewell bt Bonants 12, 15.

Girls — England 3, Netherlands 2

A. Mitchell lost to J. Noordam 20, -17, -21.

M. Ludi bt J. v. Maarsseveen 15, 21.

Ludi/Mitchell bt Maarsseveen/Noordam 16, 19.

Ludi bt Noordam 15, -12, 18.

Mitchell lost to Maarsseveen -18, -21.

International Round Robins

Boys

M. Mitchell bt R. Jongmans 13, 13; bt W. IJsselstein 9, 20; bt C. Sewell 20, -16, 21; bt H. Gootzen 11, 8; bt D. Johnson 12, 19; bt J. Bonants 20, 11; bt R. Quadt 14, 16; bt H. Postuma 6, 16.

C. Sewell bt Postuma 8, 17; bt Quadt 8, 9; bt Bonants 15, 15; bt IJsselstein 13, 17; bt Jongmans -16, 12, 11; bt Gootzen 12, -18, 18; lost to Mitchell -20, 16, -21; lost to Johnson -21, -13.

D. Johnson bt Jongmans 18, 18; bt Postuma 20, -20, 19; bt Bonants 12, -17, 15; bt Sewell 21, 13; bt Quadt 17, 17; lost to Gootzen -17, -11; lost to IJsselstein -21, -19; lost to Mitchell -12, -19.

Final placings:—

Boys		W	L
1. M. Mitchell	.....	8	0
2. C. Sewell	.....	6	2
3. W. IJsselstein	.....	5	3
4. D. Johnson	.....	5	3
5. H. Gootzen	.....	3	5
6. J. Bonants	.....	3	5
7. R. Jongmans	.....	3	5
8. R. Quadt	.....	2	6
9. H. Postuma	.....	1	7

Girls		W	L
1. M. Ludi	.....	7	1
2. A. Mitchell	.....	7	1
3. J. v. Maarsseveen	.....	5	3
4. A. Snyders	.....	4	4
5. J. Noordam	.....	4	4
6. A. de Ruiter	.....	3	5
7. J. Willems	.....	3	5
8. C. v. Gasteren	.....	2	6
9. W. v. Ryswyck	.....	1	7

Girls
M. Ludi bt Gasteren 13, 16; bt Maarsseveen -15, 15, 16; bt Mitchell 19, -16, 25; bt Ryswyck -14, 13, 21; bt Snyders -19, 9, 13; bt de Ruiter -15, 17, 10; bt Willems -18, 17, 18; lost to Noordam -11, 11, -17.

A. Mitchell bt Gasteren 14, -17, 18; bt Willems 12, 13; bt Ryswyck 16, -16, 12; bt Noordam 9, 10; bt de Ruiter 16, 15; bt Snyders 18, 14; bt Maarsseveen 21, 12; lost to Ludi -19, 16, -25.

COMMONWEALTH T.T. CHAMPIONSHIPS CLASSIFICATION LIST JANUARY 1975

TEAM

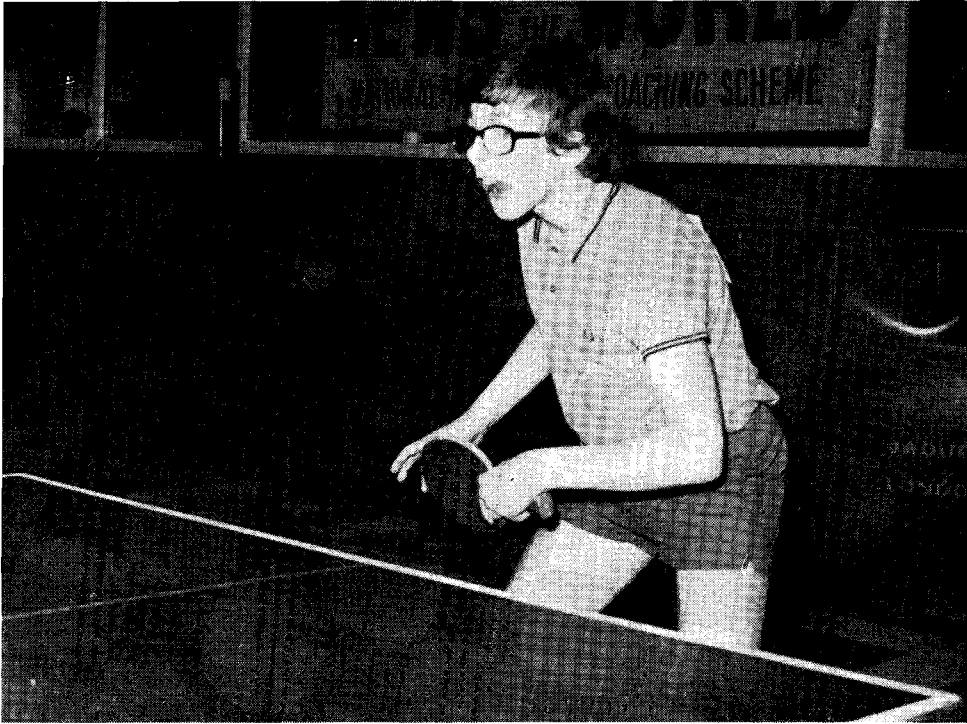
Men	Women
1. ENGLAND	1. ENGLAND
2. AUSTRALIA	2. INDIA
3. INDIA	3. CANADA
4. NIGERIA	4. SINGAPORE
5. CANADA	5. AUSTRALIA
6. SINGAPORE	6. NIGERIA
7. NEW ZEALAND	7. NEW ZEALAND
8. KENYA	
9. FIJI	
10. PAPUA— (New Guinea)	

INDIVIDUAL

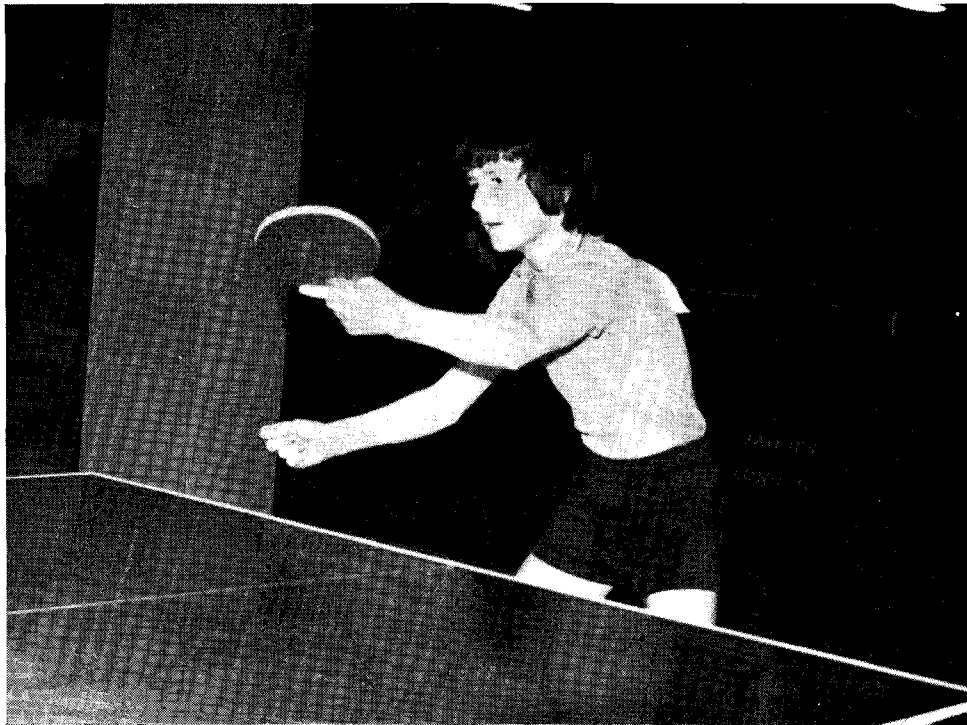
Men
1. Trevor Taylor (England)
2. Nicky Jarvis (England)
2. Denis Neale (England)
4. Paul Pinkewich (Australia)
5. Desmond Douglas (England)
6. Charlie Wuvanich (Australia)
7. Niraj Bajaj (India)
8. Errol Caetano (Canada)
9. Stephen Knapp (Australia)
10. Manjit Dua (India)
11. G. Jagannath (India)
12. Babatunde Obisanya (Nigeria)
13. Chia Chong Boon (Singapore)
14. Lekan Fenuyi (Nigeria)
15. Tan Kai Kok (Singapore)
16. Sudhir Phadke (India)

Women
1. Jill Hammersley (England)
2. Linda Howard (England)
3. Carole Knight (England)
4. Shailaja Salokhe (India)
5. Karenza Mathews (England)
6. Violetta Nesukaitis (Canada)
7. Mariann Domanokos (Canada)
8. Indu Puri (India)
9. Tan Kek Hiang (Singapore)
10. Peck Noi Hwoy (Singapore)
11. Leanne Morrow (Australia)
12. Helen Morrow (Australia)
13. Ethel Jacks (Nigeria)
14. Ann Stonestreet (New Zealand)
15. Christine Little (Australia)
16. Olawunmi Majekodunmi (Nigeria)

TWO FOR THE FUTURE



Graham Sandley, from Potters Bar.



Sam Harmer, of Leighton Buzzard.

End of Season Junior Rankings

Meeting in London on May 28, the National Selection Committee compiled an end-of-season Junior Ranking List, which reads (previous positions in brackets):—

Boys

1. Paul Day (Cambs) (1)
2. Andrew Barden (Middx) (2)
3. Mark Mitchell (Middx) (3)
4. Robert Potton (Essex) (6)
5. Chris Sewell (Gloucs) (4)
6. Douglas Johnson (Warwks) (5)
7. Martin Shuttle (Surrey) (10)
8. Les Eadie (Essex) (7)
9. David Iszatt (Essex) (12)
10. Chris Rogers (Leics) (11)
11. Maxwell Crimmins (Surrey) (15)
12. Trevor Burrows (Ches) (—)
13. Nigel Hallows (Lancs) (8)
14. Stephen Souter (Cleve) (9)
15. David Reeves (Berks) (A)
16. Devinder Sehmbi (Essex) (A)
17. Mike Harrison (Yorks) (A)
18. Keith Richardson (Cambs) (A)
19. Kevin Caldon (Essex) (17)
20. Steven Boxall (Surrey) (A)

Group "A"

G. Alden (Nthts), A. Bawden (Ex) (19), B. Baxter (Yks), K. Beadsley (Yks), A. Clark (Nthld), I. Collins (Kent), M. Douglas (Sx), K. Edwards (Wilts), I. Girdler (Sy) (16), P. Hunt (Ex), I. Kenyon (Kent), A. Kilburn (Cleve), D. Newman (Ex) (18), K. Paxton (Dur), J. Proffitt (Herts), G. Pugh (Sx), C. Reed (Cum), G. Roberts (Berks) (20), I. Smith (Lancs) (14), P. Trott (Berks) and R. Wiley (Cleve) (13).

Cadets

1. K. Beadsley (Yks) (1)
2. J. James (Mx) (2)
3. A. Proffitt (Herts) (6)
4. B. Tyler (Mx) (5)
5. D. Bennett (Nfk) (3)
6. I. Plummer (Cle) (4)
7. G. Sandley (Mx) (8)
8. C. Wilson (Ha) (13)
9. J. Naser (Yks) (9)
10. D. Yallop (Dby) (7)
11. M. Laird (Cle) (—)
12. R. Bergemann (Ha) (—)
13. S. Harmer (Beds) (14)
14. A. Stonnell (Ex) (10)
15. A. Bottomley (Yks) (11)
16. G. Inch (Du) (12)

Girls

1. Melody Ludi (Yorks) (1)
2. Angela Mitchell (Middx) (4)
3. Caroline Reeves (Berks) (3)
4. Suzanne Hunt (Lincs) (2)
5. Angela Tierney (Cleve) (5)
6. Sandra Sutton (Essex) (7)
7. Beverley Green (Warks) (8)
8. Karen Witt (Berks) (12)
9. Julie Reading (Hants) (A)
10. Kay Greenhough (Surrey) (10)
11. Julie McLean (Yorks) (9)
12. Susan Dove (Middx) (11)

Group "A"

B. Chamberlain (Hu), J. Champion (Mx), N. Carne (Cl), K. Cropper (La), A. Gordon (Berks), K. Groves (Wks), E. Lamb (Devon), J. Mitchell (Sy), J. New (Dorset), H. Robinson (Cl), J. Purslow (Berks), M. Sangster (Mx), J. Skipp (Cl), M. Smith (Berks), L. Wales (Ha) (6) and J. Williams (Cl).

Cadets

1. A. Tierney (Cl) (1)
2. K. Witt (Berks) (2)
3. A. Gordon (Berks) (3)
4. M. Smith (Berks) (4)
5. H. Robinson (Cl) (6)
6. J. Purslow (Berks) (7)
7. L. Hryszko (Yks) (5)
8. J. Douglas (Berks) (—)
9. M. Wallis (Nthts) (8)
10. M. Reeves (Mx) (9)

BUCKS. CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Slough)

M.S.: D. BERRY (Chiltern) bt T. Clark (Bletchley) 8, 9.

W.S.: J. WILLIAMS (Slough) bt S. Lines (Bletchley) 9, 8.

M.D.: J. COOPER/J. LEITH (High Wycombe) bt P. Leckie/F. Walker (Slough) 17, 10.

W.D.: S. JAMES/L. O'DONOGHUE (Bletchley) bt K. Fry (Slough)/Williams 13, -16, 16.

B.S.: C. LESLIE (Aylesbury) bt D. Good (Aylesbury) -19, 8, 18.

G.S.: LINES bt C. Bahryj (Slough) 13, 15.

J.D.: S. HARMER/C. LESLIE (Aylesbury) bt Good/Lines 14, -11, 19.

V.S.: P. LECKIE (Slough) bt I. Gough (Chiltern) 13 17.

IMPENDING MOVE

Brian Burn, England's National Trainer/Coach, hopes to be in residence at No. 2 Birchmead Close, St. Albans, Herts, as from July 1st, 1975.

MAPSPORT DAGENHAM OPEN

A SMASH HIT
by Bernard Chatterley

Redbridge Sports Centre was the scene, over the weekend of May 10-11, of the best-ever Dagenham Open Championships. Re-labelled the Mapsport Dagenham Open, due to the introduction of a new sponsor, the event goes from strength to strength.

As forecast, **Istvan Korpa**, of Yugoslavia, won the men's singles title and in so doing made many friends with his style of play and his attitude to the game.

The quarter-final line-up in the M.S. was Abotaleb Najafi, an Iranian Swaythling Cup player versus Ian Horsham, with the Essex player qualifying for a semi-final place against David Brown, who was the victor, over 3 exciting games, against Scotland's Richard Yule. In the other half of the draw, Andy Barden came through for his semi-final place against Korpa with a fine win over Paul Day, which followed on another exciting battle in which he overcame Kevin Caldon.

In the last quarter Mark Mitchell defeated John Hilton and faced Korpa, who had come through with a comfortable win over Nigel Eckersley, and how well the Middlesex youngster played, forcing the Yugoslav at least to third gear in a magnificent set which had the crowd roaring their approval.

The first semi was a repeat of the Essex Closed with Brown facing Horsham and a real nail-biter this turned out to be with Brown edging through at 23-21 in the third. Barden got off to a flyer against Korpa who subse-

quently moved into overdrive to win at 21-4 in the decider!

And so to the final where Brown, clearly intent on giving the great Yugoslav a run for his money, got off to a tremendous start, only for Korpa to come back to take the second and, after a few early set-backs, gained a huge lead in the third. Obviously determined to make a game of it, the Essex skipper stormed back, only for Korpa, after some tremendous rallies, to take the title.

The women's singles also saw some excellent play culminating in a fine final with **Shelagh Hession** beating Janet Hellaby. Shelagh took her second title in the W.D. where, partnered by Carole Downer, Essex colleagues Janet Hellaby and Elaine Tarten were beaten.

The M.D. final was an all-Essex affair, with Brown and Horsham accounting for Les Eadie and David Iszatt, having put down the challenge of Korpa/Caldon and Yule/John McNee. The beaten finalists had done their share in ousting Aldrich/Jemmett, Kitchener/Tan and, in the semis, English champs Barden and Day.

Both Junior events provided sparkling table tennis for the 400-plus crowd, with the boys' title going to Mark Mitchell with a win over Bob Potton, and sister Angela making it a double with final victory over Cadet Karen Witt in the G.S. Results:—

M.S.—Quarter-finals

A. Barden (Middx) bt P. Day (Cambs) 10, -14, 16.

I. Korpa (Yugo) bt M. Mitchell (Middx) 19, -17, 15.

I. Horsham (Essex) bt A. Najafi (Iran) 14, 15.

D. Brown (Essex) bt R. Yule (Scot) 19, -20, 15.

Semi-finals

Korpa bt Barden -17, 18, 4.

Brown bt Horsham 18, -13, 21.

Final

KORPA bt Brown -17, 15, 15.

W.S.—Quarter-finals

S. Hession (Essex) bt E. Tarten (Essex) 7, -19, 15.

S. Dove (Middx) w.o. v J. Fuller (Essex) Scratched.

A. Mitchell (Middx) bt K. Witt (Berks) -12, J. Hellaby (Essex) bt C. Colgate (Middx) 7, 8.

Semi-finals

Hession bt Dove 18, 19.

Hellaby bt Mitchell 17, 22.

Final

HESSION bt HELLABY 24, -18, 19.

M.D.—Final

BROWN/HORSHAM bt L. Eadie/D. Iszatt (Essex) -14, 18, 20.

W.D.—Final

C. DOWNER (Derbys)/HESSION bt Hellaby/Tarten 8, -20, 18.

X.D.—Final

BARDEN/MITCHELL bt B. Kean (Ches)/Hellaby -18, 10, 10.

V.S.—Final

P. D'ARCY (Ches) bt R. Herber (Essex) 15, 15.

B.S.—Quarter-finals

K. Caldon (Essex) bt J. Proffitt (Herts) 17, 10.

R. Potton (Essex) bt Iszatt 6, 5.

Mitchell bt Eadie 19, 11.

I. Kenyon (Kent) bt G. Hamilton (Northants) 18, 7.

Semi-finals

Potton bt Caldon 10, 19.

Mitchell bt Kenyon 14, 7.

Final

MITCHELL bt Potton -15, 10, 18.

G.S.—Semi-finals

Witt bt G. Ballard 10, 14.

Mitchell bt C. Colegate 19, 16.

Final

MITCHELL bt Witt -16, 19, 11.

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Letters

to the Editor

CHANCES DIMINISHED

After reading the issues of "Table Tennis News" for the months of January and April, 1975, it appears to me that, unless an individual has a good press officer or publicity-conscious coach, their chances of playing for England on ranking merit are much diminished. The instances I refer to involve both Susan Lisle and Melody Ludi, who, after publicity in the respective issues of the magazine, have subsequently been selected for a national team. Although, having seen the slovenly presentation and appearance of officially selected England teams at recent National Open events, selection for present day teams seems a doubtful honour and makes me ashamed of my connection with English table tennis. If the teams were dressed smartly it may help to improve their results.

I have refrained from writing on the subject of national junior selection before as I am in the difficult position of being both parent and coach, but as the opportunity for selection has now been foregone by choice, due to a future career, and not the attainment of the age limit as a junior, I feel that I am now justified in putting pen to paper with regard to my daughter, Linda Wales. I write this in my capacity as a County player and a 1-star Diploma Coach of 9 years standing, and not as a mother.

In conjunction with my husband, also a former County player, I have coached and guided Linda since she was 9 years old. In season 1971-72 she was the outright winner of the National Under-13 competition, without dropping a game, and she entered all the junior open tournaments held during that season throughout the country, and, in her age group, was acknowledged as the undisputed leading player of that group. She had one unacknowledged outing in the 3rd junior team at the English Junior Open at Teesside at the end of that season, unfortunately drawn to meet the strong Swedish first team in the initial round of the team competition, thus hardly providing a test of ability. In the intervening period she has been formally invited to only one junior training camp, this being at the start of 1975, but has been systematically ignored for the rest of the time. At the end of season 1971-72 she was the female equivalent of the leading boys of that era, Andrew Barden and Paul Day, and one does not need to be reminded of the constant opportunities afforded to both those players.

Since the close of that season she maintained sufficient progress throughout the ensuing period and in season 1973-74 entered the junior ranking list at No. 13 for the first time, and finishing that season at the higher placing of No. 9, but at all times going up the ranking list and not in and out, as in the case of Melody Ludi. Last season she reached the semi-final of the English Junior Closed, after putting out Judith Walker, the No. 4 seeded player in the quarter-final, but this did not enhance her No. 9 ranking after the event.

However, quite illogically, Melody Ludi, who was eliminated at the quarter-final stage in that event, was immediately elevated to a No. 4 ranking. Linda has never lost to Angela Tierney, who appears to be involved in most domestic and foreign events, and she vies equally with Angela Mitchell on results, another player who seems to be given the advantages for living in the London area. Since securing a place in the ranking list, Linda has lost to only one other junior player who was not ranked, and that was Beverley Green at the disastrous English Junior Closed of last December, after travelling to Loughborough overnight from a County match at Southamp-

ton. Conversely, from the result of this one tournament, Suzanne Hunt, whose previous tournament results have never been spectacular, appears to have found immediate favour and a place in the England team.

With reference to Mr. Hill's comments I must state that players are not chosen generally from the South of England, but more specifically they are selected from London and a certain area of the North East, as the constant omission of Caroline Reeves, another unacknowledged southern sufferer, will serve as proof. This year the juniors have not been entered in any competitive event in their own right until the end of this season, and therefore rankings at the beginning have counted for nothing, if indeed they count at all. It appears that, through lack of forethought in previous seasons, players who were good enough in Cadet days, but didn't get their chance, are now losing out to the present day Cadet age group because of a change of policy, and are still not getting the chance to which their previous experience entitles them.

The classic comment made by the Chairman of the Selectors in reply to a question put at the 1972 E.T.T.A. A.G.M., that there were no girl cadets good enough to represent England at the European Youth Championships in Denmark that year, is surely proof of the lack of attention and complete ignorance of the position shown by those who should have known better.

The list of Linda's successes and achievements over the years in all competitions is impressive, and, apart from the disastrous English Junior Closed mentioned earlier, in all junior tournaments which she has entered she has advanced to at least the order of her seeding, which is not a bad achievement for a girl who has no good local opposition and little practice against better class players. She has defeated every woman player in Sussex, where she lives, and in Hampshire, for whom she plays, and every boy and girl in both counties. I have continually requested advice with regard to where she can obtain suitable practice and the most popular answer appears to be "move home to London."

This ludicrous answer presupposes that there is nothing else but table tennis, but livelihoods have to be earned, from which source the finance to participate in table tennis activities is derived, and this does not fit into moving home to London. It is well known that Linda's style of play does not suit the coaches of today, but I still consider that the style of a player should be based on their temperament and capabilities, with the teaching of an all-round game, the strengths strengthened and concentrated upon in match play, and the weaknesses improved upon in practice until they have been eliminated. The game to play is the one to win, assuming this to be the ultimate objective in competition. The best woman player from England at the present time is basically a defensive player with the ability to attack at the right opportunity, but in junior play it appears that one must conform to the robots of the present day generation or be summarily dismissed from consideration.

It seems to me that the last 7 years have been wasted in the attempt to attain national status and beyond, and if ever a player was de-motivated, it must be Linda. The English Junior Open was being held for the third year running in Worthing, a matter of minutes from Linda's home, and England had again not seen fit to include her in the team event in her own home town, and so give her the chance she richly deserves. Her experience on the occasions she has met home internationals has been good and she was runner-up in the Scottish Open to Grace McKay in the junior girls' event in March, playing with a black eye and having just had stitches removed, and having beaten both Patrice Fleming and Elaine Craig during the course of the competition.

This may sound a case of sour grapes, and most probably will be taken as such by those who have not suffered a similar experience, but I must stress that as a girl who has not been given the opportunities afforded to the

likes of Angela Mitchell, Angela Tierney, Paul Day, Andrew Barden, and others living in the more acceptable areas, one can only conjecture how good she might have become, and unfortunately this will now never be known because of the lack of interest of those charged with the fortunes of juniors.

In the earlier part of this letter I commented that, in Linda's case, the opportunity for selection has, by choice, now gone, and that she has turned to her other love of music, where, happily, efforts are appreciated, but let this experience of a disheartened and disillusioned player serve as a warning that England must look to all those players with potential ability and ensure that opportunity be given for competition against stronger opposition to bring out the best in them, and not to select, and rely on the usual few from the favourable areas who have the opportunities in any case, in abundance, on their own doorstep.

P. WALES (Mrs.),
1-Star Diploma Coach.

Laybrook,
60 Nelson Road,
West Worthing,
Sussex, BN12 6EN.

THE PLAYER IS THE GAME

Reading John Corser's article on the "Game is for Players," in the April issue, I would like to mention that I agree with everything he says, and would like to add that much more should be done to help the player, and not to put as many obstacles as possible in his way.

There are so many things which could be done to improve the game for the players and the paying public (if we have any).

Most tournament venues are very bad, without changing facilities; they could be improved considerably so that the player would look forward to playing. Social functions could be arranged in conjunction with a lot of table tennis events, which would help get the non-player to come as a spectator.

Prize money should be raised and given to players reaching the quarter-final stage or even the last 16; this would make it feel more worthwhile for the player to travel.

Most important—I cannot understand why all tournaments start with the singles. Surely the best way to run a tournament to get the best results and the best play is to start with the mixed doubles followed by the men's and ladies' doubles and then finally the singles. This would help all players to get used to the conditions, get warmed up and see the ball for the most important event—the singles.

It would also help the tournament as more players are likely to stay and watch the finals. I realise that conditions and prize money can not be improved without funds. Extra funds can be received from various sources, such as being sponsored, advertising and, of course, raising the entry fees in line with other sports. At the moment we are paying 1955 entry fees for a lot of tournaments and club subscriptions, with conditions to match.

BARRY MEISEL.

Parkside (World Wide)
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The Lodge,
Woodcroft,
Mottingham Lane,
London, SE9 4RT.

ONE SWALLOW AT LEAST!

I enclose cheque value £2 to renew my subscription for "Table Tennis News" 1975-76 season.

Whatever the magazine costs it is still very good value, and the only means of keeping up-to-date with the sport, since the majority of the newspapers hardly ever print a line about our sport.

FRANK JACKSON.

1 Elms Avenue,
London, N10 2JN.

CONCERN

I, and many others, are becoming increasingly concerned about the behaviour of many players, at all levels of the game.

Apart from the obvious complaints about foul language, which upsets spectators as well as opponents, I am personally more concerned about "gamesmanship", or, to give it its proper name, CHEATING; interruptions in play almost every point for towelling away non-existent perspiration, particularly around the 18-all stage, acted disputes with umpires merely to distract an opponent, and kicking the table, are just three of the major points which are becoming more and more obvious in our sport.

Correct services appear to have become a thing of the past; off-hand I can think of very few of our leading players who habitually serve correctly.

For all of these complaints there are several people with whom the fault lies. They are: COACHES, TEAM CAPTAINS and UMPIRES. Coaches can teach their charges to play and behave correctly, team captains can insist on their playing and behaving fairly and umpires can enforce the laws of the game.

Another matter which causes unease is the appearance of our International teams; a glance at the cover of the latest "Scottish Bulletin," which shows a motley collection of individuals, can invoke no feeling of pride in our players, and if there is no pride in them, there can be no support for them.

BERNARD CHATTERLEY.

319a High Road,
Chadwell Heath,
Essex, RM6 6AX.

QUITE FAMOUS

Having received my April copy of the magazine, I have found this interesting, as always.

However, on reading my letter on page 32, headed "Memories Recalled," something has gone wrong with the second paragraph on "World Championships", 7th line, as 12 words have been completely missed out by the printer! The missing words are:—

... "dizzy heights! Heksner I remember especially well, as he used a tremendous" ...

These words appeared after "Perhaps they were put off by the" and before "wide-bladed, wooden bat". Might it be possible for you to put in a correction, as it could be construed that Frischer or myself used the wide-bladed, wooden bat! Actually, in those far-off days, Heksner was quite famous for his tremendous bat.

It was nice of you to publish my letter and I hope some of my fellow ancients found it interesting.

LESLIE M. BROMFIELD.

La Folie,
76 Old Fort Road,
Shoreham Beach,
Sussex, BN4 5HA.

MIDLAND LEAGUE NOTES

by **RICHARD HABGOOD**

WELL DONE LEICESTER

Despite losing to Birmingham in their last match of the season, Leicester "A" took the 1st Division of the Men's Section from, yes, Birmingham "A".

Well done Leicester; your ability to find three such loyal players as Paul Randell, Graham Hughes and Chris Rogers does you proud and is the complete answer for success.

With elation on one side, despondancy must come into the Leicester camp, for their "B" team are unfortunately relegated to the 2nd division. Oxford "A", too, join Leicester "B" and they are replaced by Wolverhampton "B" and Walsall, who occupy the winner and runner-up positions of the 2nd division. Walsall's record is truly remarkable, for they have reached the top-flight after only two seasons and with the same three players. To Chris Davies, Steve Cartwright and Dave Taylor, I'm sure your League are very proud of you—to lose just one match and only 40 sets from 15 matches played is fantastically consistent—well done.

Things still seem to be going wrong for Cheltenham and West Bromwich—relegated from Division One last year, they both face 3rd Division table tennis next season—relegation in successive years is never very pleasant.

Nottingham "B" and Birmingham "C" head the 3rd Division with Notts taking the title due mainly to the impressive form of Rod Corbett and Nick Kirkland. In fact Notts "C" team almost made it a happy double, for they were only denied promotion by Birmingham "C", for whom Alan Cotton had an excellent season.

In Division Four, Wolverhampton "C" and Shrewsbury gain promotion, having dominated the division all season. They replace Hinckley "B" and Oxford "B", unfortunate wooden-spoonists of the Third Division.

As expected, Birmingham "A", Gloucester and Hereford top the Junior Section with these teams taking the 1st, 2nd, 3rd divisions respectively.

For two successive seasons Gloucester's Bill Dawe has kept a 100% record, which is particularly creditworthy; so too, are the similar records of Dougie Johnson and Richard Mountford (Birmingham "A") and Stephen Kenny (Leicester).

In the Veterans' Section Oxford "A" took the 1st Division title with a superior sets average over Nottingham. With Leicester and West Bromwich relegated after just one season at the top, I hope it does not deter Leamington and Nuneaton, who have fairly romped away and topped the second division. Leamington, in fact, take the title with a 100% record.

Birmingham "A" took the Women's Division with mighty West Bromwich only managing to finish fourth. Derby, early season victors over Birmingham "A", must really kick themselves for their draw with Wolverhampton robbed them of the title when it was theirs for the taking.

HOW TO WIN A WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

A True Story!

By **LASZLO BELLAK**

(former Hungarian International)

In 1938, two months before the World Championships in London, I wrote to my friend, Victor Barna, to find me a mixed doubles partner. He wrote me back that the leading English girl players were taken, but he found me a partner. Her name was Wendy Woodhead and we may go a few rounds, at least I would get some practice out of it.

When I arrived in London, I met Miss Woodhead. She was a tall girl, about 5' 8", which did not fit exactly my 5' 5" height.

When the matches started, our first round was against Barna and Miss Emden, one of the favourites. To my great surprise, we won in three straight. I felt a little bad about it to beat out Victor from one event, when we had no chance of winning. But somehow we kept on winning and during the matches I noticed that our game fitted perfectly together.

She was top spinning from both sides. This kept our opponents on the defensive and I was able to put the ball away. (At that time I was very good in that!). So I had a talk with her and told her, "I don't care what kind of balls you get, you must topspin it back." This she did better and better as the matches progressed. As they say, to make the story short, we found ourselves in the finals of the World Championship, against the defending champions, Vana and Votrubicova, also Vana being the singles champion.

Well, we went five games, each pair winning when the man was serving to the woman. In the fifth I was hitting impossible shots and most of them good! My partner, Wendy, kept on top spinning like a machine, so we were 15-all and changing service, Vana serving to my girl, Wendy. For a second I was thinking what a shame, after all this work I will wind up with another runner-up world title. (Until then, I already had 6 or 7 such titles). But somehow we came to 19-all and Vana was serving to Wendy. Without any hesitation she drove the serve to the right side of the table!!! The next she smashed to the left and before I realised what happened this lovely big girl lifted me up in the air, kissed me, and we were WORLD CHAMPIONS.

This was the first time in table tennis history that an English girl won a world title and we got some ovation from the 10,000 people. Now I never saw Miss Woodhead before, and right after the tournament I came to the U.S.A. and I have not seen her since. If some of my friends in England knows her whereabouts, I would like to have her address. In 1977 I intend to play in the World Championship in Birmingham, and if she is well and willing, I would like to play with her again. Who knows ...

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

England's representatives for the European Youth Championships, being played in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, from August 4-10, have been chosen as follows:—

Boys: P. Day (Cambs), A. Barden (Mx) and Mark Mitchell (Mx).

Girls: Melody Ludi (Yorks) and Angela Mitchell (Mx).

Boy Cadets: Kevin Beadsley (Yks), Johann James (Mx).

Girl Cadets: Angela Mitchell (Mx) and Karen Witt (Berks).

Robert Potton (Essex) and Caroline Reeves (Berks) have been chosen as reserves who could, possibly, make the trip, if the necessary finance can be found.

The two non-playing captains are National Trainer//Coach Brian Burn and Selection Committee member Alan Ransome.

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Cor Du Buy/Alfred Reader National Under-13 Championships

by Ian R. Crickmer

Sixteen boys and sixteen girls duly assembled at Reading on Saturday, May 24, to contest the Cor Du Buy/Alfred Reader National U-13 Championships.

Out on top came Adam Proffitt (Barnets) and Alison Gordon (Reading), the respective runners-up being Graham Sandley (North Middlesex) and Mandy Smith (Newbury).

Only in a Preliminary Group set did Proffitt drop a game when losing -19 to Stephen Woodgate (Guildford), who was seen off 21-5 in the decider.

Alison Gordon romped through in straight games right up to the final, but here she was extended to the limit by her Berkshire colleague, Mandy Smith.

Full results:—

BOYS Preliminary Groups

Group A

Anthony Gamblen (Derby), Derrick Morgan (Gloucester), Adam Proffitt (Barnets), Stephen Woodgate (Guildford).

Proffitt bt Morgan 19, 15; bt Gamblen 11, 10; bt Woodgate 9, -19, 5.

Woodgate bt Gamblen 19, 12; bt Morgan -18, 14, 18.

Gamblen bt Morgan 7, -19, 16.

Group B

Richard Bergemann (Bournemouth), Sam

Harmer (Aylesbury), Mark Pugh (Shrewsbury), Ian Reed (Barrow).
Bergemann bt Reed -14, 19, 15; bt Harmer -13, 19, 18; bt Pugh 17, 4.

Harmer bt Pugh 13, 15; bt Reed 20, 12.
Reed bt Pugh -18, 14, 17.

Group C

Simon Hall (Leicester), Bryon Johnson (Reading), Michael Laird (Ormesby), Colin Wilson (Bournemouth).

Laird bt Hall 19, 18; bt Wilson -15, 11, 14; bt Johnson 11, 19.

Wilson bt Johnson 10, 13; bt Hall 13, 12.

Johnson bt Hall -16, 17, 17.

Group D

Terrence Dowsett (Chelmsford), Anthony O'Connor (Liverpool), Stuart Palmer (Bury St. Edmunds), Graham Sandley (North Middlesex).

Sandley bt Palmer 15, 10; bt O'Connor 17, 16; bt Dowsett 18, 10.

O'Connor bt Dowsett 15, -18, 13; bt Palmer 7, 11.

Dowsett bt Palmer 17, 14.

Second Stage Groups (Places 5 to 16)

Group E

Sam Harmer, Anthony O'Connor, Colin Wilson, Stephen Woodgate.

Wilton bt Harmer -18, 9, 10; bt Woodgate -19, 19, 3; bt O'Connor -8, 14, 14.

Woodgate bt O'Connor -18, 18, 16.

O'Connor bt Harmer 11, -9, 17.

Harmer bt Woodgate 10, 3.

5th Wilson; 6th Harmer (Games 3-2 on triple tie); 7th O'Connor (Games 3-3 on triple tie); 8th Woodgate (Games 2-3 on triple tie).

Group F

Terrence Dowsett, Anthony Gamblen, Bryon Johnson, Ian Reed.

Johnson bt Reed -8, 10, 18; bt Gamblen 20, 4; bt Dowsett 16, -21, 20.

Dowsett bt Gamblen 8, 12; bt Reed 14, 14.
Reed bt Camblen -20, 18, 14.

9th Johnson; 10th Dowsett; 11th Reed; 12th Gamblen.

Group G

Simon Hall, Derrick Morgan, Stuart Palmer, Mark Pugh.

Hall bt Pugh 14, -15, 17; bt Morgan 17, -18, 15.
Pugh bt Palmer -17, 18, 15; bt Morgan -23, 10, 15.

Palmer bt Morgan -17, 17, 15; bt Hall -15, 16, 19.

13th Hall (Points 113-109 on triple tie); 14th Pugh (Points 111-111 on triple tie); 15th Palmer (Points 111-115 on triple tie); 16th Morgan.

Semi-Finals

Proffitt bt Bergemann 16, 7.

Sandley bt Laird 15, 9.

Third Place

Laird bt Bergemann 9, 16.

Final

PROFFITT bt Sandley 15, 14.

1st Proffitt; 2nd Sandley; 3rd Laird; 4th Bergemann.

GIRLS

Preliminary Groups

Group H

Gillian Galloway (Lincoln), Alison Gordon (Reading), Gail Smith (Barrow), Pauline Townsend (Swindon).

Gordon bt Townsend 9, 8; bt Galloway 12, 14; bt Smith 15, 9.

Galloway bt Smith 21, 20; bt Townsend -18, 19, 15.

Townsend bt Smith -10, 14, 14.

Group J

Maxine Abbott (Barking), Sharon James (West Cornwall), Jill Purslow (Reading), Julie Revill (Leicester).

Purslow bt Revill 17, 15; bt Abbott 12, 6; bt James -18, 6, 12.

Abbott bt James 15, -17, 22; bt Revill 14, 6.
James bt Revill 16, 15.

Group K

Carol Colegate (Gravesend), Gillian Heath (Newbury), Mandy Reeves (North Acton), Helen Robinson (Middlesbrough).

Robinson bt Colegate -16, 12, 17; bt Heath 14, 6; bt Reeves 16, -17, 18.

Reeves bt Heath 12, 13; bt Colegate -19, 20, 19.
Colegate bt Heath -23, 11, 19.

Group L

Sarah Gilson (Poole), Sally Midgley (Bradford Schools), Melanie Ringrose (Hunts Central), Mandy Smith (Newbury).

Smith bt Gilson 16, 10; bt Midgley 14, 19; bt Ringrose 3, 16.

Gilson bt Ringrose 20, -8, 10; bt Midgley -16, 11, 12.

Ringrose bt Midgley 17, 17.

Second Stage Groups (Places 5 to 16)

Group M

Maxine Abbott, Gillian Galloway, Sarah Gilson, Mandy Reeves.

Abbott bt Reeves 11, 18; bt Gilson 11, 18; bt Galloway 16, 10.

Reeves bt Galloway 12, 20; bt Gilson 18, 13.
Galloway bt Gilson -12, 22, 25.

5th Abbott; 6th Reeves; 7th Galloway; 8th Reeves.

Group N

Carole Colegate, Sharon James, Melanie Ringrose, Pauline Townsend.

Colegate bt James 14, 7; bt Townsend 16, 19; bt Ringrose 17, 12.

James bt Ringrose 20, 19; bt Townsend -17, 14, 15.

Ringrose bt Townsend -11, 14, 19.

9th Colegate; 10th James; 11th Ringrose; 12th Townsend.

Group P

Gillian Heath, Sally Midgley, Julie Revill, Gail Smith.

Revill bt Heath 17, 11; bt Midgley 18, -17, 16; bt Smith 11, 15.

Heath bt Smith 18, 15; bt Midgley 14, 15.
Midgley bt Smith -20, 13, 19.

13th Revill; 14th Heath; 15th Midgley; 16th Smith.

Semi-finals

Gordon bt Purslow 19, 13.

M. Smith bt Robinson 16, 12.

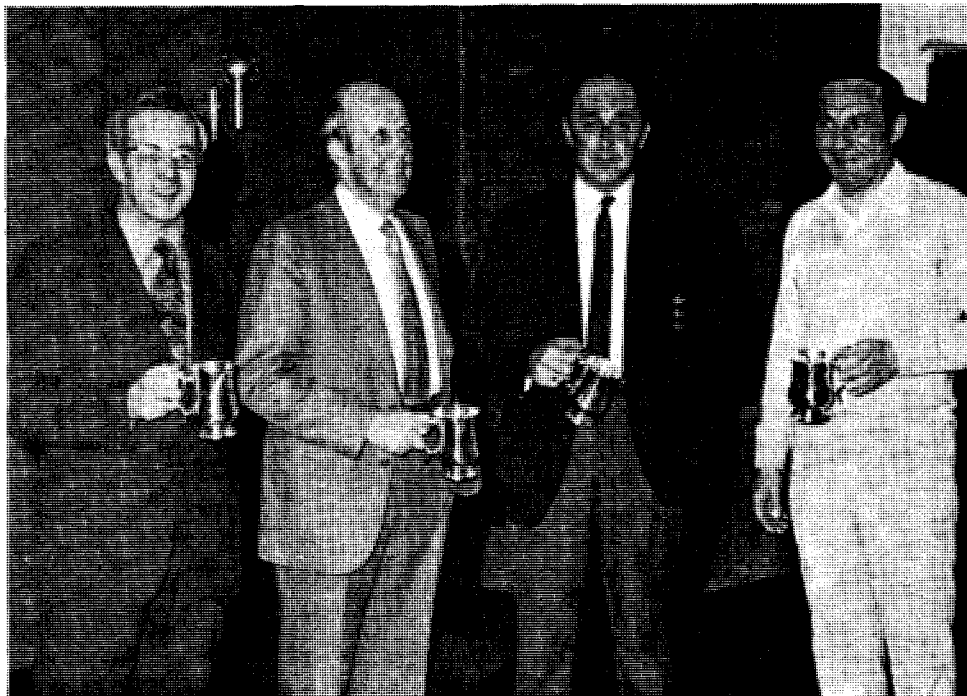
Third Place

Robinson bt Purslow 19, 20.

Final

GORDON bt Smith 17, -16, 17.

— Presentation at the Stiga National Club Championships —



Keith Ponting (Secretary), John Pike (Press Officer), John Devey (Referee) and Mike Lawless (E.T.T.A. Development Officer) display their tankards presented by Brian Hearn, Export Marketing Manager of the Stiga Company.

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SCOTTISH NEWS

by DENIS GEORGE

PIONEERING VENTURE

Our young players travelled down to North Wales to play a Junior International match against Wales at the Llay Royal British Legion, Wrexham, on May 10. This match was in the nature of a pioneering venture on the part of the T.T.A.W. to bring International Table Tennis to this part of Wales for the first time. Our thanks go out to all those who gave us a real Welsh welcome and made it a very enjoyable weekend for us all. The match was honoured by the presence of several local civic dignitaries, including Mr. Morgan Jones, the Mayor of Wrexham Maelor, and the Lady Chairman of the Clwyd District Council.

As some of our top juniors were participating in the Dagenham Open, the opportunity was taken to give valuable experience to some promising youngsters from lower down the ranking list. One of these, Brian Grundy, of West Dunbarton, proved to be the star of the Scottish team, winning his singles against Gwyn Griffiths (brother of Alan, the Welsh No. 1) in fine style and, with Tom Devers, of Glasgow, won his doubles against John Hook and Stephen Strange, of Rhyl. John Moir (Aberdeen) won his singles against Hook and that was the measure of our success. The Welsh girls, Julie Ralphs and Pat Allen, were too strong for the Scots and won all their games, but Elaine Craig (Glasgow) only gave best to Julie after a hard-hitting three-setter. The captains were Len Elias (Wales) and Ian Dunbar (Scotland). The excellent match arrangements were handled by Roy Williams, of Rhyl. No doubt after the success of this effort Wrexham will see more International events in the future.

Results:—

Wales 6, Scotland 3

Steve Strange bt Tom Devers 10, 13.
Gwyn Griffiths lost to Brian Grundy 18, -18, -21.
Pat Allen bt Carol Dalrymple 12, 10.
Colin Rees/Gary Owen bt John Moir/Earl Black 9, 21.
Julie Ralphs bt Elaine Craig -18, 11, 16.
John Hook/Strange lost to Devers/Grundy -19, -14.
Ralphs/Allen bt Craig/Dalrymple 10, 13.
Rees bt Black 14, 15.
Hook lost to Moir -15, 15, -19.

RANKING LIST — APRIL, 1975

Men

- Richard Yule (London)
- Robert Kerr (Edinburgh)
- John Wilson (Glasgow)
- John McNee (Cheshire)
- Ram Bhalla (Glasgow)
- Patrick Forker (Edinburgh)
- Jim Graham (Glasgow)
- Archie McCulloch (Glasgow)
- David Fraser (London)
- Russell Brown (Glasgow)
- Charles Matthew (Aberdeen)
- Alan Matthew (Aberdeen)
- Graham Keys (Glasgow)
- Brian Morgan (Aberdeen)
- Michael Thomson (Aberdeen)
- Cameron Lang (Glasgow)

Women

- Elaine Smith (Edinburgh)
- Patrice Fleming (Glasgow)
- Grace McKay (Edinburgh)
- Elaine Craig (Glasgow)
- Mabel Neish (Dundee)
- Moir Brown (Glasgow)
- Margaret Cuthbertson (Grangem'th)

Group "A"

Carol Dalrymple (Falkirk)
Margaret English (Dunblane)
Eleanor Hardie (Falkirk)
Abigail Harress (Falkirk)
Jackie Meadows (Glasgow)
Linda Powell (Dumfries)

Junior Boys (Under 17)

- Alan Matthew (Aberdeen)
- Russell Brown (Glasgow)
- John Moir (Aberdeen)
- Alan Alexander (Lanark)
- Earl Black (Edinburgh)
- Tom Devers (Glasgow)
- Anwar Majid (Edinburgh)
- Brian Grundy (W. Dunbarton)
- Brian McKinley (W. Dunbarton)
- Ian Donnelly (Glasgow)
- Willy Lochhead (Glasgow)
- David Fisher (Lanark)
- Willy Loch (Edinburgh)
- Gary Allan (Aberdeen)
- Michael Stuart (Aberdeen)
- Graham Lundie (Lanark)

Group "A"

Gordon Aien (Edinburgh)
Walter Clarkson (Falkirk)
Kenny McLean (Glasgow)
Gordon Meehan (Fife)
Keith Rodger (Edinburgh)
Malcolm Smith (W. Dunbarton)
Fraser Stewart (Glasgow)

Group "B"

Colin Harkins (Grangemouth)
Gary Mackenzie (W. Dunbarton)
Matthew Wallace (Dumfries)

Junior Girls (Under 17)

- Grace McKay (Edinburgh)
- Elaine Craig (Glasgow)
- Margaret Cuthbertson (Grangem'th)
- Carol Dalrymple (Falkirk)
- Eleanor Hardie (Falkirk)
- Abigail Harress (Falkirk)

Cadet Boys (Under 14)

- David McIlroy (Glasgow)

Cadet Girls (Under 14)

- Carol Dalrymple (Falkirk)
- Eleanor Hardie (Falkirk)
- Abigail Harress (Falkirk)

NOTE.—The Committee hopes that next season Associations organising Open Tournaments will include CADET events; the publishing of CADET Tournament Points and Ranking Lists will encourage Under-14's to enter these events.

YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Tony Ross

CHAMPION HAZELWOOD

Although played some time ago, the results of the **Leeds Closed** have only just filtered through to me. Yorkshire's No. 4 junior, Steve Hazelwood, took both men's and boys' singles titles, beating Nicky Davies in the final and Alan Jones in the semi-final of the men's, and Andrew Metcalfe in the final of the boys'. Former county player, Lynda Sutton, was the women's singles winner, and the girls' title went to Cathy Howarth. In their Carter Cup semi-final, the Leeds boys went down 2-5 to Leicester.

The men's singles in the **Harrogate Closed** went, for the first time, to Peter Campkin, with a final victory over Vic Smith. With John Troughton, Campkin also won the men's doubles. On his birthday, too!

In the **Sheffield Closed**, David Rayner retained his title by overcoming Derrick Marples, after convincingly beating top county junior, Brian Baxter, in the semis, at which stage Marples had put out Mike Hoy. However, Baxter held on to his boys' title by beating Barnsley junior Jeff Beecroft. Gloria Stocks was the women's singles winner, the beaten finalist being Lindsey Mellor, who took the girls' singles title.

The county Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 25, 1975, at the York County Hospital Recreation Hall, commencing at 7 p.m.

The final top positions in the Yorkshire League were as follows:—

Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Huddersfield I	8	7	1	0	60	19	15
Bradford I	8	5	1	2	51	29	11
Sheffield I	8	4	2	2	50	30	10

Division Two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Doncaster I	8	7	1	0	69	11	15
Hull II	8	4	3	1	45	35	11
Harrogate I	8	4	2	2	48	32	10

Division Three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds II	8	8	0	0	60	20	16
Doncaster II	8	7	0	1	49	31	14
Huddersfield II	8	4	1	3	47	33	9

Division Four

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Harrogate II	9	7	2	0	62	28	16
York III	9	7	2	0	60	30	16
Barnsley III	9	7	1	1	63	27	15

Division Five

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dewsbury II	8	8	0	0	74	6	16
Dewsbury III	8	7	0	1	55	25	14
Castleford & P. II	8	5	0	3	53	27	10

Division One Junior

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds I	7	6	0	1	51	12	12
Hull I	7	6	0	1	49	14	12

Division Two Junior

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds II	7	6	0	1	44	19	12
Barnsley	7	5	0	2	46	17	10
Hull III	7	5	0	2	39	24	10

Veterans' Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barnsley I	10	10	0	0	78	12	20
Bradford I	10	9	0	1	59	31	18
Leeds	10	8	0	2	65	25	16

Women's Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bradford	8	8	0	0	68	12	16
Leeds	8	5	1	2	44	36	11
York	8	4	2	2	49	31	10
Sheffield	8	5	0	3	43	37	10

DEVON NOTES

by Keith Ponting

DEATH OF R. C. HURFORD

For the second time running I very much regret having to report the death of another leading figure in the Exeter League. The League's Life-President and a Vice-President of the E.T.T.A., Reginald Clement Hurford, passed away on 20th May, at the age of 81. Mr. Hurford formed the Exeter League in 1913 and has been connected with its affairs ever since. Although not enjoying good health for some time, it was, nevertheless, a shock to hear of his passing after a major operation on a broken hip as a result of a fall. Mr. Hurford was also connected with other local sports and was a member and patron of the Y.M.C.A. for many years. He was a most kind and generous man—a gentleman in every way. I enjoyed his company very much. We often talked about our sport and the way it was developing and the changes which took place over the years. He had many souvenirs, including the original minutes of the first meeting to form the Exeter League.

It is often said that behind every man in public life there must be a good woman. This was certainly the case with Mr. Hurford. His wife, Elsie, was a wonderful and constant companion to him and our deepest sympathy goes to her and her son, Donald.

We in Exeter have lost a real friend and colleague and his cheerful face and kindly nature will be sadly missed by us all.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Johns are now living at 17 Hillcrest Road, Dordon, Tamworth, Staffs. Home telephone number is Polesworth 8933.5 (STD Code 0827).

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the English Table Tennis Association for season 1974-75 will be held on Saturday, July 12, at the Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, W.C.1. (Phone: 01-837 3655) commencing at 2-30 p.m. The nearest Underground Station is Russell Square on the Piccadilly Line.

Under Rule 25.3, attendance is open to all Members provided that the appropriate fees have been paid for the current season. Members wishing to put questions requiring the production of figures or other statistics or information must ensure that such questions are in the hands of the General Secretary, in writing, not later than Friday, July 4.

Under Rules 25.4 and 25.7.4, in a Block Vote at the A.G.M., the votes of every Local League are excisable by the Accredited Representative of the County Association to which such Local League is affiliated, UNLESS a Local League has given notice under Rule 26.1 of its intention to exercise its own votes. Such notice must be received by the General Secretary not later than Friday, June 27, 1975, and be signed by the Secretary and by another responsible Officer of the Local League.

An Official Voting Card will be sent to reach the General Secretary of every County Association and of every Local League which has exercised the option under Rule 26.1, not later than Friday, July 4, 1975. Such Voting Card must be signed by the General Secretary of the County Association or Local League and handed to the Accredited Representative who is to exercise the votes at the meeting. A County Association or Local League may appoint anyone to act as its Accredited Representative, even if such person is also the Accredited Representative of another County Association or Local League.

An Accredited Representative must ensure that the voting card is brought to the meeting as same will be required for any block voting which takes place.

ASCOT BUTTERFLY UNDER-14 INVITATION TEAM COMPETITION

Arrangements for this year's competition have now been finalised and the competition, organised by I.M.P.A.C.T. (Institute of Match Play and Coaching Technics) in conjunction with the Reading and District T.T.A., will take place at Meadway Sports Centre, Reading, on Saturday, June 28, 1975. The sponsor this year is Ascot Sports Ltd.—last year's sponsor was Starmaster Sports Ltd.

There are to be separate events for boys and girls and 12 boys' and 9 girls' teams have been invited to compete. These include Reading, Ormesby, Leeds, Plymouth, Bristol, Derby, Coventry, Acton, Swindon, Guildford, North Middlesex, Bromley and Maidenhead. Teams will consist of 4 players. The ball to be used is T.S.P. 3-Star (white). Prizes of bats and bags are to be given to winning teams by Ascot Sports and players in the top five teams are to receive penants. The objective of the competition is to promote and stimulate in depth, development at local level of players in the under-14 age group.

COACHING APPOINTMENT

Former Middlesex international, O. B. "Les" Haslam, has been appointed coach to the Jamaican Table Tennis Association.

For Haslam, a member of the Middlesex team that won the Premier Division title of the County Championships in 1970, and a popular figure on the English tournament circuit for many seasons, it means a return to his home town of Kingston.

"It's a Government appointment," says "Les" and the contract is a 5-year one.

EUROPEAN POSTSCRIPT

The play-offs for promotion in the European League have been fixed as follows:

Austria v Norway—for promotion to the Premier Division at the Kulturhaus, Frydek-Mistak, Czechoslovakia, on May 31.

Bulgaria v Norway—for promotion to the Second Division in Slantchev Briag, Bulgaria, on June 7.

MIDDLESEX CLOSED

M.S.: R. Aldrich bt D. Jemmett -18, 14, 15.

W.S.: A. Mitchell bt S. Dove 19, -14, 13.

B.S.: D. Wells bt B. Tyler 17, 17.

G.S.: Mitchell bt Dove 15, 16.

M.D.: Aldrich/Jemmett bt L. F. Landry/A. Lindsay 11, -14, 17.

W.D.: B. Clayton/M. Walker bt Dove/M. Sangster 17, -17, 12.

X.D.: Landry/Mitchell bt W. Mascarenhas/Sangster 15, 10.

R.A.F.T.T.A. CHAMPIONSHIPS

M.S.: Cpl. D. Gray bt Flt. Lt. B. Cain 15, 17, -10, 16.

M.D.: Cpl. Gray/Sgt. K. Warren bt Flt. Lt. Cain/Sgt. G. Ventress.

W.S.: LACW J. Mortimer bt SACW S. Birch.

W.D.: LACW Mortimer/Flt. Lt. J. Russell bt SACW Birch/Cpl. S. Haslam.

V.S.: Cf. Tech. B. Cullis bt Sgt. F. Lovatt.

X.D.: Sgt. D. Sweeney/LACW Mortimer bt Cpl. Gray/Flt. Lt. Russell.

NEW DATES

Because of the close proximity of two fixture dates to important international tournaments, the following changes have been authorised:—

Matches fixed for November 13 to be played on November 12, 1975.

Matches fixed for February 25 to be played on February 24, 1976.

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1976

Following on this summer's European Youth Championships, in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, the next venue for this event will be in Krems, Austria, from July 11-18, 1976.

C.C.P.R. NATIONAL SEMINAR

'SPORT, RECREATION AND THE MEDIA'

As agreed at the National Administrators' Conference in Bournemouth last November, the C.C.P.R. has arranged a one-day Seminar on "Sport, Recreation and the Media," to be held on Tuesday, June 10, 1975, in the I.B.A. Conference Hall at 70 Brompton Road.

As those who were present at Bournemouth will recall, the idea for this Seminar stems from a suggestion made by the Minister of State for Sport and Recreation, Mr. Denis Howell, M.P., and the Minister will, in fact, be giving the opening address.

The Seminar will enable the Administrators and Press Officers of the governing bodies to receive at first hand the advice of leading sports journalists and sports broadcasters on how to maximise coverage of Sport and Recreation in the Press and on T.V. and Radio. Delegates will also have an opportunity of putting questions to the Speakers who will be drawn from the Press, T.V. and Radio at both national and regional level.

PROGRAMME

10-00 a.m.—CONFERENCE OPENING.

Welcome to delegates by Mrs. M. A. Glen Haigh, Chairman of the C.C.P.R.

Opening address by Mr. Denis Howell, M.P., Minister of State for Sport and Recreation.

THE NATIONAL PRESS AND SPORT AND RECREATION

Mr. Tom Clarke (Sports Editor, The Daily Mail).

Mr. Brian James (Sports Writer, The Daily Mail)

THE LOCAL/REGIONAL PRESS

Mr. Malcolm Huntington (Sports Editor, The Yorkshire Evening Press)

THE ROLE OF A PRESS AGENCY

Mr. Nelson Fairley (Sports Editor, The Press Association)

LUNCHEON BREAK

NATIONAL AND LOCAL RADIO

Mr. Dick Scales (B.B.C. Radio Sport)

TELEVISION

Mr. Alan Hart (Editor B.B.C. Grandstand)

Mr. Michael Dolbear (Sports Organiser, B.B.C. Television)

15-30 p.m.—CONCLUSION OF SEMINAR.

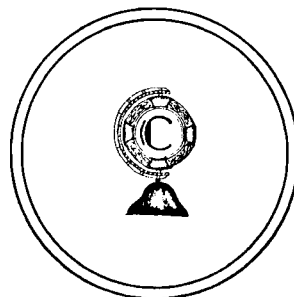
Conference Folder will be available for collection by delegates at the Seminar.

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Training Camps 1975-6

The following dates for national training camps have all been confirmed:

Dates	Type	Places
July 19-26, Junior	Lilleshall National Sports Centre	14
September 15-24, Senior/Junior	Lea Green Sports Centre, Matlock, Derbys.	15
November 10-14, Junior		11
November 24-28, Senior		11
1976		
January 12-16, Senior		11
February 2-13, Senior		11
February 16-20, Junior		11
February 28-March 2, Senior		11
March 8-26, Senior		11
March 8-26, Senior		11
May 1-14, Junior		11
June 20-25, Junior		11
July 3-8, Junior		11
July 17-21, Junior		11

In addition, the Intermediate Assessment Camps for 1975 will be held at Lea Green from August 2 to 14, with the Final Assessment at Loughborough from August 19-23.

Final Assessment Camp

Dates for this summer's Final Junior Assessment Camp are Tuesday, August 19, to Friday, August 22. The venue will be the P.E. Centre, Loughborough College of Education, and play will take place on nine Dunlop Barna tables. Dunlop Barna Super balls will be used. Local arrangements are in the hands of Reg Billson, Hon. Sec. of the Loughborough League.

GET WELL SOON

Life Member Frank Milligan was reported as an in-patient in Charlotte de Rothschild Ward, King Edward Memorial Hospital, Matlock Lane, Ealing, London, W.5, where he was likely to undergo an operation. We trust that all has gone well and look forward to seeing you round and about again, Frank. Get well soon.

INTERNATIONAL UMPIRES EXAM.

The third International Umpires' Examination will be held in November, 1975. Nomination forms are now available from the I.T.T.F. Hon. General Secretary, A. K. "Bill" Vint, at 20 Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1BP. It should be noted they must be returned to the office of the Federation accompanied by an entry fee of 10 Swiss francs not later than July 31, 1975. Candidates who have entered before and failed may enter.

Table Tennis Terms

A glossary of Table Tennis Terms, prepared by the Rules Committee of the I.T.T.F. and containing some 300 words and phrases used in Table Tennis with their equivalents to English in French, German and Spanish can be obtained from the I.T.T.F. Hon. Gen. Sec., Mr. A. K. Vint, at 25p sterling.

Equipment

As last season equipment adoptions for European League play remain for season 1975-76, the same being:—

Tables
Premier Division — Stiga
Other Divisions — Joola

Nets
All Divisions — Joola

Balls
All Divisions — Barna Super.

Tournament Dates

Next season's Norwich Union International Championships will take place at Brighton from January 8-10, and the Norwich Union English Championships from April 8-10 at a venue to be announced.

Lisburn Open

by BRIAN KEAN

Following John Hilton's success in the Irish Open, a second crossing of the Irish Sea was undertaken by a contingent of Cheshire, Essex and Scottish players, destined for Lisburn and the Gamble Simms International Open. Despite lacking the success of the previous trip, much was learned and gained from this journey, which helped in bridging the gap in relationships, unfortunately divided in recent years by the present troubles, among the Irish communities.

Cecil Walker and his "Merrymen" excelled in the hospitality extended to we travellers from across the water. Two matches were played on the Friday night prior to the tournament. The first, a Scottish "Select" team of Richard Yule, Patrice Fleming and your scribe, substituting for the unavailable John McNee, tackled an Irish side consisting of the inimitable James "Jim" Langan, Tommy Caffrey and Karen Senior. Result ended in favour of The Shamrock at 5-2. Match 2 saw a Cheshire "Select" of Brian Johns, Pete D'Arcy and, by courtesy of Essex T.T.A., Janet Hellaby, sporting Cheshire colours for an encounter with Ireland—here again a 5-2 result for Ireland. The presentation of the tournament finals on the Saturday was excellent and a tremendously hearty crowd inspired the locals to attain greater heights and collect all the titles, leaving the visitors only a half share of the women's doubles in which Karen Senior teamed up with Cheshire's "girl on the day", Janet Hellaby, to beat sisters Kyra and Bev Stewart.

Janet and Richard Yule reached the finals of their respective singles events but succumbed to Karen Senior and Jim Langan, who were appropriate winners for the occasion.

The Men's doubles was won by the Republic's Caffrey and Langan, who beat Ulster's Dave Addy and Jackie Cash, who earlier, upset the "book" by ousting No. 2 seeds Yule and Kean.

Major upset in the Men's singles was the defeat of Brian Johns by Dublin's Robert Turner, now working in West Germany for the G.E.W.O. Company. The concept of staging the Men's quarter-finals in the evening proved highly successful, and as is so often the case, they turned out to be very entertaining. Yule beat Alastair Cairns; "ageless" Tommy Caffrey beat yours truly; Pete D'Arcy followed in my footsteps, out to Langan, the last quarter being an all-Dublin affair with Tony Langan edging home against Turner.

The semi-final between Caffrey and Yule had the 500-strong crowd on the edge of their seats as the Dubliner threw caution and age to the wind and thundered countless forehand kills past his younger opponent. In the decider it looked as though Caffrey was about to turn the clock back, but guts and determination pulled the Aberdonian back from the dead and saw him squeeze through to meet Langan in the final. Jim fought off the challenge of younger brother Tony and won in the 3rd.

The final turned out to be the classic anticipated, and once again Langan showed he is one of the game's very few "characters" as he rose to the occasion to provide a mixture of class and comedy to squeeze home at deuce in the 3rd, much to the delight of the crowd.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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"EP Sport Table Tennis" by M. Sklorz, translated by Jack Carrington	£2.25 + 25p postage/packing
"Progressive Table Tennis" by Jack Carrington	£1.95 + 25p postage/packing
"Victor Barna" by Philip Reid	£3.00 + 25p postage/packing
Know the Game — Table Tennis	25p + 10p postage/packing
I.T.T.F. Handbook for Umpires	25p + 7p postage/packing
I.T.T.F. Handbook for Referees and Competition Organisers	25p + 7p postage/packing

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**COUNTY NOTES
 SUPPLEMENT**

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Constable

HOPES DIMMED

Cambridgeshire failed in their bid to gain Premier Division status when they finished third of the five contesting counties in the County Championships Promotion Challenge matches at St. Albans. In their opening match Cambridgeshire met Surrey and immediately had their promotion hopes dimmed when they were defeated 6-3. They started well when Paul Day and Keith Richardson had singles victories over Steve Lyons and David Welsman respectively, but after leading 3-1 they then lost three sets in a row, and although Day kept hopes alive with a straight-games win over Scottish No. 1, Richard Yule, Surrey took the last singles to win the match. Cambs then had a comfortable 6-3 victory over Berkshire, but to keep promotion hopes alive they had the almost impossible task of beating Cleveland.

Although Day repeated his English Closed win over Jimmy Walker, Cambridgeshire were soon trailing 1-3 and there was no hint of the sensations to follow. Day and Richardson played superbly to beat the England pair Jarvis and Walker in the Men's Doubles, and then Sally Hirst levelled the scores with a three games win over Angela Tierney. Day then met Nicky Jarvis and, playing some of his best table tennis, the Soham boy scored his first win over the England No. 2. Cambridgeshire were now 4-3 in the lead but although Keith Richardson and Mick Harper tried hard in the final singles, they went down gallantly to Walker and Dave Alderson respectively. In their final match, Cambs had a good 5-4 win over Derbyshire and so gained third place in the contest. Day was unbeaten in all his singles which surely confirms his No 5 ranking in the English list.

Cambridgeshire Juniors played superbly against Lancashire in their final match at Duxford and won very convincingly by 9 sets to 1. Needing just three sets to avoid relegation, they proceeded to take the first 5 before Jennifer Dixon stopped the rot for Lancashire by beating Ruth Newman in the Girls' Singles, which was Lancashire's sole success.

Day's two singles victories gave him a maximum 14 wins for the season, the first time this has been achieved since the formation of this division.

As previously reported, Cambs Juniors' 2nd team won their division and completed their season with an 8-2 victory over Lincolnshire, in which Tony Holmes, Mike Crowson and Derek Kiddle won all their events. This has been a tremendous season for this team who went through unbeaten. As there are many youngsters coming along, the Cambs Junior team looks very rosy indeed.

Cambridge, champions of the East Anglian League for the past two seasons, surrendered their title to Norwich when they only managed a 5-5 draw. Although Cambridge led 4-2, Norwich struck back through Bob Mitcham, who gained a thrilling victory over John Thurston at deuce in the third. Norwich were in luck again when the mixed doubles went their way at 22-20 in the last game. With the scores level, Gerald Coteman lost 16 in the third to Chris Bensley, despite a gallant defense. In the last set Keith Richardson beat Bob Thornton in three, but by then it was too late and Norwich had the title. For the record, Valerie Scripps beat Mrs. Hartman 9, 10 in the Women's Singles.

In the Cambs League, Soham I are again first division champions and, on top of this, they were also successful in the final of the

Handicap Trophy when they beat Telephones I 7-2. Although they have been without Paul Day for the majority of their matches, they were still good enough to win the title, with the help of Keith Richardson, Mick Palmer, John Ashman and Brian Jones. Telephones I headed Division 2 and were unbeaten throughout the season, as also were their second team in Division 3A.

Mick Harper, of Y.M.C.A., headed the Division 1 averages with 97%, closely followed by Palmer and Keith Richardson. Veteran John Thurston had an 85% average, despite being in his middle forties. This has been a good season for the League and next season promises even greater entries.

After 23 years' service as Cambs County Secretary and Treasurer, Margaret Cornwell will be tendering her resignation at the Annual General Meeting. This has been a truly magnificent service to the County and she will be sadly missed, although she still intends to run the South-East Midlands League Tournament.

FINAL LEADING POSITIONS

	Division 1						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Soham I	20	18	1	1	172	28	37
NCI I	22	17	3	2	145	75	37
Wilburton	22	13	1	8	132	88	27
Guildhall I	22	11	4	7	124	96	26
NCI II	19	12	2	5	109	81	26
YMCA I	19	11	3	5	106	84	25

	Division 2						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Phones I	22	22	0	0	190	30	44
Torchbearers I	22	19	1	2	150	70	39
Impington I	22	12	5	5	126	94	29
YMCA III	22	12	5	5	122	98	29
Haverhill I	22	11	6	5	128	92	28

	Division 3A						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Phones II	22	21	0	1	183	37	42
Melburn II	22	18	2	2	153	67	38
CIBA I	22	12	5	5	122	93	29
Press III	22	12	3	7	126	94	27
Impington III	22	10	4	8	114	109	24

NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by Pauline Jackson

CLASH OF DATES

The Northumberland County Table Tennis Association held its Annual Dinner-Dance and Presentation of League, Cup and Tournament Trophies on Friday, May 16, at the "Highlight Suite", J. T. Parrish Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. This was a most successful and enjoyable evening, with over 150 members and friends present. Our thanks go to Bill and Lily McMaster for so ably organising the event, and to our President, Bart Kinnair, for presenting the trophies in his own inimitable fashion.

Unfortunately, a clash of dates with the South Shields Table Tennis League Dinner-Dance prevented most of the players from that area being present, which was a pity, as they had performed exceptionally well this season in the Closed Tournament, as well as winning a Division Championship Trophy and the Knockout Cup.

The winners and runners-up in the Northumberland Table Tennis League were as follows:—

- Div. 1—Reyrolles "A" and Byker C.C. "A".
- Div. 2A—Briarside "B" and Reyrolles "C".
- Div. 2B—North Shields Y.M.C.A. "A" and Reyrolles "B".
- Div. 3A—Vickers Michell and Wellfield P.T.A. "A".
- Div. 3B—Spittal T.T.C. "A" and Telephone Managers "A".
- Div. 3C—Prudhoe East Y.C. and Wills S.R.C. "A".
- Div. 4A—Postal Clerks "D" and Newcastle Y.M.C.A. "B".
- Div. 4B—Watson Norie and N.A.L.G.O. Newcastle.
- Div. 4C—St. John Vianney Y.C. "B" and Tyndale.
- Div. 4D—South Shields Y.M.C.A. "C" and R.G.S. Staff.

K.O. Cup Winners—South Shields Y.M.C.A.

I must mention here a few noteworthy League performances. Reyrolles "A" performed exceptionally well to at last break the stranglehold of Byker "A" on the Div. 1 Championship, and their club also provided the runners-up in Div. 2A and Div. 2B. The Briarside "B" team of Phil Clark, husband Matty, and son Andrew, won the Div. 2A title without dropping a point in 26 matches, while North Shields Y.M.C.A. "A", the invincibles of the 1960's, will join them in Div. 1 next season, having won the Div. 2B title after one season in the lower ranks.

Spittal T.T.C. "A", of Berwick, the team with a round trip of over 100 miles for every away match they play, must surely deserve the Div. 3B championship for keenness, enthusiasm and effort. They were admitted to the League only this season amidst a lot of controversy over travelling distance, but as was pointed out at the time, each team had to travel there only once, while they were prepared to make the journey on alternate weeks over the whole season. St. John Vianney "B", the Div. 4C champions, are the other new team to make an impact in their first season of League play.

For some players there seems to be no close season, as the Tyneside Summer Table Tennis League season commenced on May 5 with a record entry of 29 teams covering four Divisions, and will run until the middle of August. There is also a Knockout Cup competition, run on a handicap basis.

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

by Grove Motlow

NEWBURY BEATEN

Newport, at home to Plymouth, found their visitors well on form and lost 2-7, with Bob Parkins and Mike Short scoring trebles, and Keith James losing to Tony Watkins and Alan Harrison. Salisbury had a 6-3 home win over Poole, whose young team showed great promise with Neville Thornley beating Chris Shetler and Terry Bruce, while J. Robinson also had a win over Shetler. Salisbury's star was Bill Moulding, who paved the way for their victory by scoring a treble to which Bruce added a couple and Shetler, surprisingly, only one.

Bristol did well to win their home match against Bournemouth 8-1, but in fairness to the visitors, they were represented by a much weakened side than usual. For Bristol, Brian Sturgess and Lloyd Stuart each won 3, Gordon Mildred losing to Maurice Bardsley.

Newbury's unbeaten record was scattered to the winds when, visiting Plymouth, they were beaten 5-4. For Newbury, Simon Heaps fought hard and won his three sets against Parkins, James and B. Davis, but only David Reeves could add to these successes. With the score at 4-all Parkins clinched victory for Plymouth when he beat Tony Reeves. But, although Newbury lost, they are still worthy champions. At home to Salisbury, Bristol were beaten 9-0.

In the Women's section Newport, at home to Plymouth, were beaten 5-4 despite a treble recorded by Elizabeth Jones against Kath Rowe, Carol Gray and Elaine Lamb. Both Elaine and Kath won twice for Plymouth with Carol adding the vital fifth at the expense of Barbara Roden. Alison Boyce and Helen Rusby had maximums for Devizes, who beat Newbury "B" 7-2.

Newbury "A" beat their own "B" side 9-0, the pleasing factor being that five of the contestants were teenagers but, in attempting to emulate the championship-winning exploits of their men, Newbury's first string females failed to stave off the threat posed by Bournemouth, who took the title with a 6-3 success, thanks to Joyce Coop, who had wins over Carol Houghton, Caroline Reeves and Mandy Smith, whilst Julie Reading lost only to Miss Reeves. Janet New beat Mandy Smith, so this year congratulations to Bournemouth, the new champions.

The close of the season says goodbye to

Heather Masters, of Newbury who, with her husband, John, will be leaving the district, as John has a new position in Leeds. We shall miss them both but wish them every success in the knowledge that they will soon be snapped up by a team in the Leeds area. They have both worked hard for Newbury and we thank them for their interest and endeavours in the Western League over a number of years.

All that now remains is for me to say thank you for all your enquiries regarding my health and I look forward to seeing you all in Bristol at the A.G.M. in July. Closing date for next season's entries is June 30, to me at 29 Carisbrooke Road, Newport, Gwent. (Phone: 71964).

I am hopeful that the slow improvement in my left eye is maintained. Meanwhile, thanks for your wholehearted co-operation afforded me this season and one last thing, we all hope that Exeter, who had to resign half-way through the season, will be back with us next term. Final tables:—

Men	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Newbury	8	7	1	54	18	14
Salisbury	8	6	2	55	17	12
Plymouth	8	6	2	39	33	12
Bournemouth	8	4	4	38	33	8
Newport	8	4	4	27	45	8
Exmouth	8	3	5	30	42	6
Weston	8	3	5	27	41	6
Bristol	8	2	6	19	53	4
Poole	8	1	7	30	47	2

Women	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Bournemouth	6	6	0	46	7	12
Newbury "A"	6	5	1	35	19	10
Plymouth	6	4	2	35	19	8
Devizes	6	3	3	27	30	6
Newbury "B"	6	2	4	18	36	4
Newport	6	1	5	18	36	2
Salisbury	6	0	6	13	41	0

WORCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Doug Moss

INEVITABLE RESULT

The County 1st team concluded its programme in Div 2 (West) with a weekend tour. They visited Bath to play Somerset and, although leading 4-0, the almost inevitable draw between these teams was the final result. The team then travelled on to Exmouth, staying overnight, and played Devon on the Sunday afternoon.

Worcestershire usually seem to bring out their best form against this County. It was an excellent match with Worcs winning 6-4. This left Devon, Somerset, Wiltshire and Worcestershire all with equal points—being directly below Berkshire, the champions. Of these teams, Wiltshire have become somewhat of a "bogey" for Worcs—losing 3-7.

Undoubtedly the highlight of the season was the fact that Simon Claxton (a junior next season) established himself and won 8 of his 12 singles sets and those lost were early in the season. The County 2nd team had bad luck again. In the previous season they failed to become champions because they lost to Monmouth, for whom Mansfield played only in this particular match.

This season, in their final match, they met Glamorgan, who introduced Mike Owen and George Evans. This gave Glamorgan a win, but they failed to win the championship. However, one must admit it was good to see maestro Evans still producing immaculate play.

The Worcs. County League programme has been completed. The Halesowen team, including Brian Belcher and Mervyn Wood, were unbeaten, to become Div. 1 champions. The other division includes a real variety of players with a senior, intermediate, junior and girl player. It was played in two sessions throughout the season.

After the first session Hereford were in the lead but in the final session Kidderminster did Worcs. a good turn by beating Hereford and Worcs. ran out champions. The two County Association team knockout events provided real interest. In the handicap event Needle Industries, Studley (Redditch), beat St.

Martin's "B" (Worcs) in the final. However, Needle Industries had previously played S.D.F. "C" (Kidderminster) and with respective handicaps of 130 and 190, the result was a draw. Finding no rules to cover such an eventuality, a replay was arranged, with a "swop" of venue, and Needle Industries won.

In the K.O. scratch events, two teams from Hereford area, who participate in Worcestershire County League and team k.o. events, reached the final. Village Farm "A" (Allensmore, Hereford) defeated Ledbury 7-2.

At the Worcester City League Finals Night, Mike Sykes retained the M.S. title, beating Graham Collier at 22-20 in the third. Joyce Lloyd beat fellow County team-mate, Janet Hunt in the W.S. This rounded off another wonderful season for Joyce, having also won the Birmingham Closed and Gwent Open W.S. titles and played her 100th first team match for Worcs.

In the Junior event Claxton just got home at 22-20 in the third against Andrew Oakley. Highlight of this Finals Night was the tribute paid to Den Rowley, after having had more than 40 years' service as Chairman and/or Secretary of the Worcester League. A stereo record player was presented from Vice-Presidents, Committee members, officials and League teams. A tankard was also presented, and it is understood that both are being put to good use!

The Halesowen Championships were dominated by Wood and Belcher. They won the M.D. and in the singles Wood (County 2nd) beat Belcher (County 1st) to the tune of 9 and 12.

Simon Claxton crowned his successful season when, in the recent E.S.T.T.A. Individual Championships, he finished No. 4 in the U-16 event, thereby earning selection for the England v Scotland schoolboys' International. Other successes came from Jeremy Duffield (Kidderminster) who finished 3rd in the U-11 event. Mandy Mitton (Evesham) was also a semi-finalist in the girls' U-13 event. These achievements have no doubt given satisfaction and reward to the Worcestershire coaches led by Frank Southam.

MIDDLESEX NOTES

by Laurie Landry

CONSOLIDATION

Once again, throughout the summer, the County will be organising coaching sessions for (a) Main County Squad, (b) Follow-up Squad, and (c) U-14 Squad. The writer will be assisted by Robert Aldrich and Peter Partos for some of these sessions and it is hoped to consolidate the fine season that has just finished.

Successes among the younger players have been Bryn Tyler, Johanne James, Graham Sandley and Wojtek Strasburger—all members of the unbeaten Junior second team. With youngsters like John Souter, Costas Pappantonion, Neil Stratton and the girls Deirdre Devine, Helen Williams and Mandy Reeves, there are hopes for the future.

With the retirement of Ted Connell, the County has lost a long-serving member of the Committee, for he has been Chairman for 26 years. The new Chairman is Geoff James, the Referee of the Middlesex Open, and a Hon. Life Member. Iris Moss continues as Secretary/Treasurer but it is not yet known who makes up the rest of the committee. There is not likely to be many changes!

Again the North Middlesex League have reached the final of the Wilmott Cup with a 5-1 win over East London. They have also reached the final of the Carter Cup. Their respective opponents will be Ormesby and Leicester. Central London were surprisingly beaten 5-4 by Guildford in the semi-final of the J. M. Rose Bowl but North Acton reached the final of the Bromfield Trophy by beating Birmingham.

During April, teams from Sweden and Federal Germany played in Middlesex. The Swedish team, Huddinge, played against the

Fulham Club and also a combined East Finchley and Potters Bar team. The German team, from Passau, had a very enjoyable afternoon against a combined Lyndhurst and Tennyson team of the Willesden League.

THE SUFFOLK SCENE

by R. C. Langridge

YOU COULD RAISE THE SUFFOLK STANDARD!

With the Senior County matches already completed more interest was concentrated on the Juniors' final two games in the County Championships. Against Northants, at Daventry, our Juniors had a handsome 8-2 victory, and then clinched third place in the Junior East Division with a hard-fought 6-4 win at home against Bedfordshire.

With Debbie Wootton, Russell King, Dave Jennings and Randle Burrows still available next season, to form the backbone, Suffolk Juniors' prospects should again be bright.

This was their last year as Juniors for both Kevin Savage and Judith Langridge, and the occasion must not be allowed to pass without congratulations for their consistent performances throughout the past three years. Both players bowed out of the Junior ranks on a high note.

In the East Anglian League Junior Championships Judith Langridge beat Debbie Wootton to take the Girls' Singles title and also won the Mixed Doubles when partnered by Geoff Davies (Wisbech). In the strong entry for the Boys' Singles, Kevin Savage was runner-up to Douglas Bennett (Norwich) whilst Judith Langridge and Debbie Wootton were beaten finalists in the Girls' Doubles.

BECOME A COACH

Suffolk's great need is for a steady stream of enthusiastic, well-coached youngsters. This again raises the further problem that, at present, Suffolk has a grave shortage of qualified coaches. Remember, a coaching course could raise the playing standard of many an average league player. He would be putting something back into the game and giving encouragement to young enthusiasts just when they are liable to be tempted away from Table Tennis by the attractions of all the other sports now so readily available to them.

Why not have a go? You may turn out to be better as a coach than you were as a player!

BEDFORDSHIRE NOTES

by O. A. Reeves

BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT

The Senior team struggled hard to retain their place in the Premier Division, but in their last match of the season were beaten 5-4 by Cheshire. What an exciting match this was!! After 8 sets the score was 4-all and Peter Taylor was to meet Nigel Eckersley for the decider. Eckersley played brilliantly to win in straight games and that meant relegation from the Premier after only one season—a bitter disappointment—but we will be back shortly!

The second team finished as runners-up to Hertfordshire in the Eastern Division and can be well satisfied with the season's performance.

Recent weeks have seen the "closed" of various leagues and, in turn, a number of surprises. In the Bedford League finals, Richard Jermy won both the men's singles and the Division 2/3 titles, and is clearly a player whose name will appear with increasing frequency. Belinda Chamberlain, from St. Neots, won the women's singles and teamed with Len Saywell to take the mixed. Belinda narrowly missed the hat-trick when she and Doreen Underwood lost to M. Stapple and G. Dean.

The Dunstable Closed went true to form, with Firoz Nilam just beating Charlie Major for the men's title and Barbara Hammond narrowly beating Joyce Reeves for the women's.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by George Yates

ADVANCE NOTICE

September 6-7 are the weekend dates earmarked for next season's County team trials at Bolton Institute of Technology, with the juniors going first on the Saturday.

Following the County A.G.M. at Leigh, on May 19, it was decided to enter 2 Senior and 1 Junior team for season 1975-76, the decision being influenced by the demotion of the first Red Rose side from the Junior Premier Division.

Increased business commitments have forced the resignation of Jim Hoy as the County's Hon. Coaching Secretary, the position being taken over by Denis Smith, who will combine his new duties with a continuance of his role as Secretary of the Lancashire and Cheshire League.

Gordon Campbell, his predecessor in that office, returns to the County Executive joining Ken Westmorland, the Blackpool League chairman, and Jim Clegg, of Preston, as the new Elected Members. The latter takes the place of Jim Hoy on the Selection Committee. All officers and other committee members were returned unopposed.

Minor opposition to a proposed increase of players' registration fees, from 25p to 40p, in the Lancashire and Cheshire League constituted the only ripple on the League waters, whilst the "awakening" of John O'Sullivan towards the end of the County A.G.M. had a similar effect in bringing that meeting to life.

Having lifted four titles in his native Bury League championships, Graham Hoy had a like haul when the Bolton League's activities were brought to a conclusion on April 28.

Wins over Graham King in the M.S. and Barry Elliott in the B.S. were supplemented by like successes in the junior and mixed doubles when partnered by Martin Bromley and Jennifer Dixon. The nap hand went down when, with Philip Riley, the M.D. title was denied by Bryn Farnworth and Clive Heap. Results:—

M.S.—Semi-finals

G. King bt B. Farnworth 17, 16.
G. Hoy bt C. Heap 18, -19, 16.

Final
HOY bt King 17, -15, 14.

Women's Singles

J. DIXON bt C. Bladen 9, 16.

Men's Doubles

B. FARNWORTH/C. HEAP bt G. Hoy/P. Riley 18, -13, 17.

Women's Doubles

J. DIXON/J. EVANS bt C. Bladen/A. Dudley 12, 15.

Mixed Doubles

HOY/DIXON bt Farnworth/C. Crumblehulme 6, 20.

Junior Singles

HOY bt Elliott 13, -21, 10.

Junior Doubles

M. BROMLEY/HOY bt S. Cowley/Elliott 19, 15.

Veterans' Singles

J. FREELY bt E. R. Fielding 11, 8.

Over at Blackpool the M.S. title was won by Savoy's Roy Frankland, who finally accounted for Ian Smith over 5 games after surviving two "deuce" games with Mike Foulkes in the semis. Smith was again a loser in the Youth Singles final, to Foulkes, but the Mellor schoolboy was not to be denied a third time with final victory over Neil Gledhill in the B.S.

Kathleen Cropper, employing some murderous kills, accounted for Alwyn Jackson in the final of the W.S., but partnered her victim to success in the W.D. Results:—

Men's Singles—Semi-finals

I. Smith bt A. Rigby 13, -15, 17.

R. Frankland bt M. Foulkes 20, 20.

Final

FRANKLAND bt Smith -17, 20, -9, 13, 18.

Women's Singles

K. CROPPER bt A. Jackson 13, 21.

Men's Doubles

FRANKLAND/SMITH bt B. Parkinson/Rigby -19, 17, 16.

Women's Doubles

CROPPER/JACKSON bt J. Banks/C. Foulkes 8, 10.

Mixed Doubles

FRANKLAND/CROPPER bt Parkinson/Jackson 17, 20.

Youths' Singles

FOULKES bt Smith 14, -14, 19.

Junior Singles

SMITH bt N. Gledhill 13, 19.

Youths' Doubles

FOULKES/T. HEWITT bt Gledhill/Smith 22, -18, 16.

Lancashire junior Clive Strettle (Ashton Y.M.C.A.) was a double winner at the Wigan League's Finals Night, beating Jim Lynch in the final of the M.S. and Joe Green, but narrowly, in the J.S. final. Christine Duffy (St. John's) could not be halted by policewoman Ann Kershaw in the final of the W.S.

Results:—

Men's Singles—Semi-finals

J. Lynch bt R. Roberts 15, 8.

C. Strettle bt F. Pheysey 6, 11.

Final

STRETTLE bt Lynch 13, 14.

Junior Singles

STRETTLE bt J. Green -18, 12, 20.

Women's Singles

C. DUFFY bt A. Kershaw 16, 13.

Men's Doubles

A. CATTER/ROBERTS bt B. Sharrock/ A. Wignall 20, 22.

Lancashire and Cheshire League champions and runners-up were:—

Div. 1—Chester and Liverpool.

Div. 2 (N)—Bolton and Blackpool.

Div. 2 (S)—Hyde and Crewe.

Div. 3(N)—Bury and Nelson.

Div. 3 (S)—Macclesfield "A" and Liverpool Business Houses.

Div. 4 (N)—Warrington and Bury "A".

Div. 4 (S)—Farnworth "A" and Macclesfield "B" (Joint winners).

Youth Div.—Liverpool and Blackpool.

Women Div. 1—Liverpool and Manchester.

Women Div. 2—Bury and Wirral.

Junior Div. 1—Barrow and Crewe.

Junior Div. 2—Farnworth and Oldham.

Jack Livingstone Memorial Trophy—Liverpool.

Dates for the North of England 2-Star Open, to be played at Mather & Platt Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester, are September 26th and 27th—locals only on the Friday night. Enquiries to Mr. L. W. Jones, 261 Mauldeth Road, Burnage, Manchester, M19 1EH. 'Phone: 061-224 6672 (home).

SURREY NOTES

by Ted Simpkin

SOMETHING EXTRA

The principal task facing the County at the commencement of this season was the regaining of their self-respect and their place back in the Premier Division. This was achieved when they came second to Cleveland in the multi play-off. Apart from the No. 1, Richard Yule, who has that something extra, there is very little space showing between the strength of the next six or seven men at present, and it will be interesting to see which players do emerge from the pack within the next couple of years. There is no such competition between the women now, with Linda Howard and sister Susan Henderson out on their own.

Elsewhere in the County there have been successes, up to a point, with Pete Corner's boys from Thames Valley, going a long way in the Carter Cup; Guildford being ousted, well and truly from the Bromfield Trophy last eight, by Bournemouth, and due, as I write, to take on, for the umpteenth time, Central London in the semi-final of the J. M. Rose Bowl event.

Some long-familiar names crop up in the notes I have received from Harry Smith, who has been Treasurer and Assistant Secretary of the Wandsworth League since it was founded in 1945. This League was formed as part of the Wandsworth Leagues' Association to start off post-war competition in Football, Netball, Darts, Billiards, etc. The Table Tennis

Association began with eighteen teams in two divisions, and only Wimbledon Y.M.C.A. still survives in the present organisation.

Four Secretaries only have spanned the intervening years:—L. Tilbury to 1947, C. F. Joyce (now and for some considerable time, Chairman and Treasurer of the County) to 1953, J. Forrest to 1966, and I. J. McCarthy from then to date. Robin Foot acts as Tournament Secretary after ten-year spells by, successively, G. Coulthred, P. Benning, and J. Ayshford. The first Chairman was E. G. White, now an Honorary Life Member of the E.T.T.A., followed by P. Collins, N. McLaren, F. Goddard, R. Holmes, and now Keith Hurlock.

By 1962 the League had grown to ten divisions and 120 teams. Wandsworth has not made a name in national competitions but has achieved many successes in the County's Inter-League tournaments. Some well-known names appear in the roll of winners of the Closed Championships:—Ron Sharman, Jackie Head, Harry Venner, Ron Crayden, Tony Miller and Trevor Campbell, who did the hat-trick in 1968-69 and 70. The Women's title was held by Peggy Piper from 1955 to 1963, and again in 1969 and 70, and this year it was taken by younger sister Pat, Harry Smith has also told me the extent of the credit balance in their accounts but publication of the exact amount would be likely to cause envy beyond the boundaries of the County, and I hesitate to take the responsibility.

HERALDING HEREFORDSHIRE

by Ian R. Crickmer

FAME IS THE SPUR

The playing season came to an end with the welcome news that Michael Owens, of Allensmore, had achieved selection for England Schools versus Scotland, at Middlesbrough, on July 5-6. This is an event which would pass unnoticed in the larger counties, used to representative honours, but to Herefordshire it came as excellent news in the County's bid towards a higher playing status.

Michael took third position in the Stiga English Schools' Boys' Under-13 event at Stoke, on May 11, being one of the three Herefordshire players who had won the right to represent the new combined county of Hereford and Worcester. Winning all three of his events in the preliminary group in straight games, he moved to the semi-final stage to defeat Neil Mullarkey (Surrey Metropolitan) 10, 6, and Paul Hindle (North Yorkshire) 17, -19, 15 before losing -12, -15 to the eventual champion, Graham Sandley (Middlesex). In the play-off for third position, he then accounted for Graeme Black (Merseyside) 19, 18.

Sister Elizabeth won her opening singles of the Girls' Under-11 event, accounting 6, 8 for Middlesex's Judith Ireton, but then lost her two subsequent sets. Mark Owen, playing in the higher age group of Under-19, had no success, but came very close versus Kevin Owens (Essex County) before losing 22, -18, -23.

Earlier, however, Mark had come through the first stage E.T.T.A. junior assessment procedure, and so qualified to go to Reading for the Regional play on June 21. On the junior front, I understand that it has been decided not to enter a County juniors' team in the Championships for 1975-76—there is a shortage of girls able, as yet, to match this standard of play, now that Linda Owen is over the regulation age, and it is felt also that this decision will allow the Hereford boys to concentrate on the Division Two status they have achieved upon promotion within the Midland League.

The final match of the Worcestershire County League programme saw Halesowen win 6-4 to capture the title and place Hereford second—the most significant feature for the new champions being the total eclipse of Bryan Belcher, beaten first by Mike Prosser and then by Graham Bonser, and again defeated by this pair when partnered by Mervyn Wood in the doubles. The fourth Hereford success came when Neville Meredith used a varied game to

outwit Colin Hammond, and was part of the exciting recovery from 1-4 to 4 all, but which ultimately proved unavailing.

Similarly, Hereford had to be content with second spot in the Intermediate/Junior Division of the County League. With a maximum points record from the first series they increased the advantage with a 9-1 win over Evesham, Sharon Owen losing only -21, -19 to Mandy Mytton, and an 8-2 success against Redditch in which Stephen Halford had to give best to Ian Richardson and to John Boyd. However, a valuable point was lost in a draw versus Kidderminster "B"—Lesley Duffield proved too strong in the girls' events, and Halford was again unfortunate in losing his three. A 6-4 win over Kidderminster "A" was obtained by a similar pattern other than the capture of the mixed doubles, leaving the final clash with Worcester to settle the issue. A draw would have given Hereford the title, but Worcester, with Simon Claxton and Andrew Oakley clinching five wins jointly, ran out 6-4 winners. Hereford were best served in this second series by father and son, Richard and Michael Owens, each undefeated in singles, but the absence of Linda Owen, on special duty with the Guides, was felt in the girls' events.

Over eighty members of the Herefordshire Association attended the County Dinner-Dance at Park Hall, Wormelow, on May 15; the Herefordshire trophies had been presented earlier at the County Closed, but it was particularly appropriate that the Hereford League trophies should be presented by Mrs. Lilian Wenderlish, of Ross-on-Wye. The awards included the new Memorial Trophy donated by his parents in honour of Ted Wenderlish, well known in Ross sporting circles and a Hereford League player for twenty years until his tragic death of cancer in August, 1973.

The Leominster League reports a successful season, with Mike Richards, the League singles champion and Herefordshire semi-finalist, leading L.Y.D.C. "A" to the Divisional 1 title. They took 50 points from their 12-match programme, in which a win scores 5 points and a draw 3 points. The next two places went to the Little Hereford sides, both of whom totalled 45 points. The "B" team captured second place with a 73-47 sets record, their "A" team achieving 71-49. Division Two also saw the champions having a five points advantage. From 14 matches, Little Hereford "C" totalled 68 points, being held to a draw once only. Second place, with 63 points, went to L.Y.D.C. "B". The outstanding performance in this Division was that recorded by S. Edwards for the champions, Little Hereford "C".

CHESHIRE NOTES

by Brian Kean

TALKING TURKEY

Well, here we go for the last time this season. I thought, in fact, last month's article was the last, then Mr. Editor kindly informed me that he was publishing one more, which meant I had to rustle something up to keep you lot happy!

Excuse me a second, I must phone this young lady and tell her I'll be a couple of hours late . . . Well, that's another to score off my list—"Keep me waiting for Table Tennis, get . . ." I couldn't quite hear the last word, something to do with turkeys!! Women, ugh! Still, at least I can watch Special Branch on the old Telly.

Now enough of my personal affairs. I suppose this is a good chance to reflect on what was and what might have been. Firstly, our Premier team attained their highest ever league placing by finishing runners-up. This was only bettered by the Vets, who came national champs. Contrasting tales to chronicle as our remaining teams struggled in their respective divisions. There seems to be a shortage of good youngsters, especially girls; the loss of Anne Hepple and Jane Fielding to senior ranks leaves our junior kennels somewhat barren. Let's hope the summer training

sessions can produce the required goods.

Other points to note were the rankings achieved by Mike Johns, John Hilton and Nigel Eckersley, making us one of the best-represented counties in the men's list. Susan Lisle, of course, kept us in the spotlight by holding the No. 3 position at one point but since demoted to No. 4. John McNee made a claim to fame by gaining a spot in the Scottish national team. I think John has been underrated in local pastures, for he has had fine wins over Manchester stars Kevin Forshaw and Tony Boasman, as well as over such notables as Jimmy Walker, Chris Sewell and Bob Wiley.

Another youngster ready to explode is Crewe's Trevor Burrows . . . watch him next season! On the lighter side Mike Johns finally took the plunge and got wed. That was the second contract he signed this year, the first being a modelling contract. Modelling, yes . . . Toby Jugs! Then Trevor Gatley burnt the kitchen down, Nigel Eckersley managed to avoid buying a round of drinks for the third successive season and Brian Johns won the Lancs. and Ches. League Closed M.S. title before taking up a coaching position at Butlin's. Hope he's fit for next season!!

Well, that's your lot. I must now go and answer the door bell. Guess who? Yes, it's her. She's sorry for being rude to me on the 'phone so she has come round to watch Special Branch with me. Great, I must slip into something a little more comfortable—see you next season. Switch the Telly, on love!

NORTHANTS NOTES

by Dennis Millman

It is pleasing that this final edition should begin with some notes provided by the enthusiastic Daventry League, who recently held their Championships. County-ranked Susan Edwards won three events with husband Peter joining in a Mixed success, in addition to taking the Men's Doubles in partnership with P. Harris. These players were representing the Long Buckby club who, with three teams in Division 1, had previously lost the League title to B.B.C. "A" and the Cup to Staverton "A". Nevertheless they gained revenge on their rivals by winning seven of the eight championship events. Mixed fortunes too, for Daventry's No. 1 and County-ranked player, John Bishop, who made his only appearance at the finals, when he won the raffle. Results:—

Men's Singles

G. TSOW (Long Buckby) bt A. Print (B.B.C.) 11, 17.

Men's Doubles

P. EDWARDS/P. HARRIS (Long Buckby) bt Tsow/N. Chaplin (Long Buckby) 23, 18.

Women's Singles

S. EDWARDS (Long Buckby) bt J. Tomlinson (Kilsby) 9, 4.

Women's Doubles

EDWARDS/I. MASTERS (Weedon Bec.) bt C. Donohoe (West Haddon)/ B. Johnson (B.B.C.) 17, 11.

Mixed Doubles

P. EDWARDS/S. EDWARDS bt R. Samy (B.B.C.)/Donohoe 5, 10.

Veterans' Singles

R. CASTLE (Kilsby) bt B. Chaplin (Long Buckby) 6, 18.

Junior Singles

N. CHAPLIN bt M. Douglas (Maidford) 16, 19.

Junior Doubles

N. CHAPLIN/K. McPARTLAND (Staverton) bt M. Douglas/N. Griffiths (Weedon Bec.) 9, 10.

Meanwhile Wellingborough's contingent must be congratulated on its efforts in the South East Midlands Championships. On the opening day Rod Marchant, Gary Alden, Anne Wallis and Glennis Hooper performed brilliantly, often under intense pressure, to take the team title against formidable opposition. This was followed up on the Sunday with an outstanding performance from Anne Wallis, who, improving as the competition gained momentum, took the W.C title with her best effort to date. Marchant was unable to repeat

his 1974 success, but reached the final in fine style before going down to an opponent he had beaten the day before.

The final League placings are still awaited, but Northampton Veterans made sure of one local success, taking the title by one point from last year's champions, Cambridge.

At local league level several teams lay claim to top honours. In Northampton, U.T.C. "A" took the Premier Division as expected, but were surprisingly eliminated from the knock-out events, while Y.M.C.A.'s decline was hastened by a defeat from their own "B" side in the final of the County Cup, as Romano Gallo remained unbeaten against Steve Lyon and Dick Ingle, and Paul and David Birch adding three further singles against solitary successes from Lyon and Ingle.

Compton "A" also had a good season, with Bletchley imports, Tony Clark and Roger Harman, joining John Horne in the Northampton Knockout Cup, in a final again relegating Y.M.C.A. to the runners-up position. Horne also played an important part in Compton's Wellingborough League success, being able to play for both his club's "A" and "B" sides against the other leading contenders, a factor bringing about the following leading positions.

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Compton Nomads "A"	20	16	2	2	160
Rothborough "A"	20	19	0	1	158
Kettering Town "A"	20	17	2	1	158

Rothborough, who twice gained convincing league wins against Compton, again triumphed when the teams met in the final of the Wellingborough Handicap Cup, despite trailing 2-4 at one stage. Credit for this outstanding performance should go in the main, to the much-improved Graham Feakin who, in the final game of the night, fought a skilful tactical battle to defeat the Wellingborough Singles Champion, Phil Snelling.

Rothborough "A" was also much involved at the top of the Kettering League, where the iniquitous scoring system that had brought about their downfall at Wellingborough, now came to their aid. This time it was Kettering Town who had some reason to feel dissatisfied with a final league table which read as follows:—

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Rothborough "A"	20	17	2	1	175
Kettering Town "A"	20	19	1	0	172

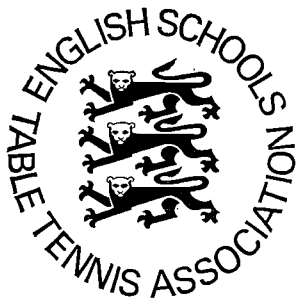
Kettering Town "A" had the unusual distinction of losing just one match in two leagues, and yet winning neither, but John Palmer, Terry Sutton and Dick Cole, together with your columnist, did not go unrewarded for, playing of the back mark, the team took both of the Kettering League's Knockout Trophies and for good measure added the new "Kettering Evening Telegraph" Trophy, again with the odds stacked heavily against them.

The Northampton League's Dance and Prize Presentation, and the Dinner and Dance organised by both the Wellingborough and the Kettering Leagues, despite both being on the same night, were successful events, bringing an excellent season to close. However, all this activity needs enthusiastic officials, and in thanking all of these for their efforts during the season past, I must point out that if the younger element in our table tennis scene are not prepared to come forward in the immediate future, next season could well see a dilution of activity particularly at County level.

INTERNATIONAL T.T. CLUB

AS BEFORE

In the elections for the Committee of the International Table Tennis Club of England, the nominations received were only for last season's members. Either we must assume that nobody is worried or that everybody is happy. The new (!) committee for 1975-76 is therefore:—Chairman—Les Cohen; Hon Secretary—Laurie Landry; Hon. Treasurer—Brian Wright, the other members being Len Adams, Derek Burridge, Ron Crayden, Ralph Gunnion and Phyllis Lauder.



INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

by DAVID LOMAS

With the added incentive of possible selection for the first-ever Schools' International—against Scotland next month—there was added interest in the second Stiga English Schools' Individual Championships held at Stoke-on-Trent on May 11.

Players from forty county areas provided 220 players (a 50% increase) for the eight events played on sixteen tables—provided by sponsors Stiga A.B.—in the spacious Northwood Sports Centre.

Several England-ranked players were among the high-quality entry, probably unrivalled by any Junior tournament except the English Junior Championships. The cancellation of the English Junior Open meant that these Championships assumed a greater importance and it was encouraging to see England selectors Alan Ransome and Bryan Merrett present, in addition to Northern Staff Coach Peter Simpson.

Karen Rogers, of Leicestershire, followed in Anita Stevenson's footsteps in winning the Senior (Girls' Under-19) event without conceding a game, and defeating Mandy Mellor in the final. Shortly after the start of the Final a local power failure stopped play, but with

Karen anxious to avoid a new date which would interfere with her examinations, both players agreed to play on in the fading light.

There was no such agreement in the Boys' U-19 event, however, and Group "A" Junior, Devinder Sehmbi (Cumberland School, Newham), and opponent Meyer Sofaer (Westminster City School) had to wait until Friday, May 16, to settle the issue at East Finchley.

Under the watchful eye of England selector, Laurie Landry, the Essex player held off a strong challenge from surprise finalist Sofaer, being taken to 23-21 in a close second game. The Middlesex boy, born in Israel, spent twelve years in India before coming to this country two years ago, and he told me that the only League he plays in is the Middlesex Schools' League.

England No. 5 Junior, Douglas Johnson, had little trouble in winning the Boys' U-16 title, defeating Humberside's Michael Harrison, whilst English Junior Champion, Suzanne Hunt, from Grantham, was similarly untroubled in winning the Girls' Under-16 title. The Lincolnshire girl romped to a convincing victory over Angela Tierney (Cleveland), who was the Girls' U-13 holder and ranked at No. 1 in the National U-14 list, to repeat her success in the English Junior Championships last December.

Left-hander Graham Sandley (St. Mary's High School, Cheshunt) held off a strong challenge from Cleveland Boys' U-13 champion, Michael Laird, to win a place in the international team.

In the counterpart Girls' event, Mandy Smith, of the Turnpike School, Newbury, confirmed her superior Under-14 ranking (No. 4) in winning against yet another Cleveland finalist in Helen Robinson (No. 6) whilst Essex players Maxine Abbott (Metropolitan) and Julie Dowsett (County) had to be content with third and fourth places.

Bryon Johnson (Winchcombe Junior School)—runner-up last year (Boys' U-11) went one better and made it a double celebration for Newbury when he overcame a determined John Souter (Bridge Road Primary School, Brent).

Wiltshire, a county not usually noted for success in schools' table tennis, caught the eye when their champion, Pauline Townsend (Ruskin Junior School) put Swindon on the map by winning the Girls' Under-11 title.

The first four players in all events except the Under-11's were automatic selections for the International fixture.

RESULTS

Boys' Under-19—Six Group Winners

- 1A—Simon Douglas (Berkshire).
- 1B—Devinder Sehmbi (Essex Metro).
- 1C—Martin Kinsella (Notts).
- 1D—David Bangerter (Inner London).
- 1E—Meyer Sofaer (Middlesex).
- 1F—John Evans (Cheshire).

Semi-final Group 1G

Sehmbi bt Douglas -18, 9, 14; bt Kinsella 15, -14, 14.

Kinsella bt Douglas 16, 20.

Semi-final Group 1H

Sofaer bt Bangerter 19, 15; bt Evans -12, 20, 14.

Bangerter bt Evans 13, 18.

Final

SEHMBI bt Sofaer 15, 21.

Third Place: Bangerter bt Kinsella 17, 17.

Girls' Under-19—Six Group Winners

- 2A—Karen Rogers (Leics).
- 2B—Alison Gordon (Berkshire).
- 2C—Julie Reading (Hampshire).
- 2D—Mandy Mellor (Derbyshire).
- 2E—Jane Skipp (Cleveland).
- 2F—Jayne Mitchell (Surrey County).

Semi-final Group 2G

Rogers bt Gordon 9, 9; bt Reading 11, 16.

Reading bt Gordon 14, 6.

Semi-final Group 2H

Mellor bt Skipp 19, 18; bt Mitchell 15, 20.

Mitchell bt Skipp 9, 11.

Final

ROGERS bt Mellor 21, 12.

Third Place: Reading bt Mitchell 13, 18.

Boys' Under-16—Eight Group Winners

- 3A—Douglas Johnson (West Midlands).
- 3B—Russell King (Suffolk).
- 3C—Simon Claxton (Heref'd & Worcs).
- 3D—Peter Griffiths (Warwicks).
- 3E—Keith Paxton (Tyne & Wear).
- 3F—Michael Harrison (Humberside).
- 3G—Stephen Hazelwood (W. Yorkshire).
- 3H—Chris Rogers (Leicestershire).

Semi-final Group 3J

Johnson bt King 11, 14; bt Claxton 9, 10; bt Griffiths 13, 12.

Claxton bt King 10, 8; bt Griffiths 11, 15; Griffiths bt King 16, 16.

Semi-final Group 3K

Harrison bt Paxton 19, 19; bt Hazelwood -19, 13, 16; bt Rogers 11, 14.

Rogers bt Paxton -17, 18, 19; bt Hazelwood 12, 12.

Paxton bt Hazelwood -20, 13, 13.

Final

JOHNSON bt Harrison 14, 17.

Third Place: Rogers bt Claxton -20, 16, 10.



Pauline Townsend (Wiltshire) winner of the Girls' U-11 title, with Mrs. Pat Simpson, wife of E.T.T.A. National Coach, Peter.

Girls' Under-16—Six Group Winners

- 4A—Suzanne Hunt (Lincolnshire).
- 4B—Helen Gore (Essex County).
- 4C—Elaine Starr (Surrey Metro).
- 4D—Sandra Sutton (Essex Metro).
- 4E—Lindsey Booth (Herts).
- 4F—Angela Tierney (Cleveland).

Semi-final Group 4G

Hunt bt Gore 10, 11; bt Starr 9, 12.

Starr bt Gore 15, 9.

Semi-final Group 4H

Tierney bt Sutton -15, 10, 7; bt Booth 15, 6.

Sutton bt Booth 17, 17.

Final

HUNT bt Tierney 11, 13.

Third Place: Sutton bt Starr 16, 15.

Boys' Under-13—Eight Group Winners

- 5A—Graham Sandley (Middlesex).
- 5B—Paul Hindle (North Yorkshire).
- 5C—Neil Mullarkey (Surrey Metro).
- 5D—Michael Owens (Heref'd/Worcester).
- 5E—Terry Dowsett (Essex County).
- 5F—Michael Laird (Cleveland).
- 5G—Graeme Black (Merseyside).
- 5H—Mark Heppenstall (South Yorkshire).

Semi-final Group 5J

Sandley bt Hindle -8, 8; bt Mullarkey 9, 3; bt



Mandy Smith (Berkshire) winner of the Girls' U-13 title, with Mrs. Doreen Yates, wife of the E.T.T.A.'s Deputy Chairman.

Owens 12, 15.

Owens bt Hindle 17, -19, 15; bt Mullarkey 10, 6.

Hindle bt Mullarkey 13, 12.

Semi-final Group 5K

Laird bt Dowsett 17, 14; bt Black -18, 15, 19; bt Heppenstall 15, 11.

Black bt Dowsett 8, 17; bt Heppenstall 18, 13. Dowsett bt Heppenstall 14, 16.

Final

SANDLEY bt Laird 17, 12.

Third Place: Owens bt Black 19, 18.



Douglas Johnson (West Midlands) winner of the Boys' U-16 title, with E.S.T.A. Chairman, Tom Mathews, M.A., of Leeds.

Girls' Under-13—Six Group Winners

- 6A—Mandy Smith (Berkshire).
- 6B—Deirdre Devine (Middlesex).
- 6C—Julie Dowsett (Essex County).
- 6D—Maxine Abbott (Essex Metro).
- 6E—Mandy Mytton (Heref'd & Worcs.).
- 6F—Helen Robinson (Cleveland).

Semi-final Group 6G

Smith bt Devine 12, 11; bt Dowsett 17, 14.

Dowsett bt Devine 19, -8, 14.

Semi-final Group 6H

Robinson bt Abbott 15, 18; bt Mytton 11, 15.

Abbott bt Mytton 8, 11.

Final

SMITH bt Robinson 12, 14.

Third Place: Abbott bt Dowsett 14, 14.

Boys' Under-11—Four Group Winners

- 7A—Bryon Johnson (Berkshire).
- 7B—Graham Russell (Surrey County).
- 7C—Jeremy Duffield (Heref'd & Worcs.).
- 7D—John Souter (Middlesex).

Semi-finals

Johnson bt Russell 7, 17.

Souter bt Duffield 17, 13.

Final

JOHNSON bt Souter 17, 16.

Third Place: Duffield bt Russell 15, 18.

Girls' Under-14—Four Group Winners

- 8A—Lorraine Garbett (Surrey County).
- 8B—Carol Exton (Lincolnshire).
- 8C—Deborah Colket (Essex Metro).
- 8D—Pauline Townsend (Wiltshire).

Semi-finals

Garbett bt Exton 8, 4.

Townsend bt Colket 6, 7.

Final

TOWNSEND bt Garbett 8, 10.

Third Place: Exton bt Colker 19, -22, 16.

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

The following teams have been selected to represent England Schools in the Striga International matches against Scotland at Eston Sports Centre, Teesside, on July 5 and 6.

Boys' Under-19

- Ian Girdler (I.L.E.A.)
- Simon Douglas (Berkshire)
- John Evans (Cheshire)
- Keith James (Devon)
- Martin Kinsella (Notts)
- John Kitchener (Suffolk)
- Devinder Sehmbi (Essex Met.)
- Meyer Sofaer (Middlesex)
- Keith Williams (Merseyside)

Girls' Under-19

- Janet Carr (West Midlands)
- Karen Groves (West Midlands)
- Judith Langridge (Suffolk)
- Mandy Mellor (Derbyshire)
- Jayne Mitchell (Surrey County)
- Julie Reading (Hampshire)
- Karen Rogers (Leics)
- Jayne Skipp (Cleveland)
- Linda Towler (Beds)

Boys' Under-16

- Simon Claxton (Hereford & Worcester)
- Michael Harrison (Humberside)
- Douglas Johnson (West Midlands)
- Richard Mountford (West Midlands)
- Keith Paxton (Tyne & Wear)
- David Newman (Essex County)
- Chris Reed (Cumbria)
- Keith Richardson (Cams)
- Chris Rogers (Leics)

Girls' Under-16

- Lindsey Booth (Herts)
- Helen Gore (Essex County)
- Suzanne Hunt (Lincs)
- Stephanie Jones (West Midlands)
- Melody Ludi (West Yorkshire)
- Julie McLean (Humberside)
- Elaine Starr (Surrey Met.)
- Sandra Sutton (Essex Met.)
- Angela Tierney (Cleveland)

Boys' Under-13

- Graeme Black (Merseyside)
- Diccon Gray (Cumbria)
- Bryon Johnson (Berkshire)
- Michael Laird (Cleveland)
- Michael Owens (Hereford & Worcester)
- Ian Reed (Cumbria)
- Graham Sandley (Middlesex)
- John Souter (Middlesex)
- Stephen Woodgate (Surrey County)

Girls' Under-13

- Maxine Abbott (Essex Met.)
- Julie Dowsett (Essex County)
- Lorraine Garbett (Surrey County)
- Alison Gordon (Berkshire)
- Gillian Heath (Berkshire)
- Jill Purslow (Berkshire)
- Helen Robinson (Cleveland)
- Mandy Smith (Berkshire)
- Pauline Townsend (Wiltshire)

The team competitions take place on the Saturday (six players per team—all play all) at 10 a.m. with the Individual Championships being held on the following day (10 a.m.) with England providing nine players and Scotland seven, in each of the six events.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Mr. John Arnold, Headmaster of Sandal Endowed Middle School, Barnsley Road, Wakefield, was elected Honorary General Secretary at the Association's A.G.M., held at Burslem on May 10.

The meeting voted in favour of restoring the "order of merit" Rule, the abolition of which caused some controversy in last season's Team Championships.

SHROPSHIRE NOTES

by Alan Cavell

CASH PROBLEMS

From the reports the Officers presented at the Shropshire County A.G.M., it is clear that the re-organised county administration is working smoothly and fostering table tennis throughout the county at all levels.

Whether the level of activity can be sustained will depend largely on the financial resources available in future. Shropshire is unlikely to enter a Junior team in the County Championships if the present sponsorship by the Trustee Savings Bank is withdrawn.

Officers re-elected were:—President—A. J. Cavell; Chairman—W. E. G. Harris; Vice-Chairman—T. Felton; Gen. Sec.—P. K. Parkhurst; Treasurer—Mrs. G. Gee; Inter-League Sec.—M. C. F. Jones; C.T.T.C Sec.—J. Burke; Coaching Sec.—P. H. Jackson; Umpires' Sec.—W. E. G. Harris.

The number of active, qualified coaches in the Telford T.T.A. trebled recently when Trevor Felton and David Siddle qualified as Club coaches. During the 1974-75 season these two, with Alan Cavell, have been coaching continuously in various Telford schools. They have been most cordially received by teachers and inter-school matches, using two tables simultaneously, were arranged and played.

The simultaneous use of two tables for one match proved to be so successful that the Telford T.T.A. has now permitted its own league matches to be played in that manner. By using two tables evening matches can be finished well before 10 p.m.

Officers and committee members elected at the Telford A.G.M. were:—President—J. H. Reid; Vice-President—W. Owen; Chairman—A. J. Cavell; Vice-Chairman—D. Siddle; Hon. Sec.—G. S. Finch; Hon Treasurer—R. Blud; Inter-League Sec.—M. C. F. Jones; Hon. Auditor—G. S. Crawford; Press Officer—N. Ross; Management Committee—P. J. Cooper, B. Edwards, T. Felton, Mrs. A. Johnson, F. Manley, D. Rogers, C. Wakeley and M. Ward.



Bryon Johnson (Berkshire) winner of the Boys' U-11 title, with E.T.T.A. National Coach, Peter Simpson.

Photographic coverage by
John O'Sullivan, of Liverpool.

EUROPEAN FAIRS CITIES CUP

The final matches will be played in Reykavik, Iceland, on June 21.

Table Tennis - THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND THE FUTURE

By BERNARD CHATTERLEY

THE PAST—WHAT DID IT HOLD?

From humble beginnings table tennis grew and was enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of enthusiasts throughout these islands. World Champions — Fred Perry, Victor Barna, Richard Bergmann, Johnny Leach, Diane and Rosalind Rowe were all British. Matches were played before large crowds, Barna even played the London Palladium, spectators travelled miles to watch their favourites in action. Aubrey Simons was ranked number four in the World and could not get a regular place in the English Team.

THE PRESENT—WHAT DOES IT HOLD?

The sport today involves more people, both on the playing and administration sides. It involves gamesmanship (cheating!), it suffers from poor attendances, it suffers from lack of international success, it suffers from boredom due mainly to coaches teaching most of their charges to play the same game and, perhaps most of all, it suffers from apathy on the part of far too many people who are prepared to do nothing to cultivate and generate interest in what is one of the greatest sports.

Guidance from the ruling body is lacking in many respects, information, all too often, is held back and not passed to the people who could and would use it.

THE FUTURE—WHAT WILL IT HOLD?

The immediate future holds the greatest of all events, THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, in England in 1977; surely we should by now have more details of the plans for them. Surely national policy of grooming should be more far-reaching than it is. As things stand at present, our current number one, Denis Neale, will still be number one in '77, and we all know that, despite his fine record for England in domestic competition, Denis has not got what it takes to be a World Championship finalist.

The ruling body is not really as guilty as one might expect in respect of the lack of information on the Worlds, the players themselves (or their mouthpieces) are the ones who are guilty here, they are the people who voted against a simple guarantee fund for the biggest event ever to be held in England in our sport.

Away from the World Championships there are many other things that we can do to promote the game—the first major objective must be the establishment of a NATIONAL LEAGUE set up in similar fashion to the Football League—but unless players are prepared to put effort into it, with no immediate financial return, there is no hope.

Frivolous proposals concerning payments to players for playing in matches such as the County Championship events can do nothing but harm at this stage, although I personally feel that at present it is a toothless set-up the PLAYERS' ASSOCIATION OF TABLE TENNIS could help in this respect by mapping out ideas and policies, BUT, and it is a very large BUT, the players must be prepared to put something in before they can expect to take something out. Before pressing for payments, bigger prizes, etc., etc., the P.A.T.T. should form a Disciplinary Committee to ensure that a code of conduct is laid down so that organisers are aware of non-appearance before the event commences.

There are SIX points to look at for the future:

1. Players must learn to play table tennis

which is attractive to spectators as well as being successful.

2. Players must be encouraged to put something into the game so that they can themselves reap the later benefits.
3. Information must be spread far more widely than at present.
4. Appearance and good discipline in players must be encouraged.
5. Players, at all levels, must ensure that only people prepared to work for the general well-being of the sport are elected to offices of influence.
6. The PLAYERS' ASSOCIATION OF TABLE TENNIS must formulate its policy so that interest is generated in the game throughout the country; it must be aware that unless players are active in promotion there is no point in promotion.

(This is an independent article by Bernard Chatterley, Press and Publicity Officer, Dagenham and District Table Tennis League, Coach, County Umpire, Team Captain, Club Official and all-round table tennis fanatic.)

U.S. Open, 1976

by J. Rufford Harrison
(Executive Vice-President, U.S.A.T.T.A.)

We should like all to know, before the forthcoming season is fully planned, the dates of the United States Open International Championships are July 24-27, 1976. This is rather late, because of the location: Philadelphia, first capital of the United States of America.

1976 happens to be the 200th Anniversary of the U.S.A. There will, accordingly, be major celebrations in most cities, but particularly in our first capital. The U.S. Open is scheduled to take place at the same time as these festivities, so that there will be much of interest for the visiting player.

The U.S. Open is becoming a major event on the international calendar. Last year Sweden, Japan and Yugoslavia took part. This year Hungary, Yugoslavia, Sweden, R.O. Korea and several other countries will be present. We hope we shall be able to add other teams to the list next year.

NEWLY-ACQUIRED SPONSORS

The Aycliffe Festival 2-Star Open due to have been held in Newton Aycliffe on Saturday, May 31, had its title changed to the Sedgefield and District 2-Star Open in accordance with the wishes of the newly-acquired sponsors, the Sedgefield and District Council.

John Masson, Joint Hon. Sec. of the Aycliffe T.T. League reports they were pleased to help the sponsors promote the newly-built Newton Aycliffe Recreation Centre by using the premises as the venue. Sedgefield and District Council were providing full financial backing, amounting to a prize fund of £143 in addition to the venue, the main sports hall measuring 122' x 105' x 30' giving space for 12 tables.

The effect of the sponsorship was immediate resulting in the largest ever entry, over 150.

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by Ralph Gunnion

BRITISH RAIL—RIGHT ON TRACK

To win the County K.O. Club Competition be a member of the East Birmingham League Division Two. That's obviously the message, for following on from last year when the winners were Pressed Steel Fisher, this season's champions are British Rail, also from that division.

Defeating Hereward College by 69 points, British Rail were in superb form in the final, reaching their handicap target by the end of the fourteenth game. In fact so astute was Dave Hilliard's assessment of the handicap

for the final (being twelve points out) that Dave, from British Rail, should serve on the committee next season. Nevertheless, well done Hereward; coming from the 11th division of the Coventry League you've shown to many doubting Thomas's that handicap competitions can work.

The Warwickshire League has also reached its conclusion with the final tables as follows:—

Division 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
South Birmingham	8	8	0	52	20	16
East Birmingham "A"	8	6	2	46	26	12
North Birmingham	8	3	5	37	35	6
Leamington	8	3	5	34	38	6
Nuneaton	8	0	8	11	61	0

Division 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Bir'ham Bus. Houses	8	7	1	52	20	14
East Birmingham "B"	8	6	2	43	29	12
Stratford-upon-Avon	8	4	4	34	38	8
West Birmingham	8	2	6	26	46	4
Tamworth	8	1	7	25	47	2

Congratulations to South Birmingham and to the Birmingham Business Houses' and Works' League, champions of their respective divisions.

Next season will be interesting, for it is quite possible that Birmingham will not be entering so many teams and so, if Coventry elect to return, then I'm sure that this will counteract any omissions from the six Birmingham sides.

Somehow or other the Warwickshire League never seems to operate as perhaps it should—maybe more stringent controls will have to be enforced next season to ensure that the teams respect the status of this type of competition.

Finally, a date for your diary is Wednesday, 9th July, when the County A.G.M. will be held at 8 p.m. at the Handsworth Victoria Club, Hamstead Road, Birmingham 20.

Applications are invited for the position of RECREATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER for the CANADIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

This will be a new position, commencing as a pilot project for nine months from July 1, 1975, to March 31, 1976, with good prospects for continuing on a full-time basis.

The Recreation Development Officer will be:

Knowledgeable in Table Tennis and Recreation.

Able to prepare, conduct and administer Basic Table Tennis Leadership courses for students in recreation and physical education courses.

Able to introduce Table Tennis as a beneficial employee recreation for industry and government.

The position will involve extensive travel. The ability to communicate in French and English will be an asset.

Salary: Canadian \$1,000.00 per month (approximately £410.00 sterling)

Travel Expenses: \$3,000.00 for 9 months

Note.—The position will be covered under a grant from Recreation Canada. The position is offered subject to final grant approval.

Applications and requests for further information should be addressed to:—

Mrs. Jose Tomkins,
Executive Director,
Canadian Table Tennis Association,
333 River Road, Vanier City,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1L 8B9.
Telephone: (613) 746-7645

Umpires' Seminar in Guernsey

by ALBERT SHIPLEY

On the weekend of 10-11 May, 1975, I travelled at the expense and invitation of the Guernsey Table Tennis Association to conduct an Umpires' Seminar. The request for such a seminar was, I believe, sparked off by two events, one the high failure rate amongst the Guernsey candidates for the International Umpire examination and the results of the same candidates when answering County Umpire Test Paper No. 6.

The first session took place on the Saturday afternoon, with about ten persons present, and I had set out a modified version of our own draft outline for an Umpires' Conference. This had to be abandoned when I discovered that the same ten persons would not be able to attend on the Sunday and others could attend at other times. Another factor which caused deviation from the script was my invitation for questions at any time (made to relieve myself of talking continuously for three hours).

Therefore, my general survey of the laws brought out most of their problems connected with umpiring. Nevertheless, the repetition caused by having to update the newcomers each time, seemed to help those who attended throughout.

The first problem area discovered was the universal one of communication, and in spite of the efficiency of the I.T.T.F. administration, some of the law changes that had taken place in 1973, and even some of the 1971 amendments, had not reached the prospective umpires. Even those who had managed to obtain the law changes had difficulty in appreciating the full extent of such changes. One example of this was the 1973 amendment removing the need for the colour of rubber on both sides of a racket to be similar, for one would need to compare the new law with the old, word for word and line for line to fully discover the changes. One can now appreciate the service given by the N.U.R.C. in this sphere when we issue a document explaining changes in detail.

Having cleared up the subject of law changes, there came the problem of separating mandatory laws from recommendations. An example of this was the law requirement for the table colour to be dark, preferably dark green, whereas the recommendations contain a statement that the table surface should be sprayed with a dark green cellulose lacquer.

A great deal of interest was shown in the origins of certain laws and where these were known by myself, it made explanation easy, but there were some laws, the volley law, for instance, where I found myself on the side of the critics and had to revert to the principle that my presence was to help in the knowledge and application of the laws, not to defend their existence.

The techniques and presentation aspects of umpiring were received with interest, but it was obvious that in such a small organisation the chances to umpire in a formal manner were few indeed and even their national championships operated on a loser umpire system up until the finals.

The word "discretion" was often mentioned in discussion, especially in relation to the service law, and their problems over uniformity of application were no less than our own, but in such a small community they at least have a better chance of obtaining this utopia. Apparently a warning over the flat hand requirement made by a Guernsey umpire on a Jersey player during their annual local derby, caused some bad feelings at the time. My view is that "Degrees of Discretion" could well form a section in any future Umpire Conference of our own.

As the seminar was nearing its end, there came an increasing interest in obtaining some sort of qualification and I had first to dispel their obvious disappointment in the International Umpires' examination, but it was like somebody taking the final examination of a three-year course without having sat either the preliminary or intermediate stage. They were obviously relieved to hear explanations of their wrong answers to the County Test paper, but there is a need for an examination pitched just below our own National Umpire standard with an interview forming an essential part of the examination. I provided two of our N.U. papers for them to practice upon, entrusting the answers to their President, Horace Mallet, and left them with a personal offer of assistance in drawing up the first Guernsey umpiring qualification procedure.

Before drawing any conclusions from my experiences on this occasion, one must remember that Guernsey Table Tennis Association is only the size of an average league in this country, and with all their income derived from their own efforts.

I am grateful for the privilege afforded me in being allowed to have made this visit to Guernsey, for it has given me an awareness of the problems not only in the making of laws and regulations, but also in their application and the problems allied thereto, and can only hope that the impetus of umpiring interest shown in Guernsey can be sustained and that some results become manifest in future International Umpire examinations.

That Chinese Rubber

by J. Rufford Harrison

In Calcutta there was a considerable amount of speculation over the nature of the rubber on the rackets of Lu Yuen-sheng and Ke Hsin-ai. They were not noticed until the team finals, when I believe Lu appeared for the first time. Early in the first game against Surbek, Lu forced his opponent to put four consecutive returns of service directly into the net. Four! No top player could make four mistakes like that in a row; therefore, the racket must be suspect. So went the argument, notwithstanding the fact that Lu had never looked like winning in his previous match, against Stipanovic. Then Ke had played both R.O. Korea's top defender, Chung Hyun-Sook, and their top attacker, Lee Ailesa, and had beaten both, using entirely different styles that included what some observers alleged were not particularly good strokes. So went the argument, she must have had a tricky racket.

Roy Evans and I discussed this, and both discussed it with the Chinese. Meanwhile, a friend of mine in the equipment business showed me a piece of what he claimed was the inverted rubber used by the "offending" players. It looked quite innocuous, but I noticed that, if folded back on itself, it tended to stick to itself. Then I pulled it over a ball, and then lifted the ends of the rubber; the ball was lifted from the surface on which it was resting. It fell, of course, after a second or two, but I was nevertheless surprised. I had never tried this with any other rubber, but it certainly seemed to me that this was "stickier" than anything I had seen. It would not, incidentally, stick to a sheet of Sriver.

Later I sat with Li Fu-jung while Lu was playing, and I was able to inspect Lu's racket. The inverted rubber was all in one piece, and the pale yellow sponge under it also seemed to be continuous. The rubber had a high coefficient of friction, perhaps like Mark V or Sriver, but low resilience, somewhat like Antispin. When I pressed the racket down on a ball and then lifted it, the ball rose very briefly. But I could see absolutely nothing illegal about the racket.

Then I sat with Chang Hsieh-lin while Ke was playing, and repeated my brief tests, with the same results. This time, however, I compared Ke's racket with a "conventional" one and pointed out to Chang that, whereas Ke's

racket picked up the ball briefly, the conventional one would not. Ah, he said, just wait a few weeks; after it has been used repeatedly, it becomes stickier, like the other.

What all this means, I am not sure. I do believe that there is a trend towards ever higher coefficients of friction (which, of course, is the reason for our search for a testing lab two years ago) but we on the I.T.T.F. Equipment Committee have as yet no means of measuring them. There is nothing illegal about the Chinese rackets, however, and therefore no call for any immediate action from us.

I should stress here that throughout this entire episode the Chinese were completely co-operative. They did not act like a secretive group with something to hide, but were quite open about the whole thing.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE AVERAGES

MEN

Sweden

	P	W	L	Avg
K. Johansson	14	10	4	71.4
S. Bengtsson	14	9	5	64.2

Hungary

G. Gergely	14	10	4	71.4
I. Jonyer	12	7	5	58.3
J. Börzsei	2	0	2	—

Yugoslavia

D. Surbek	12	10	2	83.3
A. Stipanovic	12	7	5	58.3
M. Karakasevic	2	0	2	—
M. Savnik	2	0	2	—

Czechoslovakia

J. Kunz	14	10	4	71.4
M. Orłowski	12	6	6	50.0
M. Schenk	2	0	2	—

France

J. Secretin	14	8	6	57.1
J. D. Constant	2	1	1	50.0
C. Martin	10	4	6	40.0
P. Birocheau	2	0	2	—

Soviet Union

S. Gomozkov	8	4	4	50.0
A. Strokotov	10	5	5	50.0
S. Sarkhojan	10	4	6	40.0

England

D. Douglas	4	2	2	50.0
N. Jarvis	12	3	9	25.0
D. Neale	12	3	9	25.0

Federal Germany

J. Leiss	14	6	8	42.8
P. Stellwag	12	3	9	25.0
P. Engel	2	0	2	—

WOMEN

Sweden

	P	W	L	Avg
A.-C. Hellman	7	5	2	71.4

Hungary

J. Magos-Havas	4	3	1	75.0
B. Kishazi	1	0	1	—
H. Lotaller	2	0	2	—

Yugoslavia

E. Palatinus	4	2	2	50.0
D. Fabri	1	0	1	—
E. Korpa	2	0	2	—

Czechoslovakia

H. Riedlova	3	3	0	100.0
A. Grofova	3	2	1	66.6
M. Zizkova	1	0	1	—

France

C. Bergeret	7	1	6	14.2
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Soviet Union

E. Antonian	3	2	1	66.6
Z. Rudnova	3	1	2	33.3
T. Ferdman	1	0	1	—

England

J. Hammersley	7	5	2	71.4
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Federal Germany

W. Hendriksen	6	4	2	66.6
U. Hirschmüller	1	0	1	—

BIRTH TO ADOLESCENCE OF THE PLAYERS' ASSOCIATION OF TABLE TENNIS

by KEITH BUCKLE, Press and Publicity Officer



The newly-formed committee of PATT (from l to r): Alan Shepherd, Susan Lisle, Denis Neale, Jill Hammersley, Mike Johns, Tony Clayton, Donald Parker, Keith Buckle and Nicky Jarvis.

Photo by Tony Ross.

PATT IS BORN

The scene was a small, crowded and hot lecture room located in the basements of Crystal Palace Sports Centre, the time was shortly after the finals of the English Closed, when over 60 of the country's leading players, following the direction of top squash and tennis players, made table tennis history by forming a much-needed Players' Association—PATT.

FERTILISATION OF PATT

PATT was the original "brainchild" of Mike Johns and Tony Clayton; their idea of a Players' Association appealed to everyone in the room and after a spate of eager nominations, a bi-sexual committee was elected, the composition of which is given at the end of this article.

The initial committee was formed by the meeting solely with the idea of getting PATT on to its feet, of forming an initial constitution and of initiating preliminary recognition/affiliation negotiations with the E.T.T.A. and the organising of PATT's first full General Constitutional Meeting during the North Middlesex Open Tournament at Alexandra Palace on October 5 and 6, 1975.

PATT'S DEVELOPMENT

The meeting also instructed the committee to look at ways in which PATT could work to promote table tennis in England for a maximum player benefit, so that PATT would enjoy a wide range of player support and not find itself limited to the confines of ranked players. To appeal to, and get support from, the 50+ ranked players, the 5,000+ tournament players, and the multi-thousand general "one night a week" players, the association must work at unilateral policies and stay away, initially, from those that will only benefit the

FOSTERING OF PATT

During the 3 weeks between the two meetings, the committee's members had been busy canvassing as many players as possible for ideas which would indicate directions in which PATT could work. A few of the wide range of subjects that were raised by disgruntled players were:—

1. **Training Camps**—are they giving our senior and junior players what they were set up to do? Do the players need, indeed want, training camps? Would the E.T.T.A. welcome and use PATT's advice?
2. **Money**—Are the present limitations set by the E.T.T.A. on the money available in table tennis good for the game or the players? Provided more money was available, should PATT negotiate with the E.T.T.A. for higher limits or complete financial freedom?
3. **Balls**—Why should financial politics dictate the ball you play with? Should PATT negotiate for total ball freedom?
4. **World Championships, 1977**—Should the E.T.T.A. work as hard to produce the players we need to "do well" as they are to find the money to stage the Championships. One suggestion—Should PATT work to get the E.T.T.A. to employ a top European coach, no matter what the cost?

There are many minor things that PATT could also be involved in, or instigate like:—advise to improve the national junior coaching scheme; encourage the generation of coaches from its ranks; produce a double's ranking list to help tournament organisers and encourage tournaments to run a consolation event.

This list is practically endless and completely filled with a few large, but mainly minor faults in the present system which cause the table tennis player to lose out. These faults, because of their specific nature, will always be overlooked by the parent body and only an association like PATT can ever hope to highlight them and eventually cause their rectification. So support PATT now—membership form from the General Secretary.

LOVE FOR MOTHER

Of course, any success hoped for by PATT would be virtually impossible without a close working relationship with the E.T.T.A. PATT has already applied for official recognition and hope that the E.T.T.A. will invite PATT to send representatives to their council meetings as well as allowing PATT to have a representative on all sub-committees where decisions

"elite". This last topic occupied most of the agenda at the committee's second meeting, held during the excellent Stiga National Team Competition finals, held at Aston University, Birmingham, on April 20.



Some measure of agreement would seem to be indicated here as Chairman Mike Johns counts the votes.

Photo by Tony Ross.

which directly affect the players are taken, i.e. the national selection committee.

ADOLESCENCE

PATT'S first big publicity/membership drive will occur at the Dagenham 2-Star Open Tournament, where it is hoped many players will use the opportunity to discuss their view and problems they have incurred at table tennis, as well as giving the committee a chance to explain the gospel according to "St. PATT".

PATT SHOWS HOW

As a bonus, PATT hopes to hold its own tournament next season and negotiations both for sponsorship and a venue are well under way.

THE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mike Johns.
Secretary: Tony Clayton.
Treasurer: Donald Parker.
Vice-Chairman: Denis Neale.
Press and Publicity Officer: Keith Buckle.
Members: Nicky Jarvis, Alan Shepherd,
Susan Lisle, Jill Hammersley.

COACHING FACILITIES

PROGRESS IN YORKSHIRE

by Alan Cram,

Yorkshire T.T.A. Coaching Secretary

The past season has seen much progress in the acquisition of facilities for coaching on a large scale at league level. A number of leagues have taken great strides towards obtaining these facilities and centres, but there are three leagues whose efforts over the past few years have now come to fruition. All the following cases are examples of co-operation between leagues, corporations, councils, players, etc., and this is why we in Yorkshire feel that the details may be of interest to other areas in the country wishing to set up table tennis coaching centres.

WAKEFIELD

The centre in Wakefield began about 3 years ago after coaches had approached the Youth Officer for the Wakefield County Borough Council, and permission was given for the use of a Youth Centre. Schools, youth organisations and league clubs were then contacted with details of the aims of the coaching centre and inviting youngsters to attend the first session. This was a great success and further sessions were arranged at three-weekly intervals throughout the playing season.

In the early days, the tables had to be transported to and from the centre and schools, youth clubs, etc., before and after each session. As the scheme became more successful, tables were purchased by the Youth Service and stored at the Centre. The original scheme, held on Sundays, is now in its third year and is still very successful. This season has seen the scheme extended to include Monday night, using it for additional training for the more advanced juniors.

There are 11 tables at the centre and an accepted attendance of 45 students per session. There are 98 students on the register, 2 club coaches, 5 additional staff and a woman who acts as secretary and looks after the canteen facilities. The work is carried out by the Wakefield and District League on an entirely voluntary basis.

HALIFAX

Negotiations between Halifax County Borough Council Education Department and Halifax and District Table Tennis Association to obtain a centre began in 1970, and in January, 1971, the Education Department came up with a room which they believed would be suitable. It was, in fact, an old army barracks. The Education Department agreed

to decorate and heat the premises, instal the lighting over the tables and supply 6 tables and nets completely free, except for a small charge for rent, on the understanding the district league would organise coaching on a voluntary basis.

Wellesley Park Coaching Committee was formed, consisting of players interested in developing junior players in Halifax. In order to obtain qualified coaches to run the centre, a coaches' course was arranged which produced a 1-Star Diploma Coach, 10 Club Coaches and 3 Student Coaches.

The Centre was officially opened by the Mayor in July, 1971, and the weekly programme was:—

Monday—Open age coaching and practice
Tuesday—Under-17 coaching
Wednesday—Open age coaching and practice

In March, 1972, 2 junior and 1 senior teams were formed to play in the local league on Thursdays and Fridays. The Centre is also used for exhibitions, representative matches, proficiency award days and tournaments on Sundays. In conjunction with the Education Authority, coaching for schools is held on Monday and Tuesday afternoons, and a schools' course is also run on Saturday mornings.

LEEDS

The final example is perhaps the best of the achievements attainable through co-operation between various interested bodies. The Centre at Leeds Moor Grange School is not yet open, but is due for completion very shortly.

Before 1970, coaching organised by the Leeds League had involved around 10 players with 1 coach, and at best, only every other week during the season. In general, the facilities were poor and the players played purely for recreation.

In 1970, a course for around some 30 or more schoolchildren was organised on a weekly basis throughout the school year by the Schools' League in conjunction with the Education Authority. With the co-operation of the Schools' League and the Leeds League, a number of juniors were placed with league clubs. The best juniors were also invited to join the Leeds League squad for further coaching.

In 1971, a youth centre was opened with classes on three evenings with 5 tables and a coach. The classes were open to all youth members, and consequently, the players were a mixed group.

In 1972, the John Smeaton Sports Complex was completed and a table tennis evening class started on one evening, with the facilities available at weekends for free programme use. Four tables were available. A three-tier coaching system was then inaugurated. Players could progress from schools' coaching and other beginner courses to an intermediate level course at the Leisure Centre. From there the best players were selected to attend the top-level coaching group, organised by the Leeds League. The latter is now on a regular twice-weekly basis.

In 1974, the Leeds Athletic Institute agreed to run a twice-weekly advanced course. Four tables and quartz halogen lighting were purchased and installed.

About this time, the Yorkshire Association agreed a plan to set up centres in each of the four regions which now make up Yorkshire (these being South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, North Yorkshire and Humberside). Leeds was selected to be the centre for West Yorkshire. The Stiga Company offered the English Schools' Table Tennis Association 10 tables at a special price of £700 if a centre could be found permanently to accommodate them. The Headmaster at Moor Grange School, who is also the Chairman of the E.S.T.T.A., agreed to allow his school to be used as a table tennis centre. The Leeds Education and Leisure Service Department agreed to the use of the school for this purpose. All that remained was the financing of the tables and special lighting (£300). After some 6 months of negotiations, the Leeds Leisure Services Department made a grant of £350, the Educa-

tion Department £300, and the Leeds League £50. The Yorkshire Association agreed to purchase 12 sets of quartz halogen lights, these being portable units so that they may be used for any major events within Yorkshire. A 50% grant has been requested from the Sports Council towards the cost of the lights. The Sports Council has given advice, set up meetings and assisted in many ways to bring about the establishment of the centre at Moor Grange, which is expected to be fully operational by September, 1975. The centre will be used for local coaching and local league matches during the week and county coaching, matches, tournaments, etc., at weekends.

Other centres are being sought in Harrogate, York and Sheffield, which we hope will produce the same results as the three examples above.

Gwent Open

LITTLE JOY FOR WELSH

by Grove Motlow

Cwmbran Sports Stadium, the new venue for the Gwent Open, proved to be a huge success both for players and spectators alike. With tiered seating, the spacious badminton hall also afforded the players ample room and the restaurant facilities were excellent.

Tony Clayton won the M.S. title with final victory over the young Bristolian, Chris Sewell. In the semis Clayton beat the Welsh No. 1, Alan Griffiths, 15, 19, while Sewell accounted for Cheshire's John Hilton, 18, 19, having earlier completely dominated the Welsh No. 2, Graham Davies.

In the W.S., Joyce Lloyd, of Worcs, retained her title beating Carol Downer (Derbys) in the semis and Bev Green (Warwks) in the final after Butlin's "Girl of the Year" had ousted Elaine Lamb (Devon).

Hilton and Yorkshire's Alan Fletcher won the M.D. but narrowly from Davies and Griffiths 22, -18, 22, after the Welsh pair had eliminated Clayton and Laurie Landry. The W.D. title went to the young Warwickshire pair, Bev. Green and Karen Groves who, in the final, beat Joyce Lloyd and Janet Hunt (Worcs) -14, 10, 15. In the semis the Birmingham combination beat the Welsh juniors Pat Allen and Julie Ralphs, of Wrexham, 20, -12, 18, while the Worcestershire pair accounted for Margaret Alexander and Alison Boyce, of Devizes.

Again, in the mixed, Hilton finished up on the winning side when partnered by Mrs. Downer, beating Davies and Pat Allen 10, 9. Karen Groves took the G.S. title beating Bev Green 21, -19, 11. Sewell took the counterpart boys' event with final victory over David Reeves (Berks) 12 and 18.

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ESSEX NOTES

by Geoff Newman

"LUSH" PASTURES

Our Essex inter-league programme, 16 divisions strong, has finally come to an end and secretary David Lush must be well pleased with his efforts to keep this competition on the move. The final tables show just how close some of the divisions were, with a number of leagues getting in on the winning act this season. Main Winners and runners-up were:—

	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
DIVISION 1						
Dagenham "A"	5	5	0	35	15	17
Southend "A"	5	3	1	32	18	14

DIVISION 2						
Dagenham "B"	5	2	3	30	20	13
Billericay "A"	5	2	2	27	23	11

DIVISION 3						
Romford "B"	5	4	1	38	12	18
Southend "C"	5	4	1	40	10	17

DIVISION 4						
Harlow "B"	4	3	1	26	14	12
Becontree "A"	4	2	1	20	20	9

DIVISION 5						
Colchester "B"	5	3	2	34	16	15
Basildon "B"	5	3	1	30	20	12

DIVISION 6						
Billericay "B"	4	2	2	29	11	12
Clacton "B"	4	3	1	26	14	12

JUNIOR DIVISION 1						
Dagenham "A"	5	4	0	36	14	16
Chelmsford "A"	5	4	1	35	15	16

VETERANS' DIVISION 1						
Dagenham "A"	5	5	0	33	12	16
Romford "A"	5	4	1	31	14	15

The Burnham League have just completed their closed championships, yet another league to have a record entry. The tournament was well run by secretary Keith Pitt and his helpers, taking up an evening and a complete day with 8 tables in use. Champions:—

M.S.: Stephen Greep.
 W.S.: Wendy Hooper.
 J.S.: Paul Quick.
 H.S.: Malcolm Gooday.
 R.S.: Clare Hamilton.
 M.D.: Greep/Geoff Newman.
 W.D.: Janet Hales/Hooper.
 X.D.: Greep/Hamilton.

ESSEX CLOSED

A well-organised Closed Championships was well supported at the Mid-Essex Technical College, at Chelmsford. The standard of play throughout was very high with the Junior element in particular showing how strong our overall standard is.

David Brown crowned a magnificent season by taking the M.S. title, coming back from being a game and 10-15 down to take the crown from top seed Ian Horsham. Perhaps the best set of the championships was the semi-final encounter between Horsham and Bob Potton, with Horsham just getting home 22-20 in the third.

Elaine Tarten took the W.S. title without dropping a game, a very competent display that included a 9, 16 defeat of top seed Shelagh Hession. Tony Condon took the veterans' title when he outplayed Ronnie Herber, who had done well to beat Ken Beamish, while Condon had to pull out all the stops to beat Derek Lewis.

The brother and sister partnership of Bob and Janet Hellaby took the mixed title, Janet and Elaine Tarten teamed up to take the W.D., with top seeds Horsham and Brown winning the M.D.

Les Eadie took the B.S. title after a very tense final set, coming from behind to snatch victory from David Iszatt 22-20 in the decider. Sandra Sutton had few difficulties in taking the girls' title, as hard as Penny Abbott tried, Sandra always being in command.

The B.D. final was won by Eadie and Iszatt after three pulsating games against Dave Newman and Kevin Caldon. Elaine Sayer and Alison May outlasted Helen Gore and Carol Taylor in the G.D. after the losers had retrieved seven match points in the third game. The X.D. went to Iszatt and Sandra Sutton over Newman and Helen Gore, but David Newman got a deserved title in the U-15 B.S. with final victory over Stephen Low.

The U-15 girls' event went to Miss Gore, her steady game being just too much for Elaine Sayer. Terry Dowsett won the U-13 B.S., but sister Julie had to give second best in the G.S. to Maxine Abbott. Results:—

M.S.: D. Brown bt I. Horsham -13, 19, 16.
 W.S.: E. Tarten bt J. Hellaby 16, 17.
 V.S.: A. Condon bt R. Herber 9, 20.
 M.D.: Brown/Horsham bt K. Caldon/ D. Newman 7, 17.
 W.D.: Hellaby/Tarten bt L. Barrow/S. Hession -16, 19, 16.
 X.D.: R. Hellaby/J. Hellaby bt D. Iszatt/S. Sutton 13, -13, 16.
 B.S. (U-13): T. Dowsett bt R. Turner 12, 7.
 B.S. (U-15): D. Newman bt S. Low 10, 11.
 B.S. (U-17): L. Eadie bt Iszatt 19, -15, 20.
 G.S. (U-13): M. Abbott bt J. Dowsett 12, 21.
 G.S. (U-15): H. Gore bt E. Sayer 15, 15.
 G.S. (U-17): S. Sutton bt P. Abbott 18, 12.
 B.D.: Eadie/Iszatt bt Caldon/Newman 20, -17, 19.
 G.D.: A. May/E. Sayer bt H. Gore/C. Taylor -18, 15, 17.
 X.D.: Iszatt/Sutton bt Newman/Gore -18, 18, 8.



Gordon Lightfoot (Referee) centre, appears to have matters in control with Ron Locke (Tournament Organiser) and David Lush at the Control table.



Les Eadie and Dave Iszatt, boys' doubles winners and boys' singles finalists, with Essex Chairman, Ted Pritchard, who presented the awards.

Overcoming those physical and psychological blocks

by JOHN DIGGENS
E.T.T.A. Coach (Diploma)

In table tennis at all levels one of the more serious blocks to a player achieving maximum possible success and realising their full potential is the mental approach to the game. Table tennis is a very individualistic sport and the pressures upon a player, particularly in straight knockout tournament play, are extreme.

Nearly every player has what they call a bogey player, the lower your standard the more you have. A bogey player can be described as having a lower average than you, but plays a type of game which you are unable to counter. A truly good player will either change his game during a match, to combat an awkward style, or impose his style on his opponent. A player of a lower standard could beat some of his bogey players by analysing his opponent, and the reason why he loses. A player with an all-round game will find it easier to adapt to an awkward opponent, as he will be more able to change his tactics.

Top class players play by instinct, and many of them would be unable to tell you just how they won a particular game. These "class" players are the lucky few who have a sort of built-in automatic control system, able to vary their spin, speed, angle, and placement of the ball automatically, without really thinking about it.

Some players often complain about having a bad night, or a streak of bad luck. This could be due to several factors—(a) They may be tired or physically unfit; (b) they may have started the evening without a warm-up; (c) they may have a particular style of play which is prone to error; (d) their opponent may be playing above himself, or in the period since you last played him, have improved greatly.

If your opponent is young, or has only recently taken up the game, you would certainly be wise to take into account that he may well have improved considerably.

One mental block that bugs a lot of players is that of bad luck. There is really no such thing—a good player will make his own luck. How many players have you seen who spend a whole set crying about an edge ball or controversial point against them at five-all in the first game. All right, so the umpire is half blind, with an I.Q. of 20, and is your opponent's brother-in-law, but to blame a defeat on a couple of edge balls, or nets, is really silly, whenever they might occur. The best thing to do is to forget any controversial point, and to concentrate on the rest of the match.

A few players have certainly read the many excellent books on "oneupmanship", and follow the advice religiously, chucking in a few of their own ideas for good measure. Beware of that nice, well-mannered fellow who tells you how well you are playing, and how you are bound to beat him. You are then led like a lamb to the slaughter, and thrashed ten and ten. Beware also of the character who, on coming in the club (a) complains about his bad back, and (b) complains about the light, (c) complains about the floor, and (d) says how badly he has been playing. Have you got the message? You are on a loser whatever happens.

Then you get the type who comes in and knocks up with his mate, telling him how he won such and such a tournament over the weekend, and oh yes!! beat Chester two straight last week. Mentally you go on against this play 15 points down to start with. You are not to know that the tournament he has won was the local Y.M.C.A. singles, and that "Chester" was Chester Bloggs, who has a twenty per cent average in the sixteenth division.

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RICHARD YULE (Scotland's No. 1).

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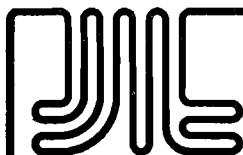
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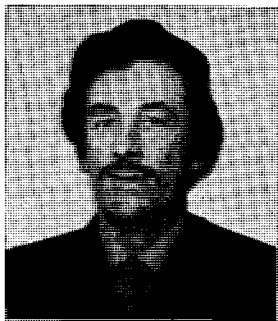
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John Woodford

... DISCOURSES ON MALE VETERANS

Over the past five years it seems to me that the number of matches in top class table tennis requiring the use of the expedite rule has steadily diminished. But at the lower levels, and especially in matches concerning veteran men, the problem still exists. It's a problem if you are a spectator or a match organiser.

The last place I would go on a Saturday night would be to a veterans' county championships match, because I would dread the possibility of having to watch two men playing through 15 minutes pushing for the expedite rule. Regrettably, watching slow table tennis can be particularly boring for non-players. But as we all know, all-action stuff between skilled players can be really exciting. So can a match between one attacker and one player prepared to retreat to the rear of the court—in fact there can be no doubt that this is the greatest treat—example—the final of the Norwich Union International Championships at Brighton earlier this year when Jacques Secretin played a super-spectacular.

The move by the I.T.T.F. in Calcutta, to allow players to play from the word go on expedite, if they agree, sounds like an exciting prospect at first glance, but is it? I cannot imagine many circumstances where two players are going to agree. I can envisage one man or woman, putting up the request, the one with the best attack, that is. But the one with the inferior attack is rarely going to give the nod. The reason is simple—if he knows that their attack is not in the same class then he must keep things as they are.

That is, push away for the 15 minutes, hoping that his skill as a pusher is the greater and that when they start expedite, he has taken a substantial lead.

Many defenders these days, only survive because they can produce a sound attack when necessary. There are those who rely basically on chop; true, they are becoming fewer all the time. Therefore I can see no way, if they are truly tacticians, that they could elect to start expedite right from the off.

Here's a great idea for supporters of veterans' divisions in the County Championships—impose the new I.T.T.F. ruling from the start of any game between known defenders—then there might be a chance of attracting some spectators!

SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE CLOSED

Jermyn in Command
by Leslie Constable

Richard Jermyn, of North Herts, completed a double when he won the B.S. and M.S. titles of the S.E.M.L. Closed Championships held at Cambridge Corn Exchange.

In the final of the men's singles he beat Rodney Marchant, of Wellingborough in a

straight games, being equally successful against A. Chandler in the junior event. Mandy Wallis, of Wellingborough won the W.S. title defeated Connie Baines, of North Herts in a dour struggle. Results:—

M.S.: R. Jermyn bt R. Marchant 9, 10.
W.S.: M. Wallis bt C. Baines 13, -14, 11.
B.S.: Jermyn bt A. Chandler 18, 8.
G.S.: J. Allinson bt B. Chamberlain 18, 8.
M.D.: A. Major/F. Nilam bt Jermyn/A. Lamprell 15, 19.

THE ASCOT BUTTERFLY NATIONAL LEAGUES CHAMPIONSHIPS

by KEITH PONTING

DOUBLE CRASH IN SEMIS

"At last we have done it," announced an overjoyed Guildford League Secretary, Trevor Channing, when he rang me with the result of the semi-final Rose Bowl clash between his league and the holders, Central London, for so long unbeatable in this competition.

Guildford have narrowly failed on many occasions at this stage but the night of Thursday, May 15, is one that will be remembered for a very long time. In a match of fluctuating fortunes, with neither side taking a commanding lead, the breakthrough for Guildford came in the 7th set when Linda Howard completed a brilliant treble by just getting the better of Karenza Mathews, 19 in the third.

This put the home team 4-3 in the lead and the pressure was on the Londoners. Shelagh Hession fought off the challenge of Sue Henderson to level the match score, at which stage came the crunch match between Ruth Miles and Di Court. The first game went to Diane 21-11, but Ruth, always a fighter, took the second at 14.

The decider was a real ding-donger, but when Di led 20-18 it appeared that yet another Guildford attempt had failed, yet again. Ruth, however, had different ideas and went on to win a memorable encounter 25-23 to become the "toast" of Guildford. It must be said that Central were without Jill Hammersley, who was ill, but not to detract from the merit of Guildford's win—by local girls—and, in particular Ruth Miles, so often in the shadow of Linda and Susan.

Guildford's opponents in the final will be Ormesby, who have done well with such a young team. In the semis they overcame Chesterfield 5-4, thanks to a maximum by Carole Knight, whose teammates, Angela Tierney and Barbara Kearney, also did their bit. Jackie Billington (2) and one each from Sandra Walters and Mandy Mellor, scored for the losers.

Dagenham, the Bromfield Trophy holders, also took their departure in the semis when beaten 6-3 by Bournemouth, whose Julie Reading and Janet New recorded maximums. The writing was on the wall when Julie beat Sandra Sutton. North Acton came out on top of a close struggle with Birmingham, edging home 5-4 with wins by Susan Dove (2), Jill Champion (2) and Marilyn Sangster (1). Bev Green was unbeaten for the Midlanders.

In the Wilmott Cup, holders Ormesby had an easy semi-final passage against Birmingham. Even without Denis Neale they won 5-1. Jimmy Walker had a particularly good win over Desmond Douglas, whilst Nicky Jarvis and David Alderson played their part.

The final will be a repeat of last season as the youthful North Middlesex team also had a resounding 5-1 win over a strong East London side. Andy Barden, Mark Mitchell and David Tan were in great fettle as David Brown, David Iszatt and Ian Horsham will testify.

North Middlesex make yet another appearance in the Carter Cup final as a result of their 5-2 win over Thames Valley. Mark Mitchell was again outstanding, as was David Iszatt—changing leagues for this competition—as was Colin Williams deputising for Barden. Joining the Londoners in the final will be Leicester who, after many close attempts, have a team through. In the semis they had the edge over Leeds, who recorded such a great win over Ormesby in the previous round. Chris Rogers and Grahame Hall were unbeaten for the winners.

The Finals take place at Belper Sports Centre, Kilburn Road, Belper, Derbyshire, on Sunday, June 8, and not at Derby Sports Centre, the venue previously circularised. The two junior finals are scheduled to commence at 10 a.m. and the senior finals at 2 p.m.

Alan Ransome PUTS THE CASE FOR PAYING THE PLAYERS

In recent years the life of a top English table tennis player has changed. In the days when Bryan Merrett was England's No. 1 he was completely amateur. Today, no less than six of the present England Squad rely entirely on their earnings from the game for a living.

These players' incomes are made up of contributions from several sources:—

- Prize money—next season to be approximately £180 for the men's singles in some 3-star tournaments, and £500 for events like the Pickwick.
- Equipment—contracts with firms like Stiga, Halex and Ascot.
- Coaching of various kinds.
- Exhibitions arranged by the E.T.T.A. and privately.
- Daily allowance paid by the E.T.T.A. for individual appearances fixed at £4 per day for the recent tour in Australia and India.

One area which has been omitted from the methods of income is that of the player's contract for teams playing in competitions. In Germany, Holland, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, this is a main source of income for the top players, but in this country an E.T.T.A. rule outlaws this possibility.

At the coming A.G.M. in July, Cleveland County have submitted a rule alteration which would make this permissible and the County are hoping that their proposal will gain the necessary 2/3 percentage vote to carry the day.

It is the aim of the progressive table tennis Administrators to move the sport into the "major" bracket, so why not make one further move towards this end and allow professionals to be paid for representing their teams, just like football, cricket, tennis, rugby, motor racing and golf. This is the one area that has been left out in the move towards professionalism, which is so vital for the game today if we are to compete with world standards.

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LANCS. & CHESHIRE LEAGUE CLOSED

CHESHIRE FLAG UPHELD

by Geo. R. Yates

In the absence of such notables as Mike Johns, Nigel Eckersley and John Hilton, the Cheshire flag was successfully carried by Brian Johns in the men's singles event of the Lancashire and Cheshire League closed, played at Bolton on May 10.

And, for good measure, Brian was joined by his policeman brother, Ian, to arrest the men's doubles title from Nigel Hallows and Ian Smith. In the singles event Brian had a final flowing victory over veteran Derek Schofield, who had excelled in ousting Philip Bowen in the second round.

Another good win was that of Roy Frankland in beating Hallows, but not to be repeated against Smith in the very next round. Hallows and Smith met in the final of the boys' singles, just as they had at Preston in the Lancashire Closed at the start of the season, with the Boltonian reversing the verdict.

Mary Leigh came out top in the women's singles with final victory over Wendy Shaw, but in the semis Mary was hard pressed to come through when Doreen Schofield led 20-17 in the decider and lost! Results:—

Men's Singles—Quarter-finals

- A. Hartshorn (Burnley) bt C. Boardman (Salford) 19, -19, 11.
- B. Johns (Chester) bt T. Burrows (Crewe) 18, 9.
- G. Hoy (Bury) bt I. Smith (Preston) 14, 20.
- D. Schofield (Stockport) bt C. Benson (Macclesfield) 17, 13.

Semi-finals

- Johns bt Hartshorn 13, 9.
- Schofield bt Hoy 17, 13.

Final

JOHNS bt Schofield 11, 14.

Women's Singles—Semi-finals

- W. Shaw (Stockport) bt B. Kirkman (Liverpool) 19, 16.
- M. Leigh (Manchester) bt D. Schofield (Stockport) 18, -15, 20.

Final

LEIGH bt Shaw 9, -21, 16.

Boys' Singles—Quarter-finals

- N. Hallows (Bolton) bt B. Pickles (Nelson) 8, 16.
- Hoy bt S. Turner (Preston) 7, -19, 17.
- Burrows bt S. Cowley (Bolton) 19, 16.
- Smith bt P. Rainford (Preston) 9, 13.

Semi-finals

- Hallows bt Hoy 7, 14.
- Smith bt Burrows 18, 14.

Final

HALLOWS bt Smith 16, 17.

Girls' Singles—Semi-finals

- A. Hepple (Wirral) bt J. Dixon (Bolton) -19, 9, 18.
- J. Fielding (Stockport) bt J. Evans (Warrington) 9, 16.

Final

HEPPLE bt Fielding 15, -18, 15.

Men's Doubles—Final

B. JOHNS/I. JOHNS (Chester) bt Hallows/Smith 11, -8, 15.

Women's Doubles—Final

SCHOFIELD/SHAW bt Dixon/Leigh -19, 8, 18.

Veteran Singles—Semi-finals

- Schofield bt R. Rollinson (Salford) 12, 9.
- T. Donlon (Stockport) bt A. Summerfield (Stockport) 11, 18.

Final

SCHOFIELD bt Donlon 13, 5.

FLY-OUT

On Tuesday, May 27, an English trio comprising Nicky Jarvis, Desmond Douglas and Jill Hammersley flew out to participate in the Canadian and Jamaican Invitation Opens, the latter being due to run from June 4-7 in Kingston.

IN THE COACHING FIELD

with JOHN O'SULLIVAN

With the knowledge gained from the Lilleshall Conference, over the weekend of May 24-25, can we assume any immediate changes in national policy?

I very much doubt if there will be any amazing discoveries, or the launching of a new miracle method of coaching that will produce world class players in a matter of months instead of years—if indeed we can produce such players at all.

The very high standard of play observed in players from other countries only reflects the numerous hours and hard work put into the training they carry out.

If the only criterion of a world class player is a measure of talent plus hard work, then surely we have such people with the necessary talent who are willing to work as hard as any other table tennis player, regardless of their nationality. Maybe the answer lies in simpler matters.

A conference for coaches had been arranged at Darlington on Sunday, May 11, but same had to be cancelled as only eleven coaches replied to confirm their attendance. To avoid the usual complaint of "we did not know about it," that usually follows this sort of fiasco, every coach listed in the Coaches' Register for the Area concerned, plus all local league secretaries, received a personal invitation. The subject of the conference was "Facilities for Coaching"!

This is one of the subjects most often brought up by student coaches before they qualify. Even coaches with their badge complain of the difficulties experienced in obtaining facilities in their areas. Why then do we not have more coaches eager to take part on such courses, organised to alleviate these problems?

There was a good attendance at the course, held at Carnegie College, Leeds, and run by Peter Simpson and Harry Dignan. Always a good venue for training, especially where food is concerned, there can be few places which

can compete on quantity or quality. Twenty-eight coaches took part, varying from 2-Star to Students.

As the course was, for the most part, a practical session, coaches had the opportunity of showing how they used the tables to the best advantage when setting up exercises for their pupils. Coaches took it in turn to control one or more tables while others studied analysis of performance.

It was not long before a number of points emerged on the subject of analysis. Although there were some coaches who found difficulty in recognising faults, it was soon apparent that diagnosis was not the main trouble, but an efficient remedy to correct the fault.

It seems there was, in some cases, difficulty in communication, interpretation, and terminology. If this was so between coaches, it must certainly exist between coach and young child.

One of the most enjoyable features of the Leeds course was the presence of coaches from many parts of England, and not just the area around the venue. The value of the conversations in the bar after the day's work, cannot be measured, but a good deal of note comparison was in evidence, and new ideas could soon be tried out both north and south of Birmingham.

The amount of coaching at local level, that takes place over the whole country, is phenomenal. I have a programme of coaching in Hull and it reads like a telephone directory, listing coaches, venues and times when pupils should attend according to standard, age and location.

Copies have been sent to schools, league secretaries, and coaches within the area. Organisation is very good and David Hilder, who is the Coaching Secretary, must have put in a lot of work. This is not to say other people in Hull haven't put in an equal amount of work: I just have the forms in front of me signed "D. M. Hilder." I would hate to start any arguments.

The Hull programme for forthcoming coaching events is not the only one I have seen, and therefore I sometimes wonder why more juniors don't aspire to higher things. Do we end up with the old problem of where do they go when they leave school? We would appear to have arrived back at the Darlington Conference!

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PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	%
D. Douglas (Warwks)	8	8	100
I. Horsham (Essex)	14	13	93
T. Taylor (Beds)	8	7	88
D. Brown (Essex)	14	12	86
J. Hilton (Ches)	14	10	71
D. Munt (Warwks)	14	10	71
A. Barden (Middx)	14	9	64
A. Clayton (Yorks)	14	9	64
D. Parker (Lancs)	12	7	58
N. Eckersley (Ches)	14	8	57
N. Hallows (Lancs)	14	8	57
M. Mitchell (Middx)	14	8	57
D. Tan (Middx)	14	8	57
P. Taylor (Beds)	14	8	57
Miss S. Lisle (Ches)	7	7	100
Miss S. Hession (Essex)	5	4	80
Mrs. K. Mathews (Middx)	5	4	80
Miss S. Broadbent (Yorks)	6	4	67
Miss B. Green (Warwks)	7	4	57
Mrs. D. Court (Middx)	2	1	50

DIVISION 2 SOUTH

	P	W	%
D. Welsman (Surrey)	8	8	100
C. Strathearn (Surrey)	4	4	100
R. Yule (Surrey)	4	4	100
S. Lyons (Surrey)	10	9	90
D. Jemmett (Middx)	8	7	88
R. Chandler (Sussex)	10	8	80
Miss L. Howard (Surrey)	3	3	100
Miss A. Mitchell (Middx)	2	2	100
Mrs. J. Coop (Hamp)	3	2	67
Miss D. Gard (Sussex)	3	2	67
Mrs. J. Ellis (Kent)	5	3	60

DIVISION 2 NORTH

	P	W	%
J. Walker (Cleve)	10	10	100
N. Jarvis (Cleve)	8	8	100
T. Burrows (Ches)	4	4	100
D. Alderson (Cleve)	6	5	83
A. Clark (Nthmbl)	6	5	83
J. Kedge (Yorks)	6	4	67
K. Paxton (Durham)	6	4	67
I. Robertson (Nthmbl)	8	5	63
Miss C. Knight (Cleve)	4	4	100
Miss J. White (Lincoln)	3	3	100
Miss J. Walker (Yorks)	3	2	67
Miss B. Kearney (Nthmbl)	5	3	60

DIVISION 2 MIDLAND

	P	W	%
C. Sewell (Gloucs)	10	10	100
P. Randell (Leics)	8	7	88
M. Billington (Derby)	8	6	75
B. Keates (Stafford)	8	6	75
E. Hall (Derby)	6	4	67
C. Rogers (Leics)	6	4	67
I. Warner (Derby)	6	4	67
M. Newman (Leics)	8	5	63
Miss A. Stevenson (Leics)	3	3	100
Mrs. G. Stocks (Notts)	3	3	100
Mrs. S. Walters (Derby)	3	3	100

DIVISION 2 EAST

	P	W	%
P. Day (Cambs)	8	8	100
J. Fuller (Norfolk)	4	4	100
J. Bender (Herts)	8	6	75
J. Kitchener (Suffolk)	8	6	75
K. Richardson (Cambs)	8	6	75
Mrs. B. Cassell (Norfolk)	2	2	100
Mrs. L. Simpson (Norfolk)	2	2	100
Mrs. C. Bane (Northants)	3	2	67

DIVISION 2 WEST

	P	W	%
M. Rattue (Devon)	8	7	88
S. Heaps (Berks)	12	10	83
B. Reeves (Somerset)	12	10	83
R. Thornton (Berks)	12	10	83
C. Shetler (Wilts)	12	9	75
P. Trott (Berks)	8	6	75
D. Basden (Berks)	4	3	75
T. Bruce (Wilts)	10	7	70
S. Claxton (Worcs)	12	8	67
K. James (Devon)	8	5	63
Miss C. Reeves (Berks)	5	4	80
Mrs. J. Lloyd (Worcs)	6	4	67
Miss A. Boyce (Wilts)	5	3	60
Miss E. Lamb (Devon)	5	3	60

SOUTHERN DIVISION

	P	W	%
B. Hill (Surrey)	6	6	100
I. Kenyon (Kent)	4	4	100
C. Strathearn (Surrey)	4	4	100

	P	W	%
R. Tilling (Kent)	4	4	100
D. Holman (Surrey)	8	6	75
J. Clarke (Sussex)	6	4	67
T. Adams (Kent)	8	5	63
Mrs. J. Vass (Surrey)	2	2	100
Miss K. Witt (Berks)	2	2	100
Mrs. M. Dignum (Sussex)	4	3	75

NORTHERN DIVISION

	P	W	%
M. Corking (Cleve)	8	8	100
T. Burrows (Ches)	4	4	100
P. Polczynski (Cumbria)	6	5	83
B. Alderson (Cleve)	8	6	75
C. Benson (Ches)	8	6	75
A. Martin (Cleve)	8	5	63
Miss J. Skipp (Cleve)	3	3	100
Miss W. Shaw (Ches)	2	2	100
Miss C. Waite (Durham)	4	3	75

MIDLAND DIVISION

	P	W	%
D. Yallop (Derby)	6	6	100
J. Riley (Staffs)	10	8	80
G. Binney (Warwks)	4	3	75
A. Downer (Derby)	10	7	70
N. Kirkland (Notts)	6	4	67
A. Cotton (Warwks)	8	5	63
K. Fellows (Staffs)	8	5	63
C. Potts (Clwyd)	10	6	60
Miss M. Deakin (Derby)	4	4	100
Mrs. A. Lloyd (Warwks)	4	4	100
Miss D. Maxfield (Notts)	3	2	67

EASTERN DIVISION

	P	W	%
N. Brierley (Essex)	4	4	100
P. Harmer (Beds)	4	4	100
J. Turner (Norfolk)	4	4	100
G. Giles (Herts)	10	8	80
S. Proffitt (Herts)	10	8	80
A. Lamprell (Hunts)	8	6	75
R. Melling (Essex)	6	4	67
G. Major (Beds)	8	5	63
D. Rawlinson (Beds)	10	6	60
Mrs. M. Nash (Essex)	2	2	100
Mrs. J. Reeves (Beds)	5	4	80
Miss L. Towler (Herts)	5	3	60

WESTERN DIVISION

	P	W	%
M. Sykes (Worcs)	6	5	83
J. Bloomer (Gwent)	8	6	75
A. Evans (Gwent)	8	6	75
M. Wood (Worcs)	8	6	75
A. Harrison (Gwent)	6	4	67
N. Bottomley (Worcs)	8	5	63
M. Prosser (Hereford)	8	5	63
Mrs. S. Rogers (Shrop)	4	3	75
Mrs. E. Jones (Gwent)	3	2	67
Miss G. Thomas (Glam)	3	2	67

JUNIOR PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	%
P. Day (Cambs)	14	14	100
A. Barden (Middx)	14	12	86
M. Mitchell (Middx)	14	12	86
D. Iszatt (Essex)	10	8	80
D. Newman (Essex)	10	8	80
L. Eadie (Essex)	4	3	75
N. Hallows (Lancs)	12	8	75
D. Reeves (Berks)	14	9	64
P. Trott (Berks)	12	7	58
M. Crimmins (Surrey)	14	8	57
C. Rogers (Leics)	14	8	57
K. Beadsley (Yorks)	14	7	50
K. Richardson (Cambs)	14	7	50
G. Roberts (Berks)	14	7	50
R. Potton (Essex)	8	4	50
Miss C. Reeves (Berks)	6	5	83
Miss K. Greenough (Surrey)	7	5	71
Miss S. Sutton (Essex)	7	5	71
Miss M. Ludi (Yorks)	6	4	67
Miss A. Mitchell (Middx)	6	4	67

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH

	P	W	%
J. James (Middx)	12	12	100
A. Proffitt (Herts)	4	4	100
G. Pugh (Sussex)	4	4	100
B. Tyler (Middx)	10	9	90
G. Sandley (Middx)	6	5	83
C. Payne (Hamps)	10	8	80
C. Wilson (Hamps)	10	8	80
M. Allen (Essex)	4	3	75
M. Douglas (Sussex)	4	3	75
K. Heasman (Herts)	6	4	67
K. Owers (Essex)	6	4	67
A. Stonell (Essex)	6	4	67
W. Strasburger (Middx)	6	4	67
G. Booth (Herts)	8	5	63
S. Harris (Hamps)	8	5	63
Miss J. Reading (Hamps)	3	3	100

	P	W	%
Miss M. Sangster (Middx)	2	2	100
Miss J. Campion (Middx)	4	3	75
Miss H. Gore (Essex)	4	3	75
Miss L. Wales (Hamps)	3	2	67

JUNIOR DIVISION NORTH

	P	W	%
T. Burrows (Ches)	8	8	100
A. Kilburn (Cleve)	6	6	100
S. Souter (Cleve)	10	9	90
A. Gelder (Durham)	6	5	83
K. Paxton (Durham)	12	9	75
A. Metcalf (Yorks)	8	6	75
R. Wiley (Cleve)	4	3	75
R. Idowu (Ches)	12	8	67
P. Masters (Durham)	12	8	67
P. Simpson (Yorks)	8	5	63
C. Reed (Cumbria)	10	6	60
Miss A. Tierney (Cleve)	5	5	100
Miss J. Evans (Lancs)	3	4	100
Miss J. Richardson (Yorks)	5	4	80
Miss S. Jenkins (Durham)	6	4	67

JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND

	P	W	%
R. Legge (Staffs)	4	4	100
J. Hook (Clwyd)	12	11	92
R. Allen (Derby)	12	10	83
P. Griffiths (Warwks)	12	10	83
C. Wainwright (Warwks)	10	8	80
S. Webb (Derby)	10	8	80
M. Jenkins (Derby)	12	9	75
R. Mountford (Warwks)	12	9	75
G. Williams (Clwyd)	6	4	67
G. Stredder (Notts)	8	5	63
D. Bilton (Notts)	10	6	60
S. Kenney (Leics)	10	6	60
Miss K. Groves (Warwks)	4	4	100
Miss P. Allen (Clwyd)	6	5	83
Miss S. Jones (Staffs)	6	5	83

JUNIOR DIVISION EAST

	P	W	%
P. Durrant (Norfolk)	12	12	100
M. Crowson (Cambs)	8	7	88
D. Bennett (Norfolk)	12	10	83
D. Kiddle (Cambs)	10	8	80
K. Savage (Suffolk)	10	8	80
G. Alden (Northants)	8	6	75
M. Archer (Norfolk)	12	8	67
A. Chandler (Beds)	12	8	67
A. Holmes (Cambs)	12	8	67
G. Davies (Cambs)	6	4	67
Miss S. Hunt (Lincs)	6	6	100
Miss B. Chamberlain (Hunts)	6	5	83
Miss J. Langridge (Suffolk)	4	3	75
Miss M. Wallis (Northants)	5	3	60

JUNIOR DIVISION WEST

	P	W	%
C. Sewell (Gloucs)	10	10	100
G. Hill (Dorset)	14	13	93
S. Claxton (Worcs)	14	12	86
K. Edwards (Wilts)	10	8	80
A. Badcock (Glam)	14	10	71
W. Dawe (Gloucs)	14	10	71
G. Griffiths (Glam)	14	10	71
J. Robinson (Dorset)	14	10	71
T. Fairbanks (Devon)	10	7	70
J. Hardiker (Glam)	12	8	67
Miss J. New (Dorset)	7	7	100
Miss E. Lamb (Devon)	7	6	86
Miss D. Coulthard (Glam)	3	2	67
Miss J. Wilson (Somerset)	5	3	60

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH-EAST

	P	W	%
K. Caldron (Essex)	6	6	100
A. Abbott (Essex)	10	9	90
R. Jermyn (Herts)	12	10	83
K. Seager (Surrey)	12	10	83
J. Proffitt (Herts)	10	8	80
I. Kenyon (Kent)	4	3	75
G. Stewart (Surrey)	4	3	75
S. Boxall (Surrey)	10	7	70
A. Bawden (Essex)	6	4	67
I. Collins (Kent)	10	6	60
C. Williams (Herts)	10	6	60
Miss M. Smith (Berks)	2	2	100
Miss S. Roebuck (Surrey)	6	5	83
Miss M. Heffernan (Kent)	5	4	80
Miss L. Clemett (Hamps)	3	2	67
Miss J. Thorpe (Berks)	3	2	67

VETERAN DIVISION SOUTH

	P	W	%
R. Lush (Hamps)	12	11	92
K. Beamish (Essex)	8	7	88
R. Herber (Essex)	8	7	88
R. Coussens (Essex)	12	10	83
L. Fountain (Essex)	12	9	75
V. Ireland (Essex)	10	7	70
M. Wilson (Kent)	10	7	70

	P	W	%
P. Curtis (Essex)	12	8	67
S. Norton (Essex)	6	4	67
J. Bromley (Kent)	10	6	60
Mrs. D. Gray (Hamps)	4	4	100
Mrs. P. Anker (Essex)	6	4	67
Mrs. M. Know (Essex)	6	4	67

VETERAN DIVISION MIDLAND

P. D'Arcy (Ches)	12	12	100
L. Moran (Ches)	6	6	100
P. Hancock (Staffs)	8	7	88
A. Summerfield (Ches)	8	7	88
R. Bolton (Notts)	12	10	83
B. Baldwin (Ches)	12	10	83
A. Davies (Oxford)	14	11	79
M. Tew (Ches)	4	3	75
J. Burraston (Notts)	12	8	67
C. Dawson (Warwks)	14	9	64
J. Ellis (Notts)	10	6	60
Miss M. Leigh (Ches)	5	5	100
Mrs. G. Odams (Leics)	6	5	83
Mrs. D. Griffiths (Warwks)	7	5	71
Mrs. P. Hammond (Notts)	6	4	67

The following players were unbeaten in the only match in which they played singles:—

Premier—Miss J. Hellaby (Essex); **2 South**—H. Buist (Kent), J. Clark (Sussex); A. Hydes (Sussex); **2 North**—A. Martin (Cleve), J. Armstrong (Durham), Miss J. McLean (Yorks), Miss J. Richardson (Yorks); **2 Midland**—Miss M. Mellor (Derby), A. Giles (Gloucs), Miss K. Rogers (Leics); **2 West**—Mrs. C. Basden (Berks), Mrs. P. Reeves (Somerset); **Southern**—L. Etheridge (Kent), D. Welsman (Surrey); **Northern**—I. Johns (Ches), Miss C. Hancock (Ches), A. Clark (Nthmbl), **Midland**—Miss P. Allen (Clwyd), Mrs. C. Downer (Derby), T. Greer (Staffs), A. Higgs (Staffs), J. McCorry (Warwks); **Eastern**—G. Davies (Cambs), P. Hunt (Essex), J. Proffitt (Herts); **Western**—M. Owen, G. Evans, A. Holmes, G. Williams, Miss K. Johnson (all Glam), Mrs. B. Roden (Gwent); **J. Premier**—Miss K. Witt (Berks), A. Abbott (Essex), Miss J. Dixon (Lancs), Miss S. Dove (Middx); **J. South**—Miss A. May (Essex), Miss E. Sayer (Essex), M. O'Mahony (Middx), R. Jarvis, M. Wragg, Miss T. Jarvis (all Sussex); **J. North**—Miss J. Skipp (Cleve), M. Bromley (Lancs), A. Summerscales (Yorks); **J. Midland**—Miss L. Holmes (Derby), R. Stewart (Notts), D. Johnson (Warwks); **J. South-East**—D. Newman, L. Eadie, D. Sehmbi, Miss A. May (all Essex), Miss L. Wright (Hamps), Miss J. Williams (Sussex); **J. West**—Miss W. Parker (Wilts); **Vet. South**—Mrs. J. Warrington (Wilts); **V. Midland**—Mrs. B. Marriott (Notts), Mrs. D. Wingent (Oxford).



Geoff Baker, chief photographer of the "Essex Chronicle", captured the smiles of this happy group during the Club's anniversary match against the International Club.

SALUTE TO THE WANDERERS

by David B. Scott

It's been quite a year for Maldon Wanderers Table Tennis Club—in more ways than one. Besides their 25th birthday celebrations the club have carried off several major titles in the Chelmsford and Burnham Leagues.

A script writer could not have provided a better story, as this year the Wanderers have emerged as a new force in Essex table tennis circles.

Yet who would have guessed 25 years ago that the club would occupy the leading position it has attained in recent years? Certainly not the three founder members who, back in 1950, started with a few friendly away matches.

The following year saw the club enter the Maldon League and they took the title, despite having to play all their matches away from home. Eventually a home was found in a local cafe and the club decided to join the Chelmsford League.

It wasn't long before the trophies started to mount up. In 1953 Wanderers became second division champions and followed this up with runners-up spot in the first division the following season.

By the 1957-58 season the club had six teams, four men's and two women's, but they were fast gaining a reputation as the champion runners-up. Somehow that Chelmsford League division one title kept eluding them.

In 1960 the club hit a crisis and it was one that nearly forced them out of existence. Without a clubroom they searched in vain for headquarters and it was only the generosity of a local churchman which kept them going. Even then two teams had to be dropped and the season became a battle for survival.

Tommy Caldwell arrested the slump the following year and some brilliant performances enabled the club to finish first division runners-up yet again, but a year later the club were out on the street.

Work on a new clubroom was wasted when the owners kicked the Wanderers out before the start of the season and it took a last-

minute reprieve from another local churchman to keep the Wanderers going. One bright spot, however, was the form of Caldwell. He won the Chelmsford League's singles, men's and mixed doubles titles.

The 1960's saw the club build on the solid base they had now created, but it wasn't until the 1969-70 season that that elusive Chelmsford League title found its way to Maldon. Mike Watts and Doug Richardson joined the ranks and their experience clinched the issue.

That season was also notable for some tremendous individual performances. Watts won the League's individual title and young David Newman won the Under-15 singles.

Since then it has been one long success story for the Wanderers. A succession of titles at every level have come their way in both the Chelmsford and Burnham Leagues and this season that coveted first division trophy is once again on the mantelpiece.

With experienced officials like Geoff Gaunt and Geoff Newman at the helm, the club must have a bright future, and youngsters like David Newman and Andy Bawden are already making their mark on the national scene.

Next season the club will be known as Mid-Essex Transport Wanderers following their move to bigger headquarters in nearby Heybridge. They have been sponsored by Mid-Essex Transport and have already been flooded out with requests for membership.

To mark the club's 25th birthday a special match against the International Club of England was recently held in Maldon. Wanderers were beaten 6-1, but the scoreline did not do them justice and Laurie Landry and his merry men were the first to admit they had been given a tough time.

WANTED

Table Tennis books by Montagu — Table Tennis (1947), Bergmann — 21-Up (1950) Hyde — Table Tennis (1960), Di Rowe — Table Tennis (1966).

Table Tennis magazines 1958 March/April, 1962 April/May, 1964 December, 1968 May. Pre-War sets of t.t. magazines.

Replies please to Zdenko Uzorinac, Prilaz JNA 20, 41000 Zagreb, Yugoslavia.

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JOOLA

table tennis

County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As already announced, the Annual General Meeting of the County Table Tennis Championships will be held on Saturday, 14th June, 1975, in the Norfolk Room at Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, London, S.W.1., commencing at 1.30 p.m.

Notice is formally given that at the Annual General Meeting the following motion will be put:

"This meeting RESOLVES that the County Table Tennis Championships suspend activities for the season 1975-76, that it run no Championships competitions, provided that the English Table Tennis Association run County Championships competitions, in accordance with the draft rules contained in the Appendix to Minute 41.5 in E.T.T.A. Document 542/66/AW dated 8th January, 1975, and the draft County Championships Regulations contained in E.T.T.A. Document 566/160/AW dated 17th March, 1975. "AND in the event of either the Rules or the Regulations above mentioned being amended by the English Table Tennis Association after this meeting activities shall be suspended in accordance with this resolution only if such amendments are accepted on behalf of the County Table Tennis Championships by the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose."

PERSONAL STATEMENT

In the circular which announced the date and venue of the Annual General Meeting, I implied that I was considering not continuing as Secretary of the C.T.T.C. next season. This was the case at that time, but a recent event has enabled me to make a firm decision in this matter. I am prepared to continue to serve as Secretary of a C.T.T.C. run independently of the E.T.T.A., or to accept nomination as Administrator of an E.T.T.A. organised County Championships. I would, however, not like to deter any other person who might be interested in the job from standing for election.

JUNIOR CHALLENGE MATCHES

1st Series

Derbyshire 6, Norfolk 4

A good start for Derbys, who took the first 3 sets, but Norfolk then got into their stride and captured the next 3 to level the match. Mark Jenkins then took his B.S. v Doug Bennett and followed this with X.D. to put the scores at 5-3. Paul Durrant kept Norfolk in the match but Robert Allen won the last set for a Derbys victory.

Dorset 1, Kent 9

Although 4 of the sets lost by Dorset were in 3 games (including John Robinson pushing the talented Ian Kenyon to 17 in 3rd) they never really got to grips with a useful-looking Kent team, the smartest I have seen all season.

Cleveland 5, Sussex 5

Gerald Pugh gave Sussex a good start v Andy Kilburn, and following Danny Cammiade's win over Ian Plummer, the Sussex girls surprisingly took G.D. for a 3-1 lead. Steven Souter then hit good form to help Cleveland take the next 4, and when Mike Douglas overcame Plummer -20, 15, 18 the stage was set for a grandstand finish. Cammiade just got the better of Kilburn by -16, 8, 21 in a set which was not the best advertisement for the game.

2nd Series

Kent 5, Cleveland 5

A long and very interesting battle, with Cleveland feeling very hard-done-by to be held to a second draw. A maximum from their girls, plus one each from Souter and Kilburn, gave them a 5-4 lead with Plummer having to play Ian Collins in the vital set. Collins led narrowly at change of ends, then served out of order and won the point (this not being noticed until Collins was about to serve again). Al Ransome's protest over-ruled and the Kent

boy went on to win -18, 19, 17 for the draw. Souter's loss to Kenyon was his only defeat of the weekend, as was Collins' loss to Souter.

Sussex 10, Derbyshire 0

With a triple tie seeming possible, every set important for Sussex who were aided by some indifferent play from Derbys. 5 sets went the distance, none being closer than 14 in the 3rd.

Norfolk 4, Dorset 6

The inexperience of young Michael Archer cost him a win over Richard Trim when he had a good lead in the 2nd game, having won the first at 9. Dorset led 3-0 and eventually managed to get what was to prove their only win when Graham Hill scraped home -19, 15, 19 over Archer, who played some fine stuff.

3rd Series

Norfolk 1, Sussex 9

With Kent, Cleveland and Sussex all wanting 10-0 wins, little mercy was likely to be shown, and it was left to Paul Durrant (an impressive player who could develop in the Senior ranks with the right backing) to save the whitewash in the final set.

Cleveland 9, Dorset 1

The first 7 to "Alan's bunch" without too much trouble, and Dorset's only success from John Robinson and Janet New in X.D. at 19, -17, 24. Janet had earlier taken a game from Angela Tierney but did not really threaten to take the set. Hill so close to a straight game win over Plummer, going down 19, -20, -13.

Kent 9, Derbyshire 1

Despite the score a much better performance by Derbys. Kent brought in Vince O'Brien, who performed so well as to make the selection for the other matches much easier. The three pace-setters had all wanted 10-0, and all had to settle for 9-1.

4th Series

Dorset 5, Derbyshire 5

A very even match, with only Janet New unbeaten, although Jenkins picked up both his singles. The evenness of these two teams well indicated by the match result, and also by the state of the final table!

Norfolk 0, Cleveland 10

All 2-straight, no real trouble, with the Cleveland eyes straying to the next table for the match between the other two unbeaten teams.

Sussex 3, Kent 7

Inspired by a really fine Collins win over Pugh 17, 16, which followed Kenyon's defeat of Douglas, Kent led 3-0 only to lose both doubles. How well Hazel O'Brien played; she emerged unbeaten in G.D. from the weekend and hit so many quite impossible balls to quite unreturnable places that one had to suspend belief of what could, and could not, be done! Back to reality with G.S., where Mary Hefferman survived a minor crisis to hold on v Anita Gedge—4-2. Kenyon's only defeat, to Pugh, but the two-set lead restored by Vince O'Brien and Gillian Ballard. Cammiade confounded the "experts" by taking the first at 19 from Collins but then lost -13, -9, which (barring quite fantastic upsets) decided the promotion places. O'Brien rounded off the match with a good win -18, 17, 16 over Douglas.

5th Series

Sussex 8, Dorset 2

Dorset quite demoralised against a Sussex team which rested their top two boys. Even Janet New showed lack of fight v Hazel O'Brien, whose forehand (see above) crashed winners with appalling regularity. Trailing 0-7 they rallied somewhat to take X.D. and a single from young Gillett but this was a disappointing performance at the end of a long and probably tiring weekend.

Kent 8, Norfolk 2

Again dropping G.D. and B.D., Kent nevertheless sailed through against a team that probably learnt the most from the weekend.

Derbyshire 3, Cleveland 7

Some sympathy here for Robert Allen, please; he went down 20, -13, -17 to Souter; 17, -13, -20 to Plummer; and 20, -17, -19 (with Stephen Webb) to Kilburn and Souter. Two more defeats for Kilburn, who did not play up to his ranking.

The matches were excellently staged at Shenley Hospital, St. Albans, by the Hertfordshire Association, with Bob Bridges in charge.

Junior Challenge — Final Placings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kent	5	4	1	0	38	12	9
Cleveland	5	3	2	0	36	14	8
Sussex	5	3	1	1	35	15	7
Dorset	5	1	1	3	15	35	3
Derbyshire	5	1	1	3	15	35	3
Norfolk	5	0	0	5	11	39	0

(Games—Dorset 44-78; Derbyshire 44-79)

Veteran Challenge Match

Essex 3, Cheshire 6

Four times running Midland Champions, Cheshire, travelled to Chadwell Heath on 4th May to play the Challenge v South Champions, Essex.

K. Beamish bt D. Schofield -14, 18, 12; lost to P. D'Arcy -13, -13.

P. Curtis lost to D. Schofield -15, -17; bt B. Baldwin -18, 13, 14.

V. Ireland bt P. D'Arcy -22, 17, 24; lost to B. Baldwin -19, -19.

R. Coussens/V. Ireland lost to B. Baldwin/P. D'Arcy -23, -14.

Mrs. M. Know lost to Miss M. Leigh -19, -18.

P. Curtis/Mrs. M. Know lost to D. Schofield/Miss M. Leigh -16, -14, -10.

A blow for Essex when Percy Curtis, victor over Derek Schofield in the two previous matches between these Counties, going down in a match full of fine rallies. Then the encounter of present English Open Champion, Peter D'Arcy (using Sriver and anti-loop) and the previous holder, Ken (wooden bat) Beamish; again a victory for the visitors. Brian Baldwin's backhand kill the deciding factor v Vic Ireland; a terrific pace this set, much appreciated by the spectators. Marie Know and Curtis raised home hopes with the capture of the first game of X.D., but the visitors gradually got on top to trot out comfortable winners — 4-0. Another fine set followed, with Roy Coussens coming in; Baldwin's "never miss" backhand again posed too many problems in a set full of the whole range of strokes. 5-0, and the match to Cheshire, and then for Mary Leigh's meeting with Marie Know. Too many nets cost Marie the first game, and she trailed 7-18 in the 2nd, recovering to 15-18, 15-20, 18-20 before the end came. Beamish at last got Essex off the mark, beating Schofield; Ireland overcame D'Arcy in a match where skill and unforced errors were liberally mixed; then Curtis found the answer to the Baldwin backhand and the scoreline more respectable at 3-6. Cheshire's first title.

JUNIOR PROMOTION CHALLENGE — INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

	Cv	Dy	Do	K	Nk	Sx	P	W
Cleveland								
Steven Souter	2	2	1	2	2	10	9	5
Andrew Kilburn	0	2	1	2	0	10	5	5
Ian Plummer	2	2	0	2	0	10	6	6
Angela Tierney	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	5
Derbyshire								
Mark Jenkins	1	2	0	2	0	10	5	5
Robert Allen	0	1	0	2	0	10	3	3
Stephen Webb	1	0	0	1	0	10	2	2
Lindsey Mellor						3	0	0
Alison Marples	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Dorset								
John Robinson	0	1	0	1	0	10	2	2
Graham Hill	0	1	0	2	1	10	4	4
John Trim	0	1	0	1	0	10	2	2
Janet New	0	1	1	1	0	5	3	3
Kent								
Ian Kenyon	2	2	2	2	1	10	9	9
Ian Collins	1	2	2	2	2	10	9	9
Robert Brown						2	2	2
Vincent O'Brien	2			2	2	6	6	6
Ray Taylor	1					2	1	1
Mary Hefferman	0	1	0	1	1	5	3	3
Norfolk								
Douglas Bennett	0	0	1	0	0	10	1	1
Paul Durrant	0	1	1	0	1	10	3	3
Michael Archer	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
Martin Ecclestone						0	0	0
Wendy Hogg	0	1	0	0	0	5	1	1
Sussex								
Gerald Pugh	1	2	1	2		8	6	6
Michael Douglas	1	2	0	2		8	5	5
Danny Cammiade	2		2	0		6	4	4
Alan Reed		2	2	1		6	5	5
Graham Gillett			1			2	1	1
Anita Gedge	0		0	1		3	1	1
Hazel O'Brien		1	1			2	2	2