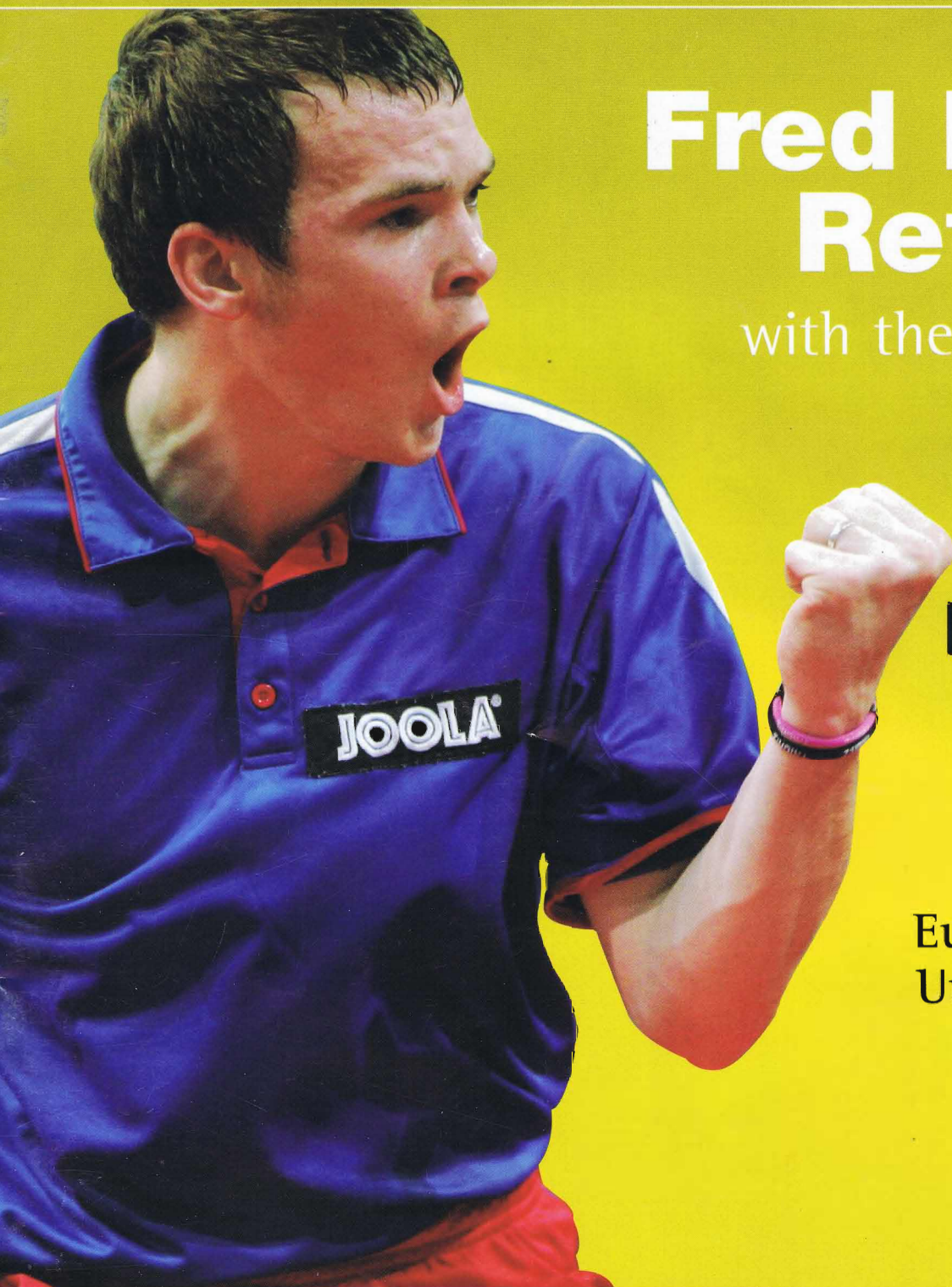


table tennis news

Official Magazine of the English Table Tennis Association



Fred Perry Returns

with the Urban Cup

Table Tennis Masters

at the Royal Albert Hall

Plus:

European gold's
Umpire answers

Fitness tips
and

80 years
of the ETTA

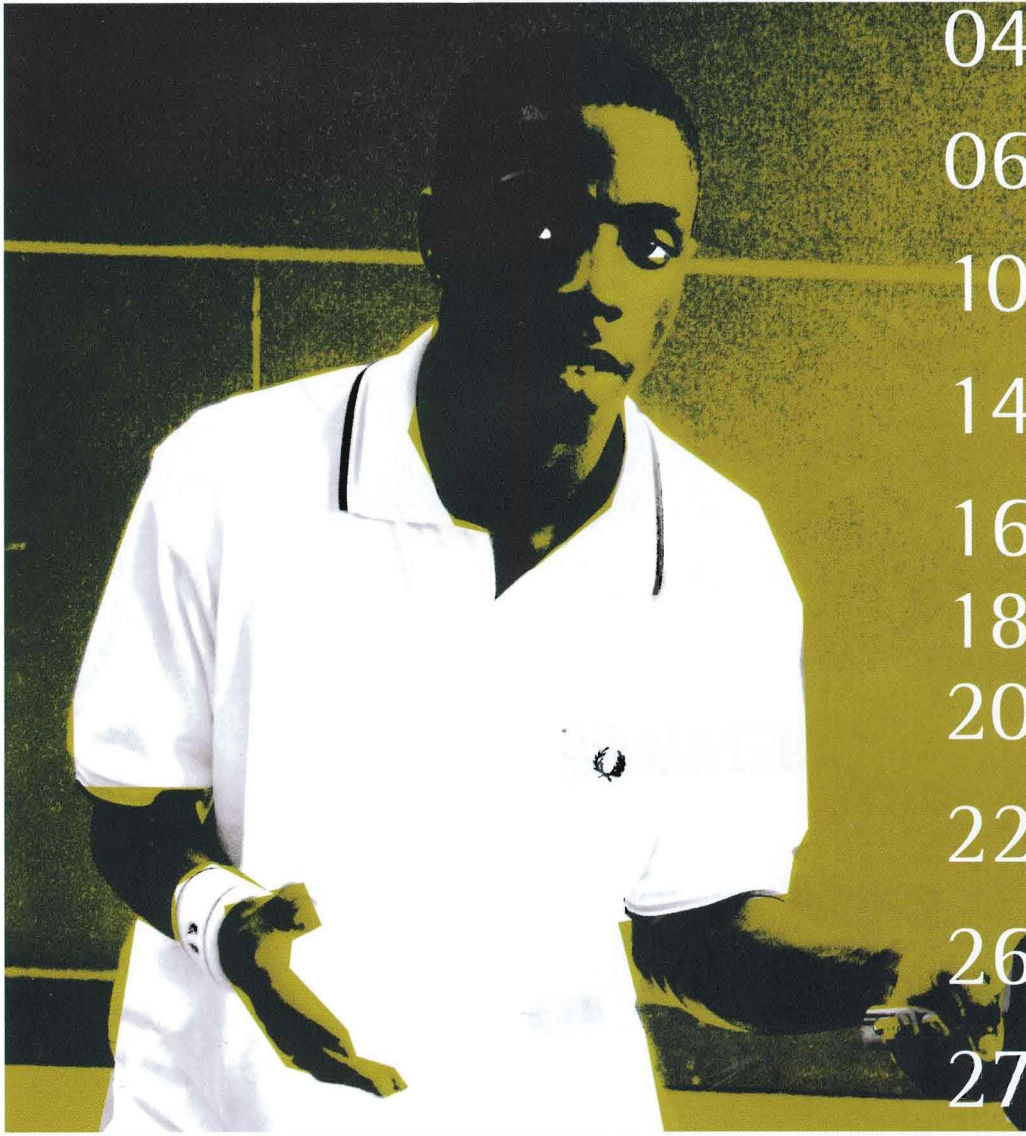
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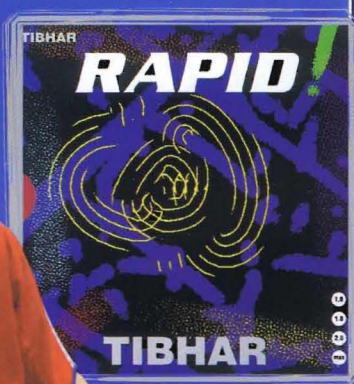
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from the editor



RICHARD PETTIT, EDITOR



BRIAN HALLIDAY

Brian is a long serving table tennis reporter. He is fanatical about our sport and is currently National Councilor for Berkshire and a ETTA Vice President.



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Matthew is former English number one. He has a defensive style with the bat yet quite the opposite with the pen. Currently a Times columnist, TV sports commentator and media pundit.



JEREMY WILSON

Jeremy is a sports journalist who writes regularly for both The Guardian and The Sunday Times. He has also played senior and junior county table tennis for Hampshire.



COLIN CLEMETT

Colin is the ETTA National Umpires and Referees Committee Secretary plus ITTF Technical Committee member and ITTF Umpires and Referees Committee's Consultant.

Welcome to this the final edition of the season, and what a season. In keeping with the current climate of change within table tennis we look at two very special initiatives that will reignite the public interest both at participation and spectator level. First up is the Fred Perry Urban Cup, undoubtedly one of the most exciting and youth engaging projects any sport currently has to offer (page 20). Complementing this beautifully is the recent jaw dropping announcement that the Table Tennis Masters is to be staged in the inspirational surroundings of the Royal Albert Hall (page 22).

In addition to this we cast our eye back over recent results and performances including the European Youth Championships in Bratislava. Plus we delve into the history of the ETTA as it celebrates 80 years of existence (page 10). All of this is bundled with top news stories including inside information on one of England's fastest moving clubs (page 30). Speedily moving on, our fitness expert has provided some easy tips to change your legs from pedestrian to pro, and the top man from NURC (National Umpires and Referees Committee) supplies the answers to the questions you have been pondering (page 27).

I hope you have enjoyed this season's TTN and are looking forward to next. If you have any suggested articles or comments about the magazine please do not hesitate to get in touch via e-mail to Richard.pettit@etta.co.uk.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who contributed to my cycle ride from London to Paris for Action Medical Research. So far, with your support, I have raised over £1,000 and still counting. If you would like to find out more please visit www.action.org.uk/~richardpettit.

Good luck with your preparation for next season.

“THE MANAGEMENT REPORT WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AND ACCEPTED BY THOSE PRESENT” ALEX MURDOCH PAGE 4 **“IN THE THIRTIES TABLE TENNIS BECAME ELEVATED INTO AN INTERNATIONAL SPORT”** COLIN CLEMETT PAGE 10 **“DEVELOPING THESE COMPONENTS OF FITNESS ENABLES PLAYERS TO MAINTAIN SPEED AND QUALITY OF MOVEMENT AROUND THE TABLE”** CHRISTOPHER PETTIT PAGE 16 **“SEEN AS ONE OF THE RISING STARS OF BRITISH TABLE TENNIS, DARIUS KNIGHT HAS BEEN SELECTED AS THE FACE OF THE URBAN CUP”** RICHARD MARTIN PAGE 21

July Summary

This is the last issue of Table Tennis News for the season and on behalf of the ETTA I hope you found them informative and well presented. An area lacking in the magazine is "Letters to the Editor" which are few and far between; please ensure that if you have any comments about the sport send them to Richard Pettit, your Editor.

It has been an interesting and exciting season with our young players continuing to improve and perform in the international arena with an increasing number of new prospects developing via our regional and youth development initiatives. I think we all look forward to our players once again getting medals in senior European and international events. It is quite clear that the efforts of our Selection Department and the coaches are bringing the progress and results to move us towards this goal.

Significant new funding has been received from our partners Sport England and the Youth Sport Trust covering the Club/Coach Programme, UK Coaching Certificate, PESSCL, Step into Sport and UK School Games competitions. All of this funding will be used to continue to develop our sport in terms of participation, retention, club development and coaching structure. This will feed the needs in all areas of our sport with a significant impact upon our grass roots. Progress is never as quick as I would like, but you can be assured that the dedicated and determined band of staff and volunteers will work with you for the progress of our sport we all want.

The Annual General Meeting took place on 30th June in Birmingham and was well attended by representatives from across the sport. The Management report was well received and the presentation of the report was second to none. A number of debates took place in regard to this report covering all areas of the ETTA Departments' work, and these were noted with additional efforts and resources being made available where appropriate to ensure that all our members have their needs and requirements met.

The Management report was unanimously approved and accepted by those present.

A number of prestigious awards were handed out; details will be included in the minutes. Congratulations to all those who received these awards for their outstanding contribution to our sport at local, national and international levels.

The 80th Anniversary Dinner of the ETTA took place on the evening of the 30th at the prestigious Clarendon Suite. It was organised by the 100 Club in conjunction with the ETTA and thanks go to the 100 Club Committee

of Doreen Stannard, Keith Ponting and Mike Holt for putting together a fantastic evening. Over 100 people attended including stars from the past and a number of representatives from our funding partners and the European Table Tennis Union. Speeches were given by Richard Yule ETTA Chief Executive, which included two excellent videos, and by Don Parker with funny and lively comments about some of the past players. The evening was rounded off with a presentation to Colin Clemett for his 50 years of service to the ETTA, also the prestigious Equality Standards award was presented to the ETTA by Novlette Rennie, Chief Executive of Sporting Equals.

The ETTA has just finished the negotiations with Perkins Slade for an overall civil liability policy covering all our affiliated members including both players and officials. This policy will commence from 15th September 2007 and all PremierClubs, leagues, and counties will be advised of the costs which will be calculated for the leagues based upon team registration. This policy will replace all of those arranged separately with insurance companies, and will give a significant reduction to all members from the existing policies they have in place. All PremierClubs, leagues and counties who sign up to the new ETTA policy will be granted a rebate from their present insurers. It is intended to include the cost per team on the affiliation form sent out to the leagues, details of cost will be sent to the PremierClubs and counties. In addition this policy will cover coaches, which will reduce the cost of their present insurance policy.

I believe it is essential and also part of their "duty of care" that all the affiliated organisations to the ETTA join this scheme. It will give them the cover needed and save them money and time.

All those joining the scheme will have to send in the Individual Registration Forms; this is to ensure that all members of the local organisations are covered and it will stop any problems when claims are made. As the



European Championships

Are there some issues you would like answered within this section? If the answer is yes simply e-mail them to richard.pettit@etta.co.uk



Straight Talk

by Alex Murdoch
ETTA Chairman



ETTA 100 Club Dinner

policy cost is for teams and our calculations are based upon four person teams, it will cover all affiliated members even those who do not play regularly. This initiative will reduce costs for our members and give them the security of insurance cover for any civil liability claims up to the age of 80.

We have also been offered a personal accident proposal to cover all our members at a cost of approximately 50p per person per year. Discussions are taking place how this can be offered to our members and details will be proposed in the coming months.

I envisage in the future that both of these insurance policies can be included as part of a benefits package offered to members when details are circulated in regard to our affiliation changing from a team structure to a proposed Individual Membership system. Any changes in our affiliation process will be approved by the membership at an AGM, and costs will be in line with existing levels paid by local players and officials. It is anticipated that during the next six months details of any proposals will be circulated as a consultation draft. I have mentioned since taking office over four years ago that we have to move this way as part of our modernisation in corporate governance, align ourselves with most other sports, meet the requirements of our funding partners, and have an effective and useable database to help our members and assist in the growth of our sport.

Our present rules as part of our company articles makes this not an easy task but with your support and commitment to make this happen we can achieve this fundamental and essential change, which is in the best interest of our sport and our membership.

Hope you all have a great summer.

NEWS



£388,000 payoff Olympic chief's 'disgraceful waste'

Jack Lemley, the former chairman of the Olympic Delivery Authority, was paid nearly £400,000 of taxpayers' money when he resigned last year, it emerged yesterday. Mr Lemley, who resigned last October, infuriated ministers by suggesting that the budget for the 2012 Games was running out of control and clean-up costs of the Olympic Park had been seriously

underestimated. But annual accounts from the authority published yesterday showed that Mr Lemley was paid £165,000 for working part-time for six months last year, plus £58,000 in expenses. When he resigned in a "negotiated departure", he was paid a further £388,000 in compensation, a total of £611,000.

Olympics budget

The budget for the 2012 Olympic Games could eventually exceed £10 billion, a powerful Commons committee warned yesterday. "Significant uncertainty" over costs could take the final bill past the Government's latest £9.3 billion estimate because the Olympic Development Agency does not know how much contractors will charge. Edward Leigh, Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, said an increased terrorist threat could add even more to the total figure. He added that there were concerns that designs for many buildings to house the Games had not been finished.

top of agenda

The new Sports Minister, Gerry Sutcliffe, has made increasing participation in sport his top priority and said that he wants to enlist the support of other government departments to achieve the goal of a more active nation. Speaking publicly for the first time since he took over from Richard Caborn, he dismissed concerns that grass roots sport would suffer because of the diversion of national lottery cash to fund the 2012 Olympics.

New £100m school sport campaign

Children will take part in five hours of sport each week as part of a new £100m National School Sport Strategy announced by the government. The campaign will also provide a new National School Sport Week, where schools will run sports days and inter-school tournaments. The measures aim to make sport a part of every child's day in the run up to the 2012 London Olympics.



First 'UKCC Level 1' Coaching Course

The very first table tennis coach education course to be organised under the new system of UKCC endorsed qualifications was recently completed at Holy Trinity School, Crawley.

It was attended by 17 candidate coaches. The two day course, with a period of coaching practice in between, was tutored by Dave Berriman and Charlie Childs and assessed by Sue Hayes and Phillip Ashleigh.

The course is a significant milestone in the ETTA's mission to drive forwards the standards in coaching and to start to progress specific aims within the UK Coaching Framework: A 3-7-11 Action Plan. A completely new

course syllabus and resources have been designed to support the qualification, and all tutors and assessors undergo further training in order to deliver the new qualifications.

Successful completion of the course leads to the 1st4sport Level 1 Certificate in Coaching Table Tennis, which is a qualification recognised by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority. Candidates were required to show competence in various elements

including health and safety, knowledge of techniques, planning and delivering coaching sessions and evaluating their own coaching practice. In addition, other topics included equipment, communication, observation and instruction, basic physiology and coaching methods and styles.

The course was generally considered to be a success with candidate coaches achieving a far greater understanding of coaching table tennis. The courses will continue to

be refined as they are delivered and the ETTA, and its partners in the other home country table tennis associations, are committed to a programme of ongoing monitoring and evaluation of all courses to ensure that the quality of coach education meets the challenge of raising standards leading up to London 2012 and beyond.

A second course has already started in the East Midlands region, at the Draycott and Long Eaton Table Tennis Centre, with further courses currently being planned in other regions. It is expected that an annual programme of courses will be included within the Coaching section of the ETTA website from 2008. In the meantime, please contact your RDO or the ETTA Coaching Department for details of courses available over the next six months.

For further information on the UKCC and Table Tennis, including details of the different levels of the UKCC and forthcoming coach education courses, please check the 'Coaching' section of the ETTA website.

For further general information about the background to the UKCC please refer to www.ukcoachingcertificate.org For further details about the UK Coaching Framework: A 3-7-11 Action Plan – please go to www.sportscoachuk.org

Rockstar Wii & Xbox 360

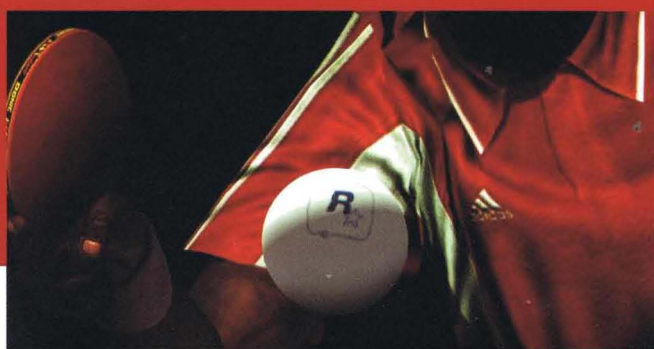
Developer Rockstar Games announced today the development of Rockstar Games presents Table Tennis for Wii. The game, a port of the Xbox 360 title that launched in May 2006, is expected to be released on Nintendo's home console this September.

"Ever since we released Table Tennis, fans have been asking us to create a Wii version," said Rockstar Games Founder and Executive Producer Sam Houser. "By bringing Table Tennis to the Wii and utilising the motion-sensitive Wii Remote, a

new audience can now experience a game that is beautifully designed and impossible to put down."

Table Tennis will feature 11 unique characters for players to choose from, each with a distinct play style. Gamers will compete across 19 venues, from stadium-style arenas

and special locations, as they work their way through the international tournament rankings. Rockstar Games did not detail the control method. The company also did not state if the Wii version will use the original game's engine or include new content.



I'm absolutely shattered. My legs were beginning to cramp up and at one time I even thought the ball was changing shape!

Ex-England star dies

Liverpool born international table tennis star Ronnie Rumjahn sadly passed away at the recently at his home in the East Lancashire town of Todmorden.

The former Rafter's player, who turned 80 a fortnight ago, won the Liverpool men's singles title a record nine times and made his Division One Liverpool league debut when only 12. As well as playing for Liverpool on many occasions, he also represented Lancashire at both table tennis and hockey. England international honours in table tennis came his way as he followed in the footsteps of brothers Ted and Peter.

World Record

Five times national champion Andrea Holt and England No 2 Alex Perry have played themselves into the record books – literally. The table tennis pair, helped along the way by North West Regional Chairman Karen Tonge and up and coming Cheshire player Mark Roscaleer, have broken the world record for the longest rally.

The record breaking attempt took place in the Terminal One lounge at Manchester International Airport where Finnair were announcing their new flight times to Beijing.

Play began at 8.57 am and the record was broken at 5.24pm just 8 hours 27mins later, that's 12 minutes longer than the old record set by two American brothers Brian and Steve Seibel.....

The attempt was timed carefully all the way by an official representative and hopefully will now be ratified as a record in the Guinness Book of Records.

Afterwards Andrea said: "I'm absolutely shattered. My legs were beginning to cramp up and at one time I even thought the ball was changing shape!"

Karen and Mark did their bit by taking the strain when Alex and Andrea needed a break

with Alex doing the majority of the record breaking with Andrea not far behind. Jukka Hienonen, Finnair CEO said: "It's amazing to think that by the time these talented players had finished, someone could have travelled half way around the world."

Streaming Success

A SPORTSMAN visits Buckingham Palace in recognition of his services to table tennis.

Dave Marsh of Wellingborough attended one of the Queen's garden parties at the palace in London with his wife Dorothy after being involved in table tennis for 55 years.

His love of the sport started when he first picked up a bat at the age of 14 and within two years he was playing for the Hertfordshire Junior side.

He got involved with the Watford League Committee before moving to Wellingborough in 1975, where he immediately became part of the county's table tennis circuit as a player, coach and administrator.

This involved serving on the county committee in a number of positions, including development officer. Mr Marsh, 68, said: "I was very surprised to hear I had been invited to the palace.

"But in this day and age, the voluntary sports people are tending to get acknowledged more and more.

"I think this is because it is realised we play a fairly responsible part in the development of sport in this country.

As a player Mr Marsh reached number two in the Northamptonshire County men's rankings in the 1980s and was one of the first county players to use long pimped rubber, securing wins over a number of highly-ranked national players.

He has worked with the Northamptonshire Schools Table Tennis Association and more recently played a part in securing the funding and building of a dedicated table tennis centre on the site of Weavers Leisure Centre in Wellingborough.

Mr Marsh was nominated by the Lord Lieutenant of the County Lady Juliet Townsend, who officially opened the new centre, home to his club Westfield Table Tennis Club, last November.

Colin Clemett and Brian Halliday provide a glimpse back over 80 years history of the English Table Tennis Association.

80 YEARS OF TABLE TENNIS



20s Ping Pong to Perry

1922 was a year of historical happenings. It was a year when the treasures of Tutankhamun were unearthed in Egypt, when the first regular news broadcast was made by the BBC from London, and the existing 'Ping Pong Association' was dissolved and reformed into the Table Tennis

Association. It was in the 1920s that table tennis developed into an athletic and fascinating sport and the first World Championships were introduced. The standard of play in England was relatively high and in 1929 an Englishman became Men's Singles Champion of the World. His name was Fred Perry, who later achieved lawn tennis fame.



30s A new spectator sport was born

In the 'thirties' table tennis became elevated into an international sport, and championships moved from clubs and drill halls into the stadia of the world. The two most influential characters promoting the sport were the Hon Ivor Montagu and Victor Barna.

Ivor was the architect with great foresight and administrative abilities, and Victor was the supreme artist who demonstrated ball control and athletic skills to a spellbound public. During this period Hungary was the dominating country and its outstanding player, Victor Barna, actually won 15 World individual titles (5 Men's Singles, 8 Men's Doubles and 2 Mixed titles). It was the Hungarians - Barna, Bellak and Szabados, who had much to do with the rise in popularity of the sport in the 'thirties'. They were brought to England for a series of exhibitions that gave table tennis a new dimension. Between 1936 and 1939 the number of affiliated clubs jumped from 1,654 to more than 4,000 and a new spectator sport was born. Although Victor Barna was the spearhead of the great Hungarian teams he was intensely keen to become a British subject, and in July 1947 his application was accepted and he obtained British nationality. Eventually he played for England and later became the nation's non-playing captain.



40s Brought with it a 40,000 sell out

Normal activities for much of the 'forties' were halted by the Second World War. However, the post period brought about a quick revival and in 1947 the National County Championships were inaugurated. Internationally we became a force to be reckoned with, and in 1947 our

women's team won the coveted Corbillon Cup without conceding a single set. In 1948 the 15th World Championships were held at Wembley and it was a most successful occasion. We retained the Corbillon Cup, won the Women's Doubles title (Vera Thomas and Peggy Franks), and the great Richard Bergman, now a naturalised British subject, won the Men's Singles crown. It was estimated that more than 40,000 spectators attended Wembley for these Championships. In the following season the World Championships were held in Sweden and an enthusiastic English contingent travelled to Stockholm and cheered themselves hoarse when Essex star Johnny Leach won the first of his two Men's Singles titles.



50s Shorts, sponge and standardisation

Table tennis was, perhaps, at its most attractive in the fifties and the competition between the top Europeans and the 'whirlwinds' from Japan gave it a new sparkle and zest. More world honours came our way and nicely pressed flannels gave way to a

natty line in shorts. In Budapest, 1950 Richard Bergmann again won the Men's Singles and on the distaff side Dora Beregi partnered by Helen Elliot of Scotland went on to win the Women's Doubles.

In 1951 the World Championships moved to the Konzerthaus in Vienna where the first effects of a sponge bat were felt in a major event. In spite of some startling results its user obtained, the 'rubber-bat' skill of our own Johnny Leach proved to be supreme. Playing immaculately he won all his Swaythling Cup matches and in the singles event he out-gunned the top players of the world to win the title for a second time. Furthermore, the supremacy of our players was again illustrated in the Women's Doubles when two delightful teenagers, known as the Rowe twins, won the coveted title at their first attempt and had us waltzing in Vienna. In 1953 the World Championships moved to Bucharest, Rumania, and for the only time in its history England achieved a sensational victory by winning the Swaythling Cup.

The Championships returned to Wembley's Sports Arena in 1954 and England's table tennis stars had every reason to be well pleased with their performances.

The shock effect of the high speed style of the Japanese players fired the imagination of most table tennis devotees, but it was the delightful Rowe twins (Ros and Di) who provided the sensational and spectacular drama. In an atmosphere that was

80 YEARS OF TABLE TENNIS

electrifying the twins celebrated a victory that must be unique in sport. They won the Women's Doubles title for a second time and were crowned world champions on the night of their 21st birthday.

As the cost of running World Championships was now becoming astronomical, Congress decided that future championships, as from 1957, were to be held biennially. To take care of the interim years Europe inaugurated its own championships, the first of which was to be held in 1958. The women's team title was won by England, represented in all matches by Diane Rowe and Ann Haydon. In 1959 a compromise on 'racket standardisation' was made with the elimination of thick sponge.



60s China for the Worlds

In 1960 Jack Carrington, one of the pioneer table tennis coaches in England, became the first full-time 'Director of Coaching' and paved the way for the extensive scheme we have today. 1960 was also a year to remember, for it was on 8th January at Greenwich Baths, London, that the

English National Championships were inaugurated. Bryan Merrett had the distinction of becoming the first home-born Men's Singles Champion.

1961 was a special year in our history as an England team made its first ever trip to China to compete in the World Championships that were being held in Peking.

Internationally, our ladies still retained their great competitive skills and Diane Rowe found a new partner in Mary Shannon. Together they won the European Women's Doubles titles in 1962 and 1964, and they were the backbone of England's team victory in the European Championships in Malmo, 1964. It was in January of 1964 that the International Table Tennis Club of England was formed and it was thought by many that it stimulated the idea of forming the now famous Swaythling International Club. In 1969, the table tennis world mourned the death of the unrivalled Richard Bergmann who died from a brain tumour at the age of 50.



70s Era of honours

In 1970 Bill Vint OBE became President of the English Table Tennis Association to add to his other administrative achievements and a new Chairman, Charles Wyles, took office. Charles worked tirelessly for table tennis and master minded the tour of China in 1971 which received complementary

press coverage, and in 1973 he was awarded the OBE. Tragedy struck our sport in 1972 when Victor Barna, a naturalised British subject who won 15 individual gold medals in World Championships, died in Lima, Peru.

Our ladies still achieved many wonderful results in the seventies, and in 1976 Jill Hammersley thrilled us all by

winning the European Women's Singles title and then teamed up with Linda Howard to take the Women's Doubles crown. We were also markedly successful in the Commonwealth Championships and later Jill was rewarded by receiving the MBE. The 34th World Championships returned to England in 1977 and were held most successfully in Birmingham.



80s TT gets Olympic status

The 1980s started with an enormous bang when in the picturesque town of Berne, Switzerland, an unseeded Englishman by the name of John Hilton became the new European Men's Singles Champion. The delightful Jill Hammersley, now Mrs Parker, won our National Singles title in 1981 for the seventh time, thus overtaking Mary Shannon-Wright's brilliant record of six wins. In addition and for good measure Jill also won seven Women's Doubles titles.

In 1984, the Hon Ivor Montagu, the most influential man that table tennis has known, died at the age of 80, and a dark cloud seemed to envelope the sport which he had inspired with his leadership for so many years. England has always been a country with great development skills, particularly in sport, and these were illustrated in the eighties. The first World Veteran Championships were held and attracted 451 players from 23 countries. Later, another first took place at Stoke Mandeville when the World Table Tennis Championships for the disabled were held and received considerable acclaim.

In 1988 for the very first time table tennis was featured in the Olympic Games. It is given to only a few to make enduring contributions to sporting advancements, however restricted they may seem to the layman. The late Roy Evans from Wales, who was President of the ITTF for 20 years, was the guiding light in this respect, and was responsible for taking table tennis into the Olympic Games as a fully fledged competitive sport.

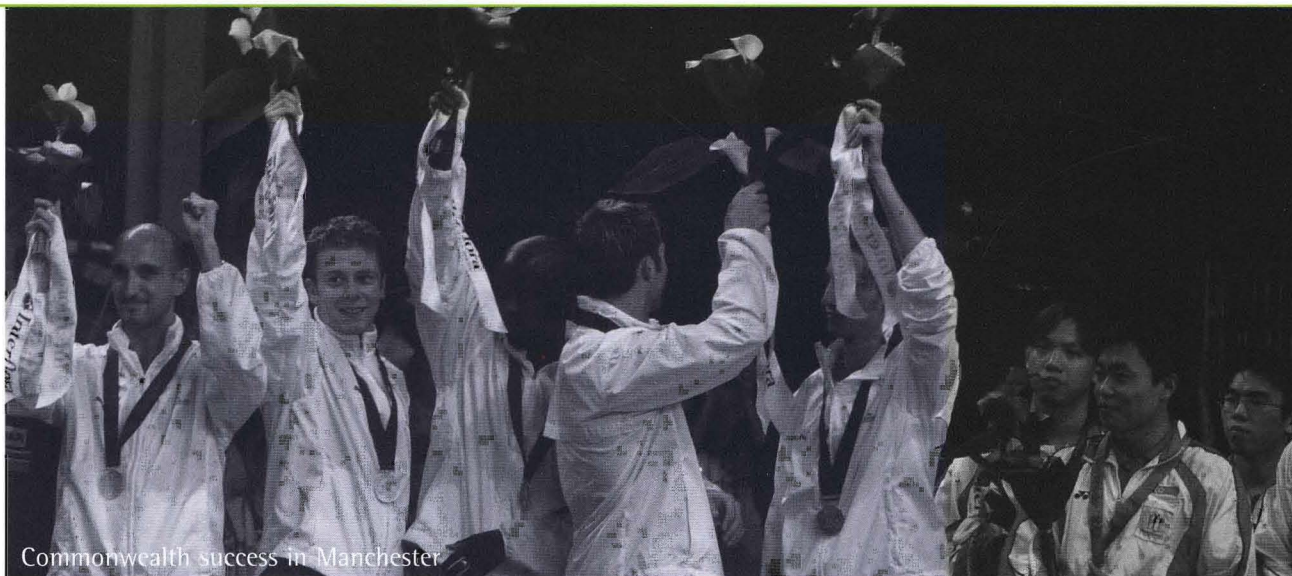


90s Brought success

In the European Championships of 1992 Lisa Lomas reached the final with some immaculate winning play against the leading European women competitors. Her play in the semi-final captivated even the most biased and critical audience.

To be a champion is not a tinselled wrapped gift, it means sacrifice, will power and dedication. On the male side one of our players obtained personal fulfilment, when between the years of 1976 and 1998 he won 26 of our National titles. He took the Men's Singles on eleven occasions - nine on the trot - and the Men's Doubles on fifteen occasions and not always with the same partner. The player concerned was the wonderfully accomplished Desmond Douglas. The likelihood of such an amazing record ever being beaten is bordering the impossible.

In February 1993 we had to say farewell to one of the finest



administrators that our sport had known when Arthur Kingsley Vint, affectionately known as 'Bill', passed away in the Laurels Nursing Home in Hastings. It was he and a handful of other men of vision who broadened the horizons of table tennis. Unquestionably, the most important feature of the 'nineties' took place in 1997 when the World Championships were held in Manchester. It was a spectacular boost for table tennis, generating considerable interest outside of the sport. The press and media gave their full support and Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, awarded the OBE in her Birthday Honours List to Alan Ransome, the Association's Chairman. Although the Commonwealth Championships in 1997 were rather overshadowed by the World Championships, they were a huge success for our players, when in a magnificent Men's Singles final Matthew Syed beat Alan Cooke to win his first Commonwealth Singles title.



00s Transition phase

The start of the new millennium in the year 2000 was viewed with great optimism, particularly as it was ruled that the size of the ball was to be increased from 38mm to 40mm in all International Championships. In fact the last time that the old 38mm ball was used in an international event was

in the 2000 Olympic Games played in Sydney, Australia. Some fine players also continued to play through this decade, such as Nicola Deaton, Helen Lower, Alan Cooke, Carl Prean, Alex Perry, Terry Young, Gareth Herbert and of course our triple Commonwealth champion, Matthew Syed. The Commonwealth Championships proved to be the highlight of 2002. There were golds in the Men's team event and in a dramatic Men's Doubles final there were gold medals for Andrew Baggaley and Gareth Herbert. England's third gold medal came with Susan Gilroy in the Women's EAD (elite athletes with disability) Wheelchair event. Mention must also be made of the extensive BBC TV coverage on every day of the competition.

At the 16th Commonwealth Championships during 2004 in Kuala Lumpur there were silver medals for the Men's team and also in the Mixed Doubles where Alan Cooke and Helen Lower were runners-up.

At the World Cadet Challenge in the Dominican Republic in 2004 there was a gold medal in the Team event with Paul Drinkhall, Darius Knight and Gavin Evans, and a silver medal in both the Singles with Paul Drinkhall and the Doubles with Paul and Darius.

In the European Youth Championships in 2005 our young boys won a gold in the Cadet Team event, and both gold and silver in the Singles.

The Commonwealth Games in Melbourne in 2006 produced silver medals for the Men's Doubles combination of Andrew Baggaley and Andrew Rushton, gold medal for Susan Gilroy in the Women's EAD Wheelchair, and bronze for Cathy Mitton in the same event. Singapore dominated the Commonwealth Championships in Jaipur in 2007. There was a noticeable increase in the standard of play which resulted in England drawing a blank for the first time since the inauguration of the Championships in 1971.

The UK Schools Games started in 2006 and England were represented in all events and won medals in every category. The event is backed by the Government following the award to London to run the Olympics in 2012 and table tennis is one of the 26 nominated sports.

Great Britain was represented by Paul Drinkhall, Darius Knight, Melanie Farquhar and Emma Vickers at the Olympic Youth Festival during 2007 in Australia, and came back with gold and silver medals in the singles and gold in the doubles.

Paul Drinkhall became the first player since Carl Prean in 1985 to win the European Junior Boys Top 12 event in 2007. Away from international matters it may be worth recording that the VETTS have increased their membership to an all time high, and there are a record number of juniors competing in tournaments run by the Association.

80
YEARS
OF
TABLE
TENNIS



African table tennis qualifiers to Beijing Olympic Games unveiled

News from the African Table Tennis Federation:

The African Table Tennis Federation are the first to unveil their players that have qualified for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games following the recent completion of the table tennis event at the All Africa Games.

The Republic of Congo took the two golds in women's single and the mixed doubles.

In the games themselves Nigeria collected the four golds in men's single, men's doubles, women's doubles and women's team event. The Republic of Congo took the two golds in women's single and the mixed doubles. Egypt won the gold in men's team event.

Nigeria's defending champion Segun Moses Toriola again won the gold in the men's single final. He also teamed up with Monday Merotohun to clinch the men's doubles crown.

Congo's Yang Fen took the gold in women's single on Saturday. Earlier she had teamed up with Saka Suraju to win the mixed doubles gold.

As a result, Congo joined hands with Egypt to break Nigeria's monopoly in the table tennis event. Four years ago at the eighth edition of the quadrennial Games, Nigeria swept all the seven golds in this event.

The following players have qualified for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games:

Men: Segun Toriola (Nigeria), Monday Meotohun (Nigeria), El-Sayed Lashin (Egypt), Saka Suraju (Republic of Congo), Idir Khurta (Algeria) and Adel Massaad (Egypt)

Women: Bosse Kaffo (Nigeria), Yang Fen (Republic of Congo), Cecilia Offiong (Nigeria), Nesrine Beikahia (Tunisia), Safa Saidani (Tunisia) and Shaimaa Abdul Aziz (Egypt)

Fire at Beijing Olympics Table Tennis Venue

The venue set for the 2008 Beijing Olympics' table tennis tournament was seen ablaze as seventeen fire engines rushed to the Peking University gymnasium to manage the fire. The cause of the inferno is still unconfirmed although a preliminary investigation is pointing towards construction activity. No casualties were reported.

A construction worker, who refused to be named, cited that the fire may have been due to an electric welder. "I was heading to a classroom building when I saw flames and black smoke coming from the roof of that building at about 9 o'clock.

Fortunately no students were there because the neighbouring classroom buildings have been under reconstruction," stated a student.

According to published reports, university officials believe that although the fire affected the insulation materials of the building, the steel girders and the structure remain intact.

The glass domed 26,900-sq metre (289,600-sq ft) gymnasium will be hosting a test event in December in preparation of Olympics August, 2008.

Female star banned

Trinidad and Tobago female table tennis star Rheann Chung has been reprimanded by the disciplinary committee of the Trinidad and Tobago Table Tennis Association (TTTTA). The action came after the France-based professional was involved in a fracas at the Caribbean Championships.

The incident was described as bringing the game into disrepute and caused major embarrassment to the TTTTA. Bob Roopnarine, secretary of the TTTTA confirmed that the Chung and a close female relative who also represented Trinidad and Tobago were found guilty by the disciplinary committee of using objectionable language.

JOB VACANCIES

Press and Communications Officer

Status: Full time 37½ hours/week
Remuneration: Salary £18,000 p.a.
Department: Public Relations
Responsible to: National Communications Manager
Office location: ETTA head office, Hastings
Job summary: To proactively promote the activities of table tennis and respond to media enquiries in order to enhance the standing and influence of the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA) regionally, nationally, and internationally.

Closing date for applications: Monday 3rd September 2007

National Coaching Administrator

Status: Full time 35 hours/week
Remuneration: Dependant on experience
Department: Coaching
Responsible to: National Coaching Manager
Office location: ETTA head office, Hastings
Job summary: To administer ETTA coaching programmes: Coach education courses, Skills programme, Coach Insurance scheme and future Coach Licence Scheme, CRB Checks, Junior Umpire Awards, Table Tennis Networker Awards

**Closing date for applications:
Tuesday 28th August 2007**

Application process:

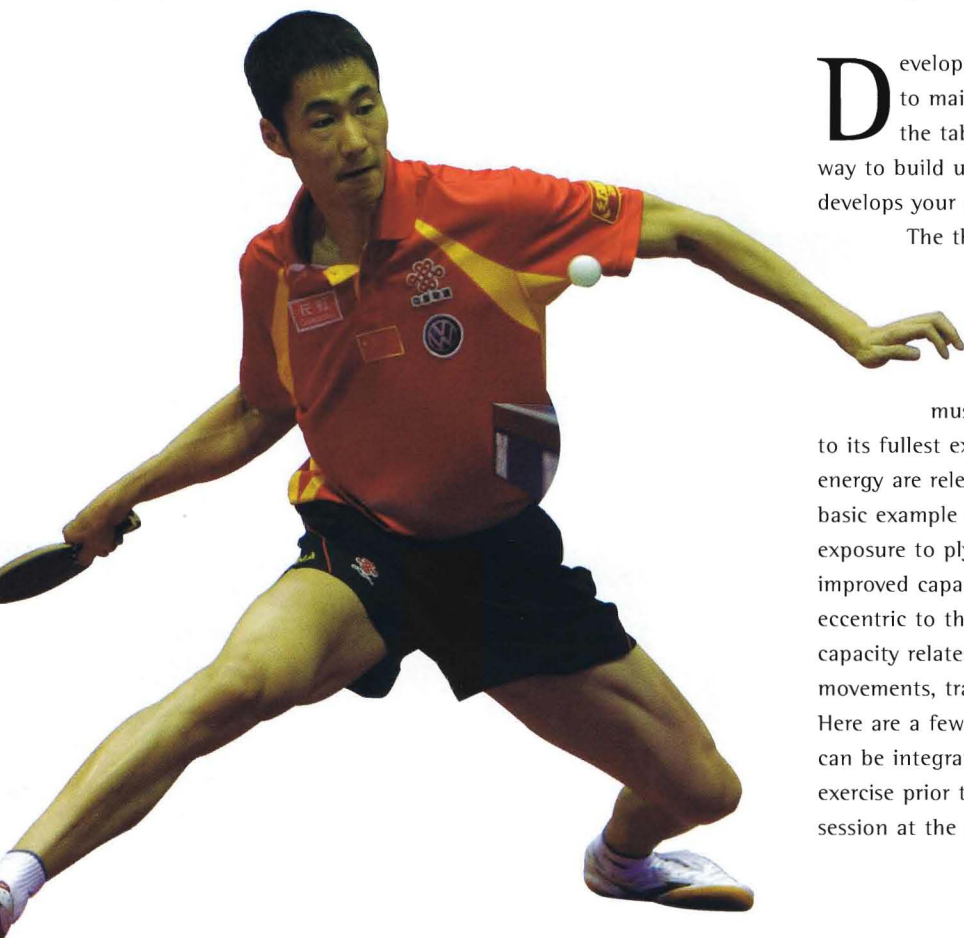
More information on these jobs and application pack are available to download from www.etta.co.uk or hard copies can be requested from:

Robert Sinclair (ETTA General Secretary)
Tel: 01424 722525
Fax: 01424 422103
E-mail: robert.sinclair@etta.co.uk



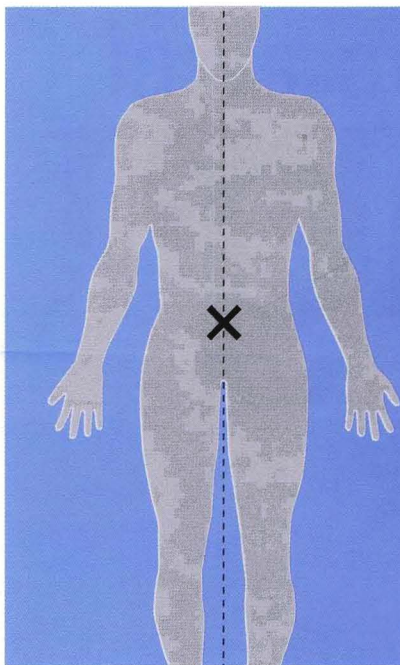
how to achieve good leg speed

Good leg speed, strength and stamina are essential areas of fitness for a table tennis player, and can be the difference between two players of the same technical ability



Developing these components of fitness enables players to maintain speed and quality of movement around the table. Plyometric training is a quick and effective way to build up these three essential areas of fitness, as it develops your explosive fast twitch muscle fibres.

The theory behind plyometric training is based on the understanding that a concentric (shortening) muscular contraction is much stronger if it immediately follows an eccentric (lengthening) contraction of the same muscle. It's a bit like stretching out a coiled spring to its fullest extent and then letting it go: immense levels of energy are released in a split second as the spring recoils. A basic example of a plyometric exercise is skipping. With regular exposure to plyometric training, muscle fibres develop an improved capacity to store and transfer elastic energy from the eccentric to the concentric phase of movement. This improved capacity relates to a superior ability to execute rapid movements, transforming you into a more dynamic player. Here are a few exercises that work using these principles. They can be integrated into training either as a form of group exercise prior to table work or as mini challenges throughout a session at the table.



Centre point

ACHIEVING A GOOD BASE

The centre of gravity is the point around which the body weight is balanced or centred. This is usually around the navel area.

The centre of gravity is important in table tennis, particularly to give stability. Players need a low centre of gravity in the ready position and for moving to balls in wide areas. If the player's position is too upright with minimal knee bend and the feet close together, the centre of gravity will quickly move outside the base of support.

- Find the base that gives you the best balance when moving
- Utilise knee bend to lower the centre of gravity
- Make sure you are not so low or so wide that agility is affected (feet shoulder width apart is a good guide).

The centre of gravity is the point around which the body weight is balanced or centred. This is around the navel area.

Top tip: Video yourself playing to see how you move and how low you keep your centre of gravity. You will probably be surprised at just how upright you are.

EXERCISES YOU COULD INTEGRATE INTO A CIRCUIT

- **SKIPPING**
legs together with small repetitive jumps over a speed rope
- **SQUAT THRUSTS**
start in a press up position, jump your legs forwards so that your knees are under your chest and your feet are under your hips. Increase speed and number as able.
- **SQUAT JUMPS**
Bend down into a squat position then push up into a straight legged jump, be as explosive as you can.
- **SPOTTY DOGS**
Alternate feet an legs, bouncing from one position to the next
- **BURPES**
squat thrust into a star jump
- **CYCLE SPLIT SQUAT JUMP**
as a squat jump, but whilst in mid air you use a scissor leg action, increase the number of scissor legs before you return to the ground to increase the intensity
- **MINI HURDLE BOUNDING**
or bounding in and out of lines – bounding over a series of objects to stimulate the stretch relax reflexes

All of these exercises are cyclical in nature and involve explosive movements followed by an absorption and storage of the power developed, which is subsequently propelled into the next explosive action. As always a thorough warm up should be performed prior to exercise.

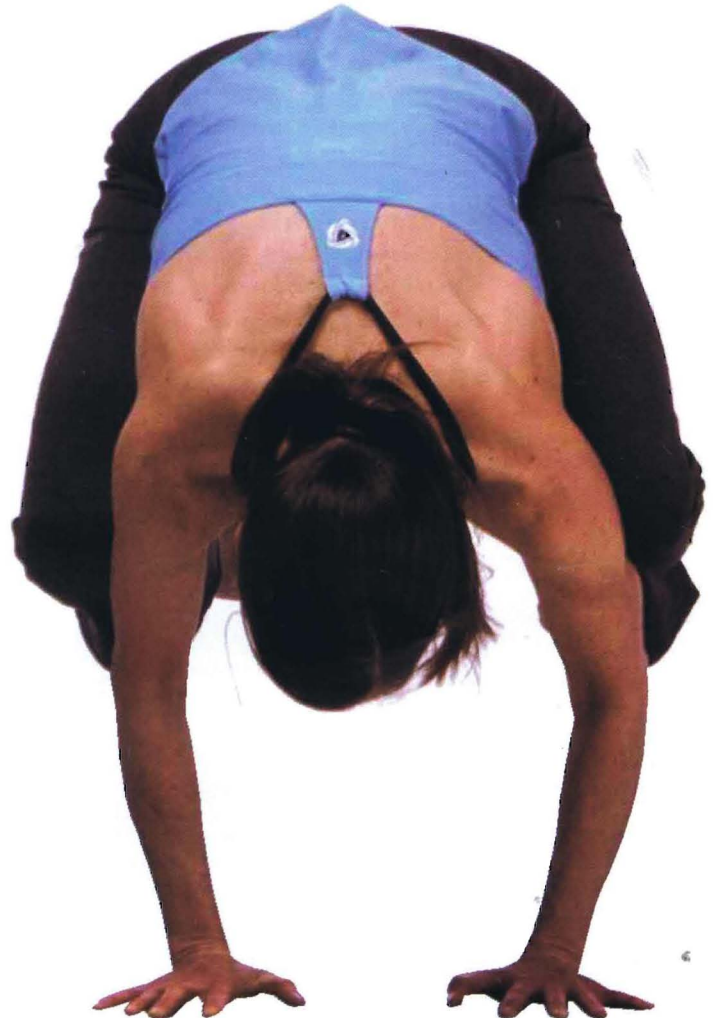


table tennis training

Table tennis is a fun and exciting game, practically anyone can play and best of all its fairly easy. However, since starting table tennis is a breeze a lot of people neglect the need to gain proper training.

This is alright if you just want to have some fun hitting the ball once in a while, but if you really want to be good, then training is the only way to progress.

Like any sport, table tennis training follows a flow of discipline. Here are some things you need to consider when planning your table tennis sessions:-

Frequency: The frequency of your table tennis training really depends on you, what your goals are, how much you can commit, your desire to improve, your schedule, your budget, etc. But generally, if you want to improve your game you should have at least one training session each week, plus a competitive session to gain match play experience and pressurise your techniques/skills. However, playing too much can be counter productive: study your schedule carefully and set realistic targets that you can stick to.

Looking after your tacky table tennis rubbers

One aspect of almost all table tennis rubbers is their tacky or sticky surface, great for generating spin but also brilliant at attracting dust and dirt, resulting in a patchy and inconsistent surface. So here are some quick tips to help you retain an optimum playing surface.

Firstly you need to either keep the plastic protection films that came with the rubber, or you need to buy/make some. Secondly you need a lint-free cloth or a sponge to clean the rubber with. So how do you use these two things to look after the rubber? Well every time after you finish playing, you need to rub all the dust off the surface of the rubber. Use the sponge or cloth, damp with water, to completely clean the surface. Make sure cloth/sponge is damp enough not to scrape the surface of the rubber, but not too wet as to get the rubber soaking wet. Distilled water is the best, but filtered water or even tap water works ok. After cleaning wait for it to dry completely (important). Then apply the plastic protection sheet (make sure they are clean too), pushing it on firmly, and pushing out any big bubbles so that the plastic makes contact with the rubbers everywhere (very small bubbles will be hard to get out, but this does not matter).

Duration: How long you train is another consideration. It is usually recommended that a training session lasts for around an hour to an hour and half (table time). This will allow you to maintain maximum concentration levels.

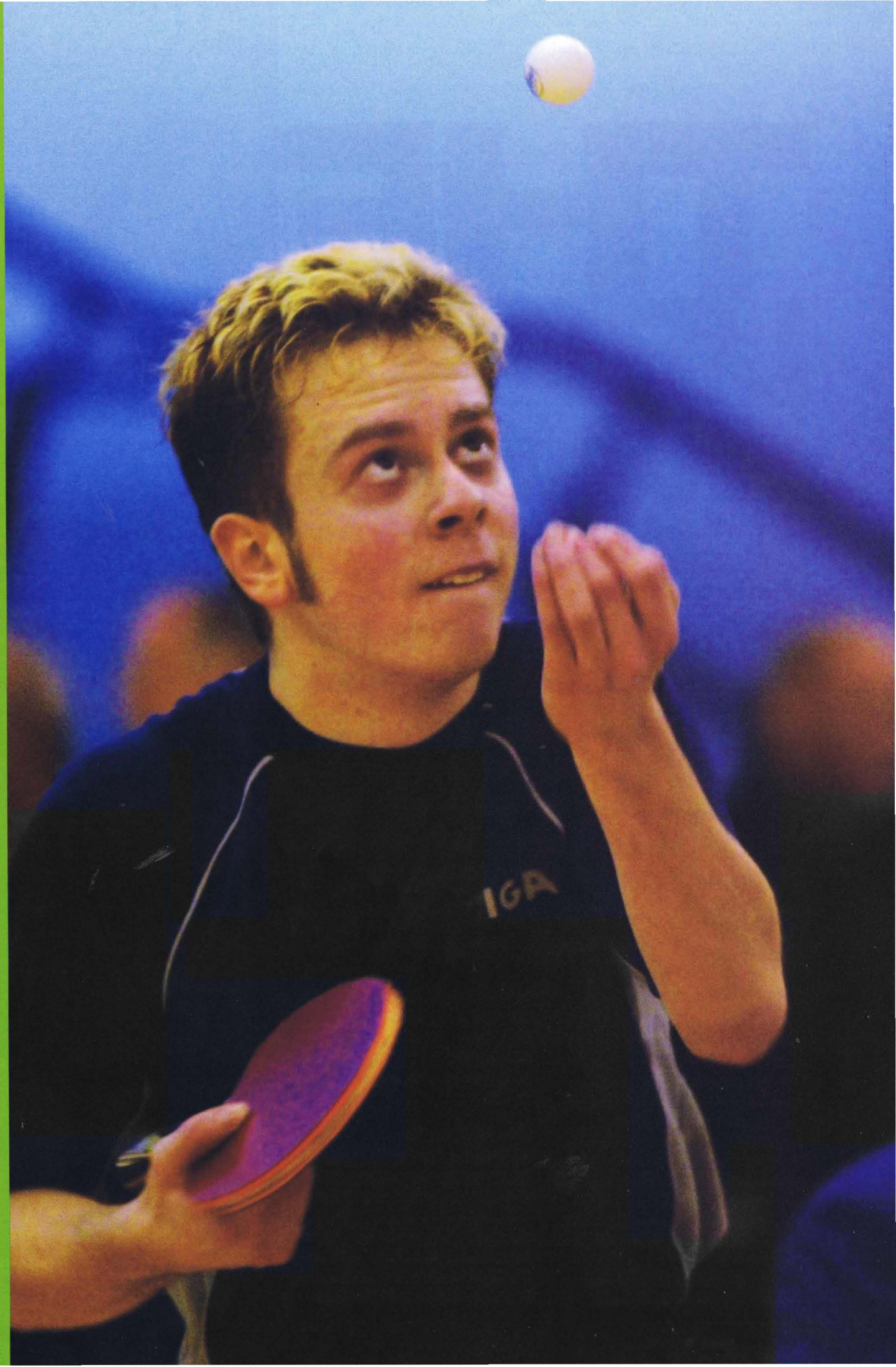
Style: The type of session really depends on your level as a player. Beginners must concentrate on building a firm foundation, starting with the basic forehand and backhand techniques. Then move on to the backhand counterhit, the forehand counterhit, the backhand push, the forehand push, the serve, and the serve return. Without mastering these basic elements you cannot expect to move to the next level.

Fun: You should include an element of fun within each training session. Lobbing, smashing, forehand loop, backhand loop, etc. all allow expressive and enjoyable drills and soon enough you can mix these strokes into your repertoire providing an impressive game.

Attitude: No matter the duration and style of your training you will not succeed in table tennis if you do not have the correct attitude. Table tennis possesses a fine balance of explosive power and intellectual prowess, a quick mind is crucial due its fast and illusive nature so maintaining a positive and focused attitude is critical to perform to your maximum level.

The attitude also applies during training, you must be targeted and direct in your approach concentrating on the weaknesses within your repertoire of strokes until they become autonomous. Pay attention to your trainer or your training partner. If you have to take turns feeding the ball take the opportunity to focus on your partners movement, this will allow you to develop a greater capacity to read the game.

Remember you can learn every time you train, compete or spectate - Think table tennis.



THE URBAN CUP

FREDPERRY.COM/URBANCUP

Skinny jeans are in vogue, transformers have clawed their way out of the cupboard and yes, Fred Perry is back in table tennis. The iconic sports fashion label born out of the brilliance of Mr Perry himself has launched a new table tennis initiative, the Fred Perry Table Tennis Urban Cup.

What is it?

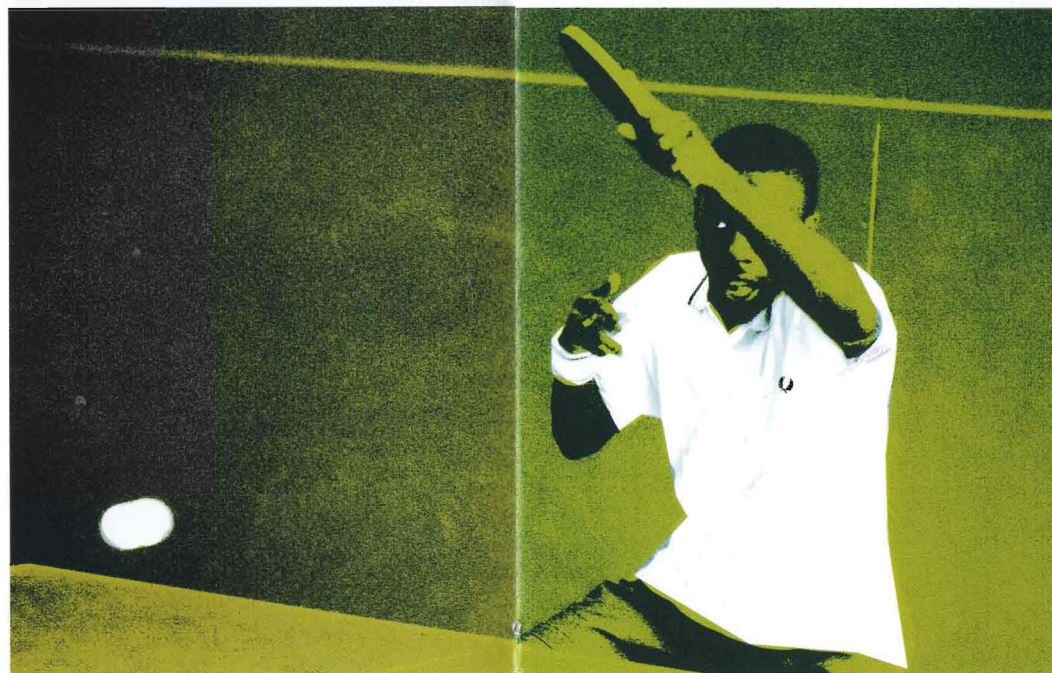
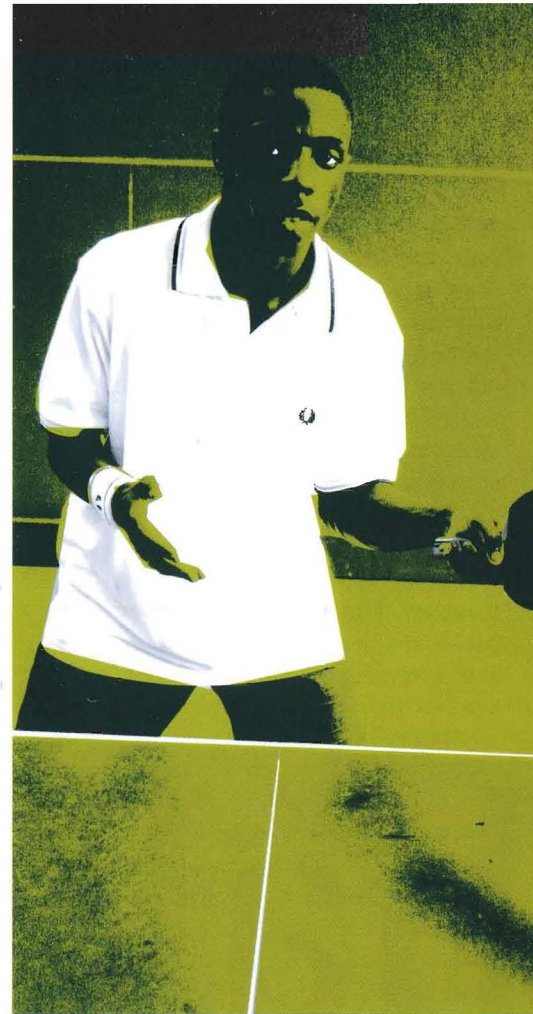
The Fred Perry Urban Cup is a nationwide team event aimed at a grass roots level of participation within inner city areas. Fred Perry, in conjunction with the ETTA, Clubs for Young People and Sport England, has scoured the youth clubs of Bristol, Birmingham, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Liverpool, London, Manchester and Durham to source the most promising table tennis talent. Each city now has a team of boys and girls aged between 12 and 16 years which will compete against teams from seven other major UK cities at the Urban Cup finals to be held in London on September 8th 2007.

The winning city will be crowned Fred Perry Table Tennis Urban Cup Champions 2007.

Backed by Sportsmatch government funding for three years, the Fred Perry Urban Cup will raise the profile of table tennis within inner city areas, accessing thousands of young people across the country and raising the level of participation in the sport.

Why Table Tennis?

Richard Martin, Fred Perry Brand Manager explains why table tennis makes sense "Any explanation of brand entry into the UK table tennis market begins with the unique sporting and cultural heritage of Fred Perry. Fred attended Ealing County School, London, where he fell in love with table tennis. He practised the game every night; his effort and determination



"In my youth table tennis was the sport which perhaps gave me the greatest pleasure. I hated school assignments more than anything else and, to the consternation of my parents, spent all my time playing a peculiar version of table tennis."

Fred Perry, World Table Tennis Champion 1929

eventually paid off - in 1929 he won the singles title World Table Tennis Champion. He then went on to become a legend of British tennis. The brand's roots in working class culture, plus Fred's own success in the sport, fully support and credibly justify brand entry into the UK table tennis market today."

Seen as one of the rising stars of British table tennis, Darius Knight has been selected as the face of the Urban Cup. As an inspirational figure to many, Knight's rise to prominence has striking similarities to that of Perry making him the ideal figurehead to this exciting new initiative.

Let's just hope he can go on to replicate Fred Perry's World success.

The supporting acts

Along with the ETTA and Fred Perry, the Urban Cup is being supported by Sportsmatch and Clubs for Young People.

Sportsmatch (www.sportsmatch.co.uk)

Sportsmatch is a government funded scheme set up to help fund grass roots and community sports in England. They match new sponsorship money with Sportsmatch funding, on a pound for pound basis.

Applications to Sportsmatch for funding can be made from any not-for-profit organisation capable of delivering community sport. It is directed at projects which aim to increase participation in sport at grass roots level and/or improve basic skills.

Clubs For Young People

(www.clubsforyoungpeople.org.uk)

The National Association of Clubs for Young People is a UK registered charity (reg. no. 306065). It is a UK wide organisation representing 3,500 youth clubs and projects, working with 400,000 young men and women and 30,000 volunteers in communities across the UK. The Duke of Gloucester has been president since 1974, with his father previously holding the role since Clubs for Young People's creation (then as the National Association of Boys' Clubs) in 1926. The charity is privileged to have also been awarded a royal charter. The organisation provides opportunities on a local, regional, national and international basis, and provides accredited training programmes and advocacy for all its members.

Top competition

Win £150 worth of clothing to be selected from fredperry.com. To enter, just log on to www.fredperry.com/urbancup and answer this simple question:

Which city is Darius Knight from?

- A. Madrid
- B. London
- C. Paris

Visit the website to find out more about the urban cup www.fredperry.com/urbancup

FULL REPORT ON THE FRED PERRY URBAN CUP FINAL IN THE NEXT EDITION OF TTN



FRED PERRY
TABLE TENNIS
URBAN CUP



Written by Richard Pettit

TABLE TENNIS WILL RETURN

to the iconic Royal Albert Hall for the first time in over three decades for the most exciting new event of modern times. The Table Tennis Masters will be contested by the cream of the world's top players including Timo Boll, a top Chinese, Kalinikos Kreanga, Paul Drinkhall and others depending on form over the next few months. The return of table tennis to the majestic surroundings of the Royal Albert Hall will create excitement across Planet Table Tennis. The prestigious London venue, opposite Hyde Park's Albert Memorial and just a stone's throw from Harrods, is generally regarded as the world's most atmospheric indoor arena and has tremendous historic significance for table tennis as the venue

that played host to major events in the heyday of Richard Bergmann and Johnny Leach.

The auditorium is quite unlike any other in the world and those who have been for the initial site-visits have been abuzz with excitement. The seats are "on the round", completely encircling the playing area and creating a gladiatorial atmosphere with a tremendous sense of intimacy. The Masters will be broadcast on Sky Sports in the UK and will be beamed to dozens of nations around the world.

The Masters is a six-man competition for huge prize money encompassing two quarter-finals, two semi-finals and a final. The event will begin at 7pm and will conclude around 10.30pm. But don't just expect to see world-class table tennis:

the organisers are planning features and special guests that, we are told, will take the breath away. Specially installed big screens, featuring action replays and interviews with the players as they happen on court, will add to the sense of occasion.

For the hard-core table tennis aficionado, The Masters will be the event that provides the ultimate test of form in the months leading into the Olympic Games in Beijing in the summer of 2008. It will be fascinating to see how the world's leading players cope with the unique atmosphere of the Royal Albert Hall and the pressure of a live audience expected to exceed 5,000 spectators. It will also be intriguing to see how Drinkhall, a youngster expected to challenge

The Royal albert hall

History in the making as Table Tennis returns to the prestigious London venue on 17th March 2008



for gold in 2012, fares against the world's best. All profits from the Table Tennis Masters will be donated to TTK, the table tennis initiative of the Greenhouse Schools charity. Alex Murdoch, Chairman of the ETTA, said: "We are delighted that the legacy of The Masters will be to provide new funds for the development of table tennis amongst young people. We look forward to working closely with Greenhouse to make this the most spectacular event of recent times." The Royal Albert Hall is in the heart of central London and offers excellent transport links by road, rail, underground and bus.

A FABULOUS CAUSE

All proceeds from the Table Tennis Masters will be donated to TTK, the table tennis initiative of Greenhouse Schools, which provides coaching, mentoring and holiday programmes to young people from some of the nation's most socially deprived areas.

TTK operates table tennis programmes in 12 inner city schools in London and two in Cardiff. The goal of the project is not only to encourage mass participation but also to enable the very committed young people to train as much as 10-15 hours per week. We currently work with

The seats are "on the round", completely encircling the playing area and creating a gladiatorial atmosphere with a tremendous sense of intimacy.

thousands of young people per week. Each school has a full-time coach who works both in term time and in the holidays. They have been selected to have sufficient patience to deal with beginners, while at the same time the technical expertise to progress the better players. The coaches include many ex-British internationals with the result that the progress being made by the players has been quite extraordinary. The programmes have a positive impact on attendance and behaviour, and also provide the opportunity to guide/mentor the young people taking part.

"ARENA THAT DISPLAYS THE SPECIAL BRILLIANCE OF OUR SPORT"

Tennis at the Royal Albert Hall is a regular feature of that sport's calendar. The senior players led by the ubiquitous John McEnroe thrill large crowds year after year. I wonder how many of those players and spectators realise that it was table tennis that led the way in introducing sport to this great arena.

The earliest record I can find of table tennis being played at the Royal Albert Hall was in 1939 when the early rounds of the English Open Championships were played there, with the finals at Wembley. Richard Bergmann, who at that time was representing Austria, won the Men's Singles



Timo Boll

The Daily Mirror was associated with our sport from the very early years. In fact they put up a car as a prize for one of their tournaments way back in 1922.

while England's Jean Nicholl won the Women's event. The man they called the "Clown Prince" of table tennis, Laszlo Bellak, partnering fellow Hungarian Victor Barna, won the Men's Doubles. Some 21 years later the championships returned but in the meantime an unusual sponsor came forward with a series of tournaments with the finals at the Royal Albert Hall.

The Daily Mirror was associated with our sport from the very early years. In fact they put up a car as a prize for one of their tournaments way back in 1922. The car was a Calthorpe incidentally. In 1950 and from 1953 to 1957 they organised tournaments and were able to attract very large entries from all over England. The 1950 Men's Singles was won by Len Adams who beat Peter Skerratt, and none other than Diane Rowe won the Women's Singles as well as the Junior Singles.

Some 6,000 spectators gathered at the Royal

Albert Hall for the Mirror Finals in 1953. Over 12,000 players had competed over many months for the chance of a finals night appearance. Billy England took the men's event and Ann Haydon, who later achieved success at Wimbledon, the women's event. The finals were completely overshadowed by a stupendous international invitation event. Barna played Bergmann in a quite unforgettable semi-final. I quote "It was magnificent cut and thrust stuff - all too rarely seen nowadays. Here was table tennis as it should be played. Here was grace, cunning, art, control, fighting spirit and attacking skill, pitted against defensive genius. It truly stirred the blood." In the other semi-final Johnny Leach scraped home against Aubrey Simons and then got a real thrashing in the final from Richard Bergmann. Fast forward to 1960 and the return of the English Open Finals, and some sparkling English successes. Ian Harrison won the Men's,

EVENT INFORMATION AND TICKET PRICES

	Adult	Child
Stalls and Stage	£15.00	£7.50
2nd Tier and Choir	£10.00	£5.00
Circle	£7.00	£3.50
Circle (restricted view)	£5.00	£2.50

Box Office: to purchase tickets please go to www.royalalberthall.com or call the box office on 020 7589 8212.

For more information on the Table Tennis Masters please go to: www.tabletennismasters.org

Or you can contact Gemma Barnes on 020 7603 5111 or info@tabletennismasters.org

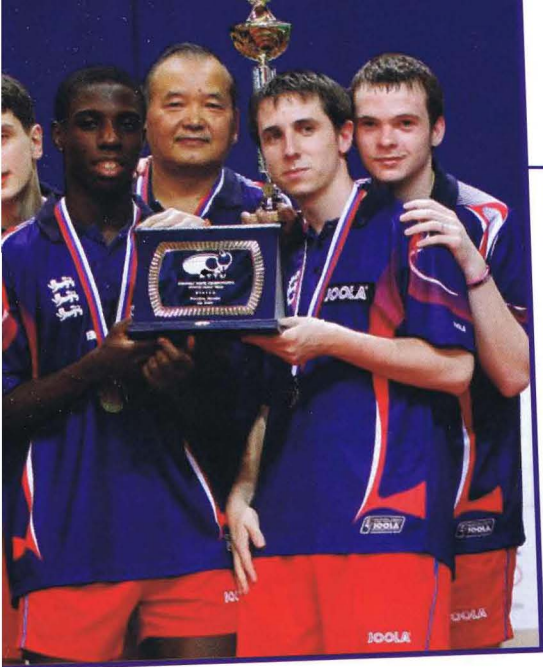
For more information on TTK please go to: www.greenhouseschools.org

Leach and Micky Thornhill took the Doubles. Cathy Best and Di Rowe won the Women's Doubles, and Harrison and Rowe won the Mixed. In 1962 the English Open Championships went to the Corn Exchange in Brighton. Although Brighton attracted some of the world's best performers and visits there were always memorable, there is always a special place in my memory for my visit to the Royal Albert Hall. It is an arena ideally suited for the world's best players to display our sport in all its special brilliance.

by Matthew Syed and Brian Halliday



Kreangi



TEAM SUCCESS

Paul Drinkhall, again proved too hot to handle for his European counterparts as the reigning junior European Top 12 holder strolled through the final three phases with a 100% record. Darius Knight and Danny Reed also played some irresistible table tennis proving their pedigree against Europe's best. This is the first time England has collected the European Youth title at Junior level, another excellent achievement for the ground breaking young squad which further enhances their reputation as number one junior team in European table tennis. Much of the credit must go to the exceptional support and talent of the ETTA Performance staff in particular Jia Yi Liu, National Coach, who has been a fundamental factor to the growing success of elite English table tennis. Steen Hansen, England Performance Manager, said "It's a remarkable achievement. Paul was exceptionally strong, Darius played the best I have seen for a long time, and Danny showed again that he is developing into a great, great player. Winning the European Youths was one of our season's goals and it always nice to see the best team win, I am delighted that we have once again proved this to be the case."

INDIVIDUAL FRUSTRATIONS

The individual results were a slight anticlimax following the remarkable Junior Boys team start. The best performances came from the Liam Pitchford and Karina LeFevre who managed to claim a bronze and gold respectively in the cadet consolidation events. Drinkhall and Knight added to their ever swelling medal cabinets in the mixed doubles however they looked a touch lethargic in the singles exiting far too early. Emily Bates and Melanie Farquhar also managed quarter-final places. For more information visit www.etta.co.uk

ENGLAND SQUAD

Sean CULLEN; Gavin EVANS; David McBEATH Liam PITCHFORD; Emily BATES; Mary FULLER; Karina LE FEVRE; Melissa WRIGHT Paul DRINKHALL; Darius KNIGHT; David MEADS; Daniel REED; Melanie FARQUHAR Rachel JAMIESON; Emma VICKERS

RESULTS

Final; ENGLAND beat CZECH REPUBLIC 3 - 0 DRINKHALL P. (ENG) beat TREGLER T. (CZE) 11/3, 13/11, 11/7, 7/11, 11/5 KNIGHT D. (ENG) beat OBESLO M. (CZE) 11/7, 11/6 11/4 REED D. (ENG) beat CRHA J. (CZE) 8/11, 11/4, 11/8, 11/8
Semi-Final; ENG ENGLAND beat RUSSIA 3 - 1 DRINKHALL P. (ENG) beat PAYKOV M. (RUS) 11/9, 11/8, 7/11, 11/7 . KNIGHT D. (ENG) beat UTOCHKIN A. (RUS) 10/12, 13/11, 11/4, 6/11, 11/8. REED D. (ENG) lost to SHIBAEV A. (RUS) 13/15, 9/11, 7/11. DRINKHALL P. (ENG) beat UTOCHKIN A. (RUS) 11/8, 7/11, 11/1, 11/9
Quarter-Final: ENGLAND beat FRANCE 3 - 1 DRINKHALL, P. (ENG) beat BAUBET V. (FRA) 11/8, 11/5, 8/11, 11/7. KNIGHT, D. (ENG) lost to SALIFOU A. (FRA) 11/7, 9/11, 9/11, 8/11 REED, D. (ENG) beat LE GUEN V. (FRA) 11/5, 9/11, 6/11, 11/8, 12/10. DRINKHALL, P. (ENG) beat SALIFOU A. (FRA) 7/11, 11/9, 11/9, 7/11, 11/7

TEAM POSITIONS

Junior Boys	1st	England (Gold)
	33rd	Ireland
	35th	Scotland
Junior Girls	28th	Scotland
	31st	England
	34th	Ireland
Cadet Boys	7th	England
	29th	Ireland
Cadet Girls	29th	England

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Gold - Junior Mixed Doubles, Paul Drinkhall /Elizabeta Samara
Gold - Cadet Consolidation, Karina LeFevre
Silver - Junior Mixed Doubles, Darius Knight/Natalia Bak
Bronze - Cadet Consolidation, Liam Pitchford

RESULTS

Mixed Doubles
Semi Final: DRINKHALL, P. (ENG)/SAMARA, E. (ROU) beat BAUBET, V. (FRA)/SOLJA, A. (GER) 11:6 12:10 9:11 11:5 KNIGHT, D. (ENG)/BAK, N. (POL) beat SALIFOU, A. (FRA)/PARTYKA, N. (POL) 9:11 9:11 11:9 12:10 11:5
Final: DRINKHALL, P. (ENG)/SAMARA, E. (ROU) beat KNIGHT, D. (ENG)/BAK, N. (POL) 6:11 11:9 12:10 11:3
Cadet Boys Doubles
Semi Final: LE BRETON, T./LORENTZ, R. (FRA) beat SZOCS, H. (ROU)/EVANS, G. (ENG) 11:5 9:11 11:7 12:10
Cadet Boys Consolation Singles
Semi Final: GRISHENIN, D. (RUS) beat PITCHFORD, L. (ENG) 9:11 11:6 11:4 12:10
Cadet Girls Consolation Singles
Semi Final and Final: Karina Lefevre two walk overs

Just two years after lifting the prestigious cadet title, England's young 2012 contenders achieved European Gold for the second time. With the average age of just 17 the talented young English squad became Junior (U18) European Youth Champions by defeating the Czech Republic in emphatic style, 3-0 in the final.

European

Youth Table Tennis Championships

laws and regulations

The ETTA National Umpires & Referees Committee is responsible for dealing with questions of rule interpretation that are received at the ETTA Office. Many of these are on the same topics and the following questions are some of those most frequently asked, with their "official" answers.

By Colin Clemett – Secretary, NURC

Q Can I change my racket during a game in a League match?

A The restriction on changing a racket during a match applies only to competitions held under the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions, such as open tournaments and, in England, British League and County Championships matches. It does not apply to local Leagues unless the League has made a specific decision to adopt this regulation and has published it in the League's rules. If these rules do not say that it is forbidden, a racket can be changed during or between the games of a match, but the umpire and the opponent must be allowed to inspect the new racket before it is used.

Q In a League match must I use one of the ITTF-authorized racket coverings?

A No, unless the League has specifically adopted such a regulation. Otherwise, the only requirement is that the covering conforms with the Laws in respect of material, thickness, colour, etc.

Q In a League match can I claim a time-out?

A No, unless the League has specifically adopted such a regulation. Time-outs are not included in the Laws.

Q If my opponent serves when I am not ready, must the umpire call a let?

A Not necessarily. The umpire has to judge whether you are really unready or, say, just unwilling to try to return a difficult service. In any case, if you attempt to return the ball you cannot claim to be unready, whether or not you are successful.

Q When the expedite system is in operation, if my opponent serves last in a game, must I serve first in the next game?

A No, the first server in any game after the first is always the player or pair who received first in the previous game, whether or not expedite is in operation.

Q In doubles, if X serves to A at the start of the first game, must A serve first in the second game?

A No. In each game of a doubles match, the pair serving first can

choose which of them will do so, but the order of play is determined by the choice made by the receiving pair in the first game. Thus if X serves to A at the start of the first game, at the start of the second game either A serves first to X or B serves first to Y. In the third game, either X serves first to A or Y serves first to B, and so on.

Q Is a racket with rubber on only one side of the blade legal?

A Yes, but the uncovered side must be either red or black, depending on the colour of the covered side, and it must not be used to strike the ball. If the ball is struck with the uncovered side the opposing player scores a point.

Q If I win the toss and ask my opponent to serve first, can I then choose an end?

A No. The winner of the toss can choose either (a) to serve first or to receive first or (b) to start the match at a particular end. When one of these choices has been made the loser of the toss makes the other.

Q If in a doubles match I am unable to reach the ball to return it because my partner is in the way, can I claim a let?

A No. A doubles pair is treated as a unit and the fact that one player gets in the way of the other is not considered to be "a disturbance outside their control".

Q Am I entitled to a warning, without losing a point, for the first illegal service in a match?

A No. An illegal service always results in a point for the receiver. A warning is allowed only on the first occasion where the umpire suspects, but is not certain, that the service was illegal.

Q Is the net support that rests on the table part of the net assembly or part of the playing surface?

A It is part of the net assembly.

50 not out

George Walsh, the elder statesman of the Wembley & Harrow Table Tennis League, recently celebrated fifty years of service on the League's management committee – by being elected for another term.

By Steve Leven



The Vice-Chairman, who has held several other posts during his golden age, continues to put his considerable experience and enthusiasm at the service of the game he loves.

Meanwhile, his work at county level for the Middlesex TTA has recently been recognised with the award in June 2007 of the Leslie Forest Memorial Trophy for services to County Championships by the English Table Tennis Association.

"Having discovered table tennis at a fairly late age by today's standards it quickly became a great passion which has remained with me ever since," George said. "I wanted to become as involved as possible in this exciting sport. It never crossed my mind at the time that I would still be involved fifty years later."

George's first club was Wembley Institute, which he joined in 1948. It was a leading club filled with players of all standards up to international. Many of the League's future management were members at this time.

Soon George reached the highest local level and he competed in the first division for 17 years, first at Wembley Institute, then at Earlsmead and finally at Stanmins. "In those days there were three men's representative teams," George recalls, "and I played for both second and third teams occasionally, over a period of five years in the 1950s and 60s. Although rarely going past the group stage in open tournaments there was one terrific occasion when I reached the quarter-final of the Kent Open at Folkestone."

George's first League committee post was in 1957 when he became Elvin Cup Competition Secretary, organising the inter-club knockout

tournament. At that time, the League contained twelve men's and three ladies divisions' – with some 750 registered players. The League Chairman at the time was Bert Meyern. "He was very enthusiastic about the standard of refreshments at matches in the Middlesex inter-league representative tournament – they were very big events in those days." George also fondly remembers Norman and Alma Reeve who both served on the Committee (Norman remains a League Vice-President to this day). Their work for the Committee was prolific and they never failed to attend representative matches.

Alan Rhodes was George's favourite character from that era, and the two are still friends. Alan reached the heights of England no. 2 and was never known to behave in less than a dignified manner. Michael Close was another colleague on the table and in the committee room – the pair shared 49 years together in the service of the League.

From the early 1980s, George has also been an elected member of the Middlesex TTA Executive Committee. Additionally, since the early 1990s he has served as county representative on the London Region committee of the ETTA.

George officially qualified as a coach in 1987 although he had been working as a coach for some years prior to that for the London Borough of Harrow. He recalls being told by a well-known England international, Harry Venner, that a coach could only be considered a players' coach if he/she alone had coached the player. George has successfully coached the winners of several local and county honours.

As for advice for today's players, George says: "I would say that hard work is far more important than talent. Spend enough time at it, in the best conditions that you can find, and you will achieve your full potential, whatever it may be."

George counts himself fortunate to have seen many great players from the past and present. The almost impenetrable defence of Richard Bergmann or the swan-like movements of John Leach as they played in front of a 10,000 audience at Wembley Empire Pool in the 1950s. In 1997, whilst an official at the World Championships, he was able to see Jan-Ove Waldner and Vladimir Samsunov at close quarters; by then table tennis had become a different game entirely.

Swift Success for the 3E's

Table tennis is successfully being brought to local communities across the country, but few clubs have achieved more in a shorter space of time than the 3E's club in north London.

By Jeremy Wilson

From its launch just over four years ago in May 2003, the progress has been astonishing all the way to winning the national junior north London league this year and also three trophies in the North Middlesex League.

As is so often the case with emerging clubs in any sport, the success of the project has been spearheaded by the efforts of local table tennis enthusiasts and parents.

Working closely with the local authorities has also been vital although, according to Martin May, the young persons'

co-ordinator for the Enfield Leisure Centres Trust, the club's progress has been driven by the passion of Reg Rockall. "The main reason our project has become a success is really down to the hard work, determination and drive of Reg Rockall who has coached, guided, and organised the club for the past four years," he said. The 3E's is now a stand alone club in its own right and has applied for Sport England's 'Clubmark Award'. If successful, it will only be the second club in Enfield to get this after Ellenborough TTC. "We have players ranked in England now

Landmarks

- January 2003 - £4,094 received to set up table tennis sessions at Edmonton Leisure Centre and the Angel Community Centre for young people
- November 2003 - Angel Community Centre Session introduced every Tuesday
- February 2004 - Tuesday session gained sponsorship from TTK
- April 2004 - Fundraising event held for kids and parents, £150 raised
- May 2004 - Anniversary tournament held with 23 kids taking part, and press coverage in the Enfield Independent.
- July 2004 - Project awarded £1,500 from Foundation for Sports & Arts for purchase of a robotic ball machine and two more tables
- August 2004 - Professional coaching week held at Southbury Leisure Centre
- November 2004 - Gained sponsorship from Outback Steakhouse, Enfield, for T-shirts
- February 2005 - Started from third location in Edmonton at Boundary Hall, Snells Park
- March 2005 - Gained £7,000 from Metropolitan Police to run Boundary Hall sessions
- April 2005 - Club Committee formed
- August 2005 - Entered three teams into league competitions under the name of The 3E's Table Tennis Club
- February 2006 - Thomas Dantzig aged 13 wins local league event held at Ellenborough
- March 2006 - Advanced player and family sessions launched from Aspire Sports & Fitness Centre located at Edmonton County Lower School
- April 2006 - Project awarded £750 from Enfield Council Sports Development Team for coaching at Boundary Hall
- May 2006 - 3E's finish fourth in first ever season in North Middlesex League Division Three
- July 2006 - Club awarded PremierClub status
- September 2006 - Club enters four teams for forthcoming season, two for North Middlesex TTL and two for Cheshunt TTL, as well as three in National Junior League
- March 2007 - Club applies for Sport England's Clubmark award
- May 2007 - Club crowned North Middlesex League and Cup Champions for Divisions Three and Four, as well as Handicap Cup Winners and National Junior League Winners





and have trained many to become junior umpires and some as coaches,” explained May.

The club, however, emerged from the grass roots and was essentially formed of players who had never picked up a bat before. It was launched by the Enfield Leisure Centres Trust, the organisation that manages the borough’s leisure centres, in May 2003 after receiving £4,094 from the Lottery ‘Awards for All’ scheme. This money was used to purchase five tables, bats, balls and professional coaching. Initially, the project was created to provide the young people of Edmonton with an exciting sporting activity which they could participate in after school and during school holidays.

The project, which was managed by May along with coaches Reg and Simon Rockall, was launched on May 6, 2003 with an exhibition match and coaching workshops. Local schools were invited and the mayor attended the launch of the project. The Friday night sessions took place on two squash courts and it was soon evident that more space and time would be needed as up to 35 young people descended on Edmonton Leisure Centre every week to take part in coaching and matches. Many of the young players came from walking distance of the centre

for a first taste of table tennis. To cater for the increased demand, the project introduced a second session at the Angel Community Centre, also in Edmonton. This session featured three tables but again quickly became popular, especially after gaining sponsorship from TTK (Table Tennis for Kids) which enabled the young players to play for free.

After a year, the sponsorship was withdrawn and the project decided to look for an alternative venue so that more people could take part.

In February 2005, the project began sessions at Boundary Hall on the Snells Park Estate in Edmonton, thanks largely to the Metropolitan Police who funded £7,000 for the project. This enabled the organisers to equip the hall for table tennis and provide coaches.

The sessions quickly became popular with the local community and a club was formed called ‘The 3E’s Table Tennis Club’. This club was entered into the North Middlesex and the Cheshunt local leagues. The 3E’s stands for Edmonton (where the majority of the players come from), Enfield (the borough where Edmonton falls under) and Edison (the club which coaches Reg and Simon Rockall ran successfully in Crouch End).

In its first season, the club finished fourth



in North Middlesex Division Three and was made up of three 15-year-old players. After running for only four years, in May 2007 the club was crowned North Middlesex League and Cup Champions of Divisions Three and Four, Handicap Cup Champions and National Junior League North London Zone Champions, beating established clubs such as Ellenborough, Wembley and Barnet along the way. Many of the players that have taken part over the 2006/07 season began playing table tennis at the now defunct Edmonton Leisure Centre.

The 3E’s TTC also operates junior teams in the Cheshunt League which are largely made up of players under the age of 14. “In just four years The Edmonton Table Tennis Project and the 3E’s TTC have managed to convert a group of local young people into talented sports performers playing competitive table tennis,” said May.

tournament round-up



NATIONAL REGIONAL SQUAD CHAMPIONSHIPS

South East - champions for the first time.

This event is unique in that it is the only inter regional event in the calendar and is always keenly contested and provides many of the youngest players with their first representative experience. This year proved to be no exception with 4 of the group matches between the 9 regions ending up 6-6. Only the Southern region were unable to send a team this year which meant one group was a team short.

The winners for the first time were the South East team who defeated last years

winners East Midlands in the semi-final on count back 23-22 games with the match score finishing 6-6.

In the East Midlands match Yolanda King and Chelsea Furnival both had crucial wins over their higher England under13 girls ranked adversaries, King ranked no.3 beating the no.2 Lucy Davidson (Derbys) 11-8, 8-11, 11-8, 11-7, and Furnival, no.6 beating no.5 Emma Cole (Derbys) 11-8, 9-11, 6-11, 11-5, 11-4.

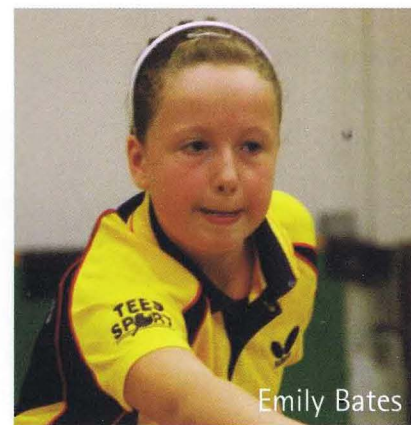
In the other semi final the South West team were victorious against the West Midlands team. The final was also a very close encounter and was not decided until the final match with the score at 6 - 5 to the South East team who went on to win 7 - 5. Chelsea Furnival and Helshan Weerasinghe, who had won the England Schools boys under 11 singles title the previous day, were both unbeaten throughout the competition. The East Midlands team finished third position after defeating West Midlands in the 3rd/4th play off.

All of the triumphant South East squad except Emma Torkington, Stephen Eckford and Lauren Beaumont take part in Regional Performance Centre training sessions every

Wednesday evening at Angley School, Cranbrook.

Regional coach Ken Muhr emphasized that winning the Championships was an excellent team effort: "There was tremendous team spirit and everyone supported each other. It is a great reward for all the hard work the players have put in." No coaching was allowed in the competition for the first time but the team spirit and support was very evident and added to the excitement of the day. This event is very reliant on the enthusiasm of the team leaders, usually the Regional Coaching Co-ordinators and in some of the regions this year the Regional Development Officers, to organise the transport of at least 12 players to the venue. Not an easy job and many parents were needed to help with this. I think most people who attended this year found it a very enjoyable and worthwhile event. I certainly did. Finally I'd like to give a thank you to the organiser, Ken Elliot, referee Les Smith and the local umpires.

Let's hope next years event is just as good.



Emily Bates

NATIONAL U11_12_13 CHAMPIONSHIP

Emily Bates collected three national titles plus reached a further two finals in another exceptional tournament for the youngster. Watch out for our young guns feature in the next issue.....

Results

U11 Girls' Singles: Emma Torkington (Sx) beat Tin Tin Ho (Mi) 4, -7, -8, 3, 9

U11 Boys' Singles: John Pilgrim (Ng) beat Michael Siket (Wo) -13, 8, -5, 13, 4

U12 Girls' Singles: Emily Bates (Li) beat Tin Ti Ho (Mi) 9, 4, 17

U12 Boys' Singles: Zak Zilesnick (Mi) beat Sam Walker (Ng) 7, -8, -8, 12, 11

U12 Girls' Doubles: Emily Bates (Li) & Jessica Dawson (Cv) beat Tin Tin Ho (Mi) & Emma Torkington (Sx) 4, 6, 10

U12 Boys' Doubles: Ross Wilson (K.) & Helshan Weerasinghe (Sx) beat Zak Zilesnick (Mi) & Connor Neenan 6, -9, 9, -9, 10

U13 Girls' Singles: Emily Bates (Li) beat Lucy Davidson (Dy) 7, 5, 5

U13 Boys' Singles: Zak Zilesnick (Mi) beat Harry Lumb (K) 7, 5, 8

U14 Girls' Singles: Karina Lefevre (Cv) beat Emily Bates (Li) 9, 7, -3, 5

U14 Boys' Singles: Liam Pitchford (Dy) beat

Danny Lowe (Dy) 7, 8, 8

U14 Girls' Doubles: Karina Lefevre (Cv) & Martha Travis (Co) beat Emily Bates (Li) & Chloe Whyte (Cv) 9, 9, 7

U14 Boys' Doubles: Liam Pitchford (Dy) & Danny Lowe (Dy) beat Sean Cullen (Dy) & Graham Barella (Du) 7, 7, 8

BRITONS ENJOY SUCCESS IN SLOVAKIA

Britain's top Paralympic table tennis players came away with four medals from the Slovakia Open championships to keep up their good run of form.

The class 3 team of Arnie Chan and James Rawson won gold, beating China 3-2 in the final.

It followed up their victory in last month's Slovenia Open.

Cathy Mitton won silver in the class 1-2 singles while Sue Gilroy won two bronzes in

the class 4 singles and the doubles with Claire Robertson.

It continues a run of success for the GB players as they chase qualification points for the Beijing Paralympics.

At last month's Irish Open, Chan and Sara Head won the class 3 men's and women's singles with Chan and Rawson taking team silver while Head and Mitton won team bronze.

Rawson and Mitton also won single's bronzes.

There were two silver medals for Scott Robinson in the class 5 singles and doubles, where he teamed up with Neil Robinson, while Commonwealth Games gold medallist Sue Gilroy took home two medals - silver in the open singles and bronze in the class 4-5 singles.

At the recent Slovenian Open, teenagers David Wetherill and Will Bayley won the class 6 team event while Rawson added to his medal tally with gold in the class 3 singles. Swansea's Paul Karabardak won silver in the class 7 singles before partnering Farrel Anthony in the team event to pick up his second silver.

BTTAD RANKING CONTINUED

Standing Classes 6-11 - Men

		C	P
1.	CATTLE C E.Midlands	9	4570
2.	KARABARDAK Wales	7	3980
3.	BAYLEY W Southern Reg	7	2860
4.	WETHERILL D South West	6	2730
5.	HEGADUS B Southern Reg	D	2530

Standing Classes 6-11 - Women

		C	P
1.	BROMLEY V North West	11	4460
2.	SMITH Jacqui Essex	11	2840
3.	BAWDEN M London	9	2630
4.	BOOKER E West Midlands	7	2164
5.	BROMLEY N North West	11	1380

BTTAD Ranking

Wheelchair Classes 1-5 - Men

		Class	Points
1.	PALMER M Essex	4	4346
2.	NEWCOMBE S Hampshire	4	2950
3.	CHAN A Nottinghamshire	4	2080
4.	WOODFORD C NE Lincs	3	1370
5.	WELSH J Warwickshire	3	1250

Wheelchair Classes 1-5 - Women

1.	MITTON C Yorkshire	2	1500
2.	CAMPBELL J London	3	1080
3.	ROBERTSON C West Glamorgan	4	1010
4.	GILROY S Yorkshire	4	840
5.	RIDING L Lancashire	2	690



Cathy Mitton

interesting facts about our sport?

Last year, Chinese Olympic table tennis champion Chen Qi lost his temper during a televised game and kicked a chair. As a result, he was sent to military boot camp and forced to do a week of hard labour on a farm. Having fed pigs, plucked cucumbers and irrigated fields, Qi says he now feels like "a new person".

By Justin Gayner

Last year, Chinese Olympic table tennis champion Chen Qi lost his temper during a televised game and kicked a chair. As a result, he was sent to military boot camp and forced to do a week of hard labour on a farm. Having fed pigs, plucked cucumbers and irrigated fields, Qi says he now feels like "a new person".

According to the Inter-national Olympic Committee, table tennis is the world's largest participation sport, with more than 40 million competitive players alone. It was also the basis of the first commercially successful video game, Pong.

No one knows who invented the sport. It is thought to have begun as an after-dinner game by British Army officers in the 1880s, using the round top of a Champagne cork as a ball and cigar boxes as paddles. Basketball and netball were invented at the same time.

The difference between ping-pong and table tennis is that "Ping-Pong" is a trademark belonging to J Jaques & Son in Britain and to Parker Bros in the US, so it's only ping-pong if you're using their kit.

Table tennis was also commonly referred to as Gossima, Netto, the Royal Game, Pim-Pam, Pom-Pom, Tennis de Salon and Parlour Tennis.

Charlie Chaplin suffered a cruel and humiliating table tennis defeat at the hands of Maxwell Woosnam, an Olympic tennis champion. When Woosnam visited Chaplin's home in 1921, Woosnam beat the actor using a butter knife in place of a bat. Attempting to cheer Chaplin up, Woosnam then threw him into his own swimming pool and was promptly asked to leave. Table tennis became a competitive sport in 1927 but was banned in the Soviet Union from 1930 to 1950 because authorities believed the sport was harmful to people's eyes. Britain's last great tennis player, Fred Perry, won the World Table Tennis Championships in 1929. He only took up the game of tennis aged 18, but his exceptional speed (gleaned from table tennis) enabled him to play at Wimbledon two years later.

At the 1936 World Championships in Prague, one point lasted more than an hour. Although the crowds began to leave the stadium, Poland's Alex Ehrlich didn't mind. He had a chessboard placed on the sideline and whispered his moves to the Polish captain. By the end of the point, which consisted of more than 12,000 shots, the referee had to be replaced because his neck was so sore.

In the same year, entertainer Harry Richman - who wrote songs such as Puttin' on the Ritz - flew the Atlantic with a plane crammed with table tennis balls. Richman thought that the plane had a better chance of staying afloat if it came down at sea.

In 1971, the US table tennis team became the first group of Americans allowed into China since the Communist takeover in 1949. Described as "ping-pong diplomacy", exhibition matches between the US and China table tennis teams ushered a new era between the superpowers. Time magazine called it: "The ping heard around the world."

Croatian table tennis player Professor Zarko Dolinar (1920-2003) holds a quite interesting record. He is the only athlete to have won eight world championships while holding a doctorate of science. It is also thought that he taught John Lennon how to play.

Table tennis became an Olympic sport in 1988. The international rules were changed in 2001 so that all tournaments played under official auspices are now to 11 points, not 21. Serves alternate every two points, instead of five.

In 2000, the International Table Tennis Federation insisted that the balls should increase by 2mm. The ruling made the sport easier to watch on television and slowed the game down by about 14 per cent.

Karmarama, Britain's least successful table tennis club, also acts as the Conservative Party's advertising agency

ROUND-UP

COUNTY



HANNAH HICKS

Cheshire by Alan Blears

Congratulations to Fiona Dennett on her excellent performance in the schools' individuals' finals. She so nearly won the girls U16 event, eventually losing a thrilling final 11-8 in the fifth to Hampshire's rising star Hannah Hicks. Fiona's good performances this season reflect the amount of effort she has put in over the years.

Two cadet boys to watch out for next season are Marcus McNulty and Matthew McCormick. Marcus, of the Stockport Hillcourt Club, is a late starter who has only been training for 14 months. A left hander, his looping topspin is already causing problems for more experienced players. At the Glossop League presentation evening he received three awards: junior singles runner-up, most sets won in Division 3 runner-up, and winner with his team-mates of the Division 3 title.

Although younger, Matthew McCormick by comparison almost seems like a veteran, having played competitively for about four years. He has already gained much valuable experience in the National Junior and Cadet leagues, plays regularly in the Halton League, and has been a member of the U12 training squad at Lilleshall and Nottingham. Watch this space.

County Junior Teams:- The junior first team

failed narrowly in its bid to make a quick return to the Premier Division, finishing third in Division 1A. With Caroline Hallows unavailable on day two, this was still a great effort.

Cheshire II finished fourth in Division 2A. Best performances came from the girls – Fiona Dennett (junior 1st) Maitreyi Shivkumar (junior 2nd). Fiona 8 wins out of 8. Maitreyi 13 wins out of 14.

The cadets in Division 1A finished fourth. With a number of players of roughly equal ability being given a chance, the only three to play in both rounds were Chris Pattison, Jordan Potts and Sarah Weatherby.

There is now a break for the summer, a time for bees, butterflies and cricket, lovely cricket.

Enjoy the great outdoors, but keep ping the pong, and we should meet again in the autumn.

Cleveland by Alan Ransome

Cleveland players Paul Drinkhall, Danny Reed and Karina Lefevre played an important part in the England performances in the European Youth championships that took place in Bratislava in July.

Paul Drinkhall was unbeaten in the Boys' team event in which England won the gold medal for the first time in the 50 year history of the event. Danny Reed also played his part,

winning the majority of his matches.

The second gold medal for England came in the Mixed Doubles when Paul won the title partnered by Elizabeta Samara of Romania. They beat Darius Knight and Natalia Bac of Poland in the final.

In the singles, top seeded Paul lost to the talented Belgian player Benjamin Rogiers in the last 16.

In the Girls' Cadet team, Karina Lefevre did well to win 3 out of 4 in the team event and went on to win the Cadet Girls' Singles Consolation event after 4 useful victories and 2 walkovers in the semi final and final. The European Table Tennis Union are looking at the timing of the Consolation events to avoid repeats in future events.

Devon by John Smith

Disabled table tennis ace David Wetherill has admitted his chances of qualifying for next year's Paralympic Games in China are 'in the balance'. He needs to be ranked inside the top 10 in the world to guarantee automatic qualification for Beijing. At the moment he is 14th – but has missed out on at least one ranking tournament this summer because of his exam commitments. The teenager is taking A levels, which meant he had to miss the Slovakian Open.

Paul Drinkhall, Danny Reed and Karina Lefevre played an important part in the European Youth championships

It is not the end of the world if Wetherill does not secure the points he needs, as he could qualify for China via a wild card place. Ironically, Wetherill expressed his concerns on the back of what he described as his best-ever performance. The 17-year-old won the open final at the British International Disability Championships in Sheffield, defeating Swansea rival Paul Karabarak – a player higher in the world rankings – for the first time ever in a final.

He said: "It's not certain that I will be able to qualify and I would say it's 50-50 and in the balance. If I did qualify for Beijing, I wouldn't say I would be a medal contender, but I'd like to think I'd leave my mark on the tournament by causing a few upsets."

DML Woolwell's county junior number one Richard Marshall put in an excellent performance to end the Junior Masters in sixth position. After a poor start, he qualified for the second day with three wins and four losses. He recorded a victory against number three Matt Ware, 8-11, 11-8, 11-9, 4-11, 11-8 and finished strongly, only losing one match on the second day.

More than 150 players and friends attended the 2006/2007 Beacon Electrical Plymouth and District Table Tennis League presentation evening. The awards were presented by Nigel Rowe of DML Sports & Social Club. DML have an active interest in many sport and leisure activities and in the league they sponsor the very successful Woolwell teams. It was fitting that DML Woolwell B (Mike Short, Harry Cutler and Chris Smith) won the Division One title. The seventh Plymouth Primary Schools Championships saw the end of an era as Vicky Smith, having played every year and reached six girls' finals, took that title for the fourth time. She also led her St Peter's R C schoolmates Peter Noble and Sam Cripps to the team title for the sixth time. Ollie Buddell took the boys' event defeating last year's winner Daniel Nile.

Derbyshire by Neil Houghton

Here are Derbyshire players for 2006/07 for those liking lists and apologies to those who don't. They won't mind being mentioned again and they did a good job. Derbyshire senior 1st team (runners-up first year back in Premier): Shaun Marples, Allan Fullwood, Sam Perry, Adam Frost, Emma Vickers, Jane Vickers.

Derbyshire Senior 2nds (R/U Div. 2a) David Arrowsmith, Stuart McIntyre, Keith Bird, Jon Bayliss, Helen Rainford, Sarah Bayliss, Katherine Arrowsmith. Derbyshire Juniors (3rd in Premier): Liam Pitchford, Shaun Cullen, Daniel Lowe, Mark Naylor, Emma Vickers, Emily O' Sullivan, Kerry Mansell and Lucy Davidson.

Talking of above cadet boys Liam and Sean recently went to European Six Nations in Denmark with England and both did a good job with Liam finishing up with an individual silver medal!

Danny Lowe ventured into the deepest south and was reportedly Band 4 finalist of Mid-Sussex Open held at Burgess Hill, said to be a picturesque venue and tourist pics. look good. Nice to hear about various league competitions and in Matlock recently another Dan, Dan Burton, won the handicap beating seasoned Geoff Gill; hard bat Andy Burton beat player coach Tony Gregory and in draw doubles Warren Slaney and Geoff Gill beat Andy Burton and Mick Thorley. Some keen players here. Missed the Norwich U13 Nationals but went down coaching on the Sunday. Heard that there were some Saturday Derbyshire success including Lucy Davidson r/u in U13s - well done! Behaviour seemed good, although as usual I tended to think that there were a tad (well a few thousand) too many "CHAVS" about. To be fair all matches are important to youngsters but, even so, microscopic lads yelling mega-loud war cries at each other after every point as if it's the Worlds seems a shade excessive.

There seemed one or two examples of very partisan applause which is extremely difficult for a very young player, with just their coach or dad supporting them, to cope with. Such as when one player was a favourite and/or from a big club and this spectacle isn't over-pleasant. I am not the quietest person at courtside and it is easy for anybody with a burning interest to become carried away but maybe the younger the players the less like gladiatorial games it should be! As mentioned above, "some kids can create this impression all by themselves so surely don't need adult help!!

Overall I gained the impression that there were some good young players about, including a number of Derbyshire players (well done) and many sporting and enthusiastic for the sport!

Essex by Steve Kerns

2007 Brentwood Closed Tournament:- Ex-junior international, the athletic and hard-hitting Ryan Savill, who has resumed playing after a short break from the sport took the Mixed Singles title at the Brentwood Closed Tournament after the three female entrants took their place with the men in the Championship's blue riband event. All four top seeded players reached the semi-finals but that is where "the fun" started. 2007 Burnham Men's Singles Champion George Reeves came back from 2-0 down to beat 2007 Chelmsford Men's Singles Champion Arturas Rybakas 8-11, 7-11, 11-9, 13-11, 12-10, a superb win in anyone's book. The second semi-final saw Kevin Read and Ryan Savill tied at 2-2 before Ryan piled on the pressure in the fifth end to win 11-8, 10-12, 11-6, 8-11, 11-2. George was unable to repeat his Herculean effort in the final and Ryan ran out a 11-5, 11-9, 11-9 Champion.

Keith Spicer caused another upset by taking the Veteran Singles title by beating Keith Phillips 4-11, 12-10, 11-6, 11-8 whilst Arturas Rybakas paired with George Pavitt came through an evenly matched field to take the Mixed Doubles title (an event open to both men and women and not necessarily a man and a woman!) by beating Keith Spicer and Trevor Collin 11-7, 9-11, 11-7, 11-6 in the final. Spicer and Collin had scored a superb 11-8, 5-11, 15-13, 8-11, 11-6 win over Phillips and Read in the penultimate round. Whilst the idea of ladies and men competing for the same titles must surely be seen as equitable and sensible in these times where many leagues are having trouble running a ladies singles competition, the titles of these events looks like it might prove to be a troublesome issue! Would "Open Doubles" not be easier to recognise than "Mixed Doubles" in such an instance?

Other results from the weekend included:- Ladies Singles: Debbie Auvache R/U Mary Nicholls. Junior Singles: David Ramsey bt. Jake Winter 11-4, 11-4, 11-8. Veteran O60s Singles: Dave Finlayson bt. Keith Ashton 11-7, 11-6, 10-12, 7-11, 11-6. Handicap Singles: Keith Cullen (-4) bt. Debbie Auvache (-7) 21-16, 18-21, 21-17.

ROUND-UP

COUNTY



Gloucestershire by Lesley Dewick

Magnificent Morley and hero Harvey lead the way for Gloucestershire Ping Pong at the Wolverhampton Grand Prix. Dave Harvey (seeded no 3) won the veterans event defeating the current English no 1 veteran and 23rd ranked senior player Abdul Wuraola from Surrey in the fifth and final set by the narrowest of margins 13-11, and in doing so saved a total of 3 match points (2 in the fourth set and 1 in the final set).

Judy Morley (who was severely hampered by injury) came runner up in the veteran ladies and because of this could not repeat her earlier excellent victory in Hereford against the veterans no 1 ranked player Shu Huang. The weekend proved to be extremely successful for all other Gloucestershire entrants and Dan Kolesnik, Gordon Shaw and juniors Robert Harvey, Milan Dragolovic and Stella Davies all performed extremely well and recorded several maximum pointed wins against much higher opponents, which will improve all of their national rankings considerably.

Hampshire by Jeremy Wilson

Hampshire's junior table tennis players have continued their enormous progress of recent years with success in the National Schools

Championships in Guernsey. Hannah Hicks and Matthew Ware won a gold and bronze and both won their team events.

Ware, who is now ranked 37 in the England men's ranking list, is to spend next season playing full-time in Sweden while Hicks, who is rated in the top 30 in the England women's list, is also planning to play in Sweden in their junior league next season.

She is planning to play full-time while Winchester's Garth Kinlocke is also hoping to play in Sweden.

Hicks also achieved great success at the recent Mid Sussex tournament, winning the women's band one event as well as the under 21 singles. Hicks, Ware and Kinlocke are part of the Hampshire team which won the national team championships. At a recent committee meeting, the Hampshire management council agreed to make a special presentation to the team, which also included Becky House and David McBeath, in recognition of their achievement.

All five players also featured on the BBC South Today programme in a special feature on table tennis in Hampshire.

Hertfordshire by Ann Fereday

The County Championships fixtures have been decided. Our senior team has been promoted to

Division 1B and the juniors are now in the Premier Division.

On the whole it was a good season too for the 6 veteran and over 60 teams.

The first team is in 1A. Teams that were promoted in the previous year have managed to stay up so we still have one team in each of the four third divisions. Team 6 is in 4B. The over 60s are divided into 2 regional groups, about 8 in each, with our team in the southern group. Managing all these 7 teams is quite a lot of work so well done to Ann Fereday for all her efforts.

The 2007 Junior County Championships have just taken place and these are the results:

Boys U18:- Guy Ben-Aroya R/U Adam Parker

Boys U15:- Guy Ben-Aroya R/U Ross Macniven

Girls U18:- Haylee Potts R/U Ameer Potts Girls

U15:- Haylee Potts R/U Tasmin Holland Boys'

Doubles:- Guy Ben-Aroya/Pritesh Kakad R/U

James Selby/Kenne Sykes Girls' Doubles:-

Haylee Potts/Ameer Potts R/U Tamsind

Holland/Abigail Moore Mixed Doubles:- Tasmin

Holland/Guy Ben-Aroya R/U Hallee Potts/Philip

Evans.

There have been profiles of some of the juniors in this column but there are other noteworthy people in the county besides players. One such is David Edwards who is now a Blue Badge umpire. David plays in the middle divisions of the Shaw League. He started qualifying to be an umpire several years ago. Of course things get harder the higher you get. He recently returned from the World Championships in Zagreb where he had received his fourth evaluation. This was followed by a long formal telephone interview. It was then confirmed that he was now a Blue Badge holder. He is only the fifth person in Hertfordshire to have become an international umpire. Congratulations to David from all of us. Hopefully we will see him on TV in the future.

Surrey County Notes by Chris Andrews

In the Blackpool Grand Prix Abdul Wuraola won the Veterans event with Wahab Adam runner-up in the Men's Band 4.

At the National Junior League held in Southhall Sports Centre, Rosehill won Division 1, York Gardens won Division 2 and Crusaders won Division 3.

Burymead B won the Guildford League Premier Division with Adam Laws their star player being

Ware, who is now ranked 37 in the England men's ranking list, is to spend next season playing full-time in Sweden

top of the averages. Challoner C won Division 1, Aftermath B Division 2, Woking Lawn Tennis B Division 3 and Ash D took the Division 4 title. Adam Laws also won the League tournament and his team Burymead B did the double by taking the Open Cup as well. Adam has now gone to China to teach English.

In the Wandsworth League York Gardens A won Division 1 with Steve Holloway top of the averages on 100%. St Paul's A won Division 2 with Vale B, St Paul's B and 24 Club winning Divisions 3, 4, and 5 respectively. The Open Cup was won by South Mitcham with St Paul's B winning the Handicap Cup.

Wickham Park A won the Croydon League Division 1 title with Dave Fraser their top player on 100%. Woodmanstern A, Forresters B and Monk Hill F won Divisions 2, 3 and 4 respectively. In the Open Cup Wickham Park A beat Monks Hill and Monk Hill F won the Handicap Cup beating Eldon B.

In the Reigate & Redhill League Holy Trinity won the Premier Division. Temple Bar won Division 1 with YMCA 2 winning Division 2 and Redhill Methodist 2 winning Division 3.

Old Woking A won the Byfleet League Division 1 with S Fawsett being top of the averages.

Woodham B won Division 2.

In the Rosehill tournament Patrick Beckley beat Richard Tanner in the semi-final and then went on to beat Chris Bush in the final.

Chessington A won the Sutton League Division 1 title with Eldon Phab A, Crusaders F and Rosehill I winning Divisions 2, 3, and 4 respectively. In the Open Cup Chessington A beat Rosehill A and in the Handicap Cup Crusaders B beat Crusaders C.

The county is looking for volunteer organisers to run the Junior Closed and Senior South of England Open tournament.

Graham Spicer and Rosehill have gained clubmark status.

Sussex by Graham Carter

Ritchie Venner followed in the footsteps of his illustrious dad Harry by representing England. Venner senior was a well-known international during the 1950s and rose as high as no.2 behind reigning world champion Johnny Leach. Venner junior had to wait until the age of 41 before he has known what it is like to put on an England shirt.

But now he knows what it feels like and he has

certainly worn it in style, helping England to victory in the Home Internationals last September and now playing a big part in them winning the the inaugural International Veterans Team Championships held in Cottbus, near Berlin, Germany.

Teaming up with England over 40s no.1 Abdul Wuraola (Surrey), Joe Kennedy (Kent) and Essex's Clive Carthy, they remained unbeaten throughout to become champions. On the way they beat Slovakia 5-0, Czech Republic 3-2, Holland 5-0, Bulgaria 3-2 and Germany 3-2, with Venner clinching the vital deciding contest against the Germans on their home soil.

Venner prepared well for international duty with a series of tournament victories in May. He retained the Hollington Open title in his adopted home town of Hastings where he cruised to victory in the final against Middlesex's Chris Pickard 11-7/11-5/11-8.

Venner was also triumphant at Thornbury in Gloucestershire where he became National Masters champion. He beat Wuraola 11-3/6-11/11-8/11-8 in the final, after his opponent had already put out another Sussex star, Adrian Moore, 11-8 in the fifth game in the third round.

Moore and Rose Rainton lifted the Sussex Invitation Cups. Moore took advantage of Venner's absence on international duty to make easy work in the men's version, the Seaman Cup, despatching surprise finalist Koray Ozcan 3-0 in the final.

Defender Ozcan, who this season made his debut in the British League for Eastbourne in Division 3 South, eliminated Jack Boulton, who plays two divisions above for Brighton, 3-1 in the semi-final. In the other semi, Marc Burman came close to causing a shock when he went 2-0 ahead against hot favourite Moore before the eventual champion recovered to win 3-2.

Boulton had tasted success earlier in the month when he lifted the Worthing Invitation Cup.

Playing in front of a packed audience, he overcame Goring team-mate Jack Rourke 13-11 in a thrilling fourth game. In the semi-final he gained revenge against Peter Bartram for defeat in the final of the Worthing Championships. Rainton completed an excellent treble of Sussex tournament titles when she added the Nicholls Cup and Hollington Open to her Sussex Championships crown. She beat Teresa Bennett in all three finals.

Sussex juniors continued to collect fantastic achievements. Helshan Weerasinghe became English Schools Under 11 champion and helped England to win the Home Countries Primary Schools International in Ireland, winning 9 out of 10 matches.

Weerasinghe was also part of a seven-strong Sussex contingent selected for the South East Region squad which travelled up to Stoke and won the National Under 15 Trials for the first time. The other successful cadets were: Chelsea Furnival, Yolanda King, Sarah Russo, Stephen Eckford and Emma Torkington.

Weerasinghe and Furnival were both unbeaten throughout as the South East clinched victory in the final with a 7-5 victory against the South West. Their path to the final was achieved through four wins in their group, including the crucial scalp of defending champions East Midlands. This match ended 6-6, with the South East progressing on games countback. Eckford and King were the surprise winners of the junior versions of the Sussex Invitation Cups. Eckford toppled Sussex Junior champion Ashley Miles in the final of the Bradley Cup, after despatching Sussex no.1 James Rivers in the semis. King was crowned Rymill Cup champion after seeing off Sarah Russo 3-0 and being the shock conqueror in the group of three times champion Stacey Furnival. Sussex cadets' second team rounded off a terrific campaign for the Under 15 teams in the County Championships by becoming Division 1 B champions. Chelsea Furnival was unbeaten throughout the season with 14 wins as they beat both Buckinghamshire firsts and Surrey seconds 6-4. Helen Rutherford won four out of four and Tom Baxter claimed three out of four. Earlier in the season the cadet first team won the Premier Division title, while the junior first team won Division One in what has been the most successful season ever for Sussex.

Warwickshire by Caroline Williams

Warwickshire have made progress during the 2006/07 season. We now have a new WTTA website, thanks to a lot of hard work by Don Pritchard and Malcolm Macfarlane. The Warwickshire Closed Championship attracted a first rate entry, it was professionally organised and there was a vibrant feeling in the hall. We entered a team in every age section of the County Championships from U15 to o'60 and

ROUND-UP

COUNTY



FIONNA DENNET

two teams in the senior section, which led to good results all round. Our cadets played in the Premier Division (which contains the top eight counties) for the first time and kept their place in it, finishing fifth. The seniors ended at third and second in their divisions, the veterans also came second and the o'60s third. We have also supported the schools individual and team championships and good progress has been made there.

A sad note was the death of Frank Stevens, our umpires secretary, who served Warwickshire and his league in one capacity or another for most of his adult life. We will miss him. A happier result was that Kelly Sibley, from Leamington Spa, became number 1 woman last season. Communications with the membership have also improved. A new mini handbook has been sent to all members via local leagues for the last three years and this year, as mentioned above, the County has established its own website. The position of our local leagues varies. Our two city leagues have lost teams at an alarming rate over the last decade but Leamington continues to grow apace, and is now the largest league in the West Midlands and last season was the 11th largest in England. This is partly because of the popularity of the two-a-side league, which is steadily growing in size and strength.

South Yorkshire by Rob Loxley

Rising Barnsley table tennis star Charlotte Dixon justified her no.64 position in the national Cadet ranking sby winning the Girls U16 title in the "Clubs for Young People" National Finals held recently at Widnes. Playing against opponents from Halton and Manchester TT Clubs in the preliminary rounds, Charlotte was in commanding form overpowering her opponents in straight sets. The final featured Charlotte against the experienced Stephanie Hall from Scotland. However, the Barnsley player's extraordinary range of attacking shots and gutsy determination enabled her to win a closely fought match in four games 11-5, 12-10, 8-11, 12-10.

Dixon capped her performance by beating the U19 Champion, Debbie Hayes of Nuneaton, in a showpiece challenge match arranged by the tournament organisers.

Accompanied by her coach, Ray Hurst, Charlotte received her prize from the Mayor of Halton - Councillor Hodgkinson.

The Vulcan TT Club is the largest in Sheffield and has fifteen teams scattered through the six divisions of the league. They have a member who has just turned 80 years of age and he is still playing competitive table tennis every week in the Sheffield league. His name is

Jack Taylor and he was born in Sheffield 1927!

Jack regularly practices at the Vulcan club most Monday mornings for two or three hours with other veteran and retired members. Jack marked his 80th birthday by playing in division two of the Sheffield table tennis summer league for his beloved Vulcan. He took up the sport 60 years ago and has been a devoted Vulcan member for over a quarter of a century. Born in Sheffield on 19th July 1927, Jack was educated at the Philadelphia Council School and having grown up through the blitz he left school aged 14 and commenced work in the post room of General Refractories. In August 1945 he was conscripted into the Royal Navy serving in Pwellhi and Portsmouth. On completion of his national service he resumed work at Intal where he acquired a taste for table tennis in the works canteen during lunch breaks. By the mid sixties, Intal had joined both the "Sheffield Works" and "District" leagues and Jack was playing alongside the likes of Trevor Williams and Dennis Fletcher. He gained championship medals for divisions two and three as Intal climbed through the divisions of the "Works" league in the mid 1970s. Following a spell at S & E, his move to Vulcan in 1981 was immediately crowned with success as he led his team to victory in division four of the summer league. In 2003, Jack held aloft the runners-up medal for the Sheffield League's Super Veteran's championship and fittingly, he ended last season being voted Vulcan's "club man of the year". Jack's enthusiasm and boundless energy provides inspiration to his club mates in the Vulcan "Monday club" which regularly holds practice sessions on two tables at their Attercliffe headquarters.

Finally, on an unhappier note it's with great sadness that I recently learned of the untimely passing of Bob McHale (73), a stalwart of some 30 years at the Hallam Grange Table Tennis club, prior to which he had a lengthy spell with the Abbeylea TTC. Bob, who also enjoyed walking and played an active role in the local ramblers association, was a gentleman of the "old school" and will be greatly missed by his loved one's, his friends and the local table tennis fraternity.



ANDREW BAGGALEY

D.O.B: 26/02/1983

Style of play: Counter hitting

Sponsor: Stiga

Equipment: Forehand: Stiga Magna
 Backhand: Stiga Magna
 Blade: Stiga Super Carbon
 Shoes: Stiga Royal E.R.S Gel

When and how did you start to play table tennis?

I started at five with my mum in the back garden, my brother has coached me ever since, my first club was Greenleys Table Tennis Club

Average training time per week: 20 hours

Personality on the court: Aggressive and focused

England Debut senior: Age 14 French Open 1997

Current club: Spanish club call Borgege

Most wants to beat: No one I really want to beat, I just want to reach my full potential

Proudest Moment: I have two becoming the youngest ever National Champion (19) since Chester Barnes and winning two gold medals at the Commonwealth Games

Biggest Disappointment: None fortunately

PLAYER RANKINGS 2006/2007

TOP 25 SENIOR MEN

Ranking	Player
1	DRINKHALL, Paul (CV.)
2	KNIGHT, Darius (SY.)
3	RUSHTON, Andrew (LA.)
4	HERBERT, Gareth (BK.)
5	EVANS, Gavin (BU.)
6	REED, Daniel (CV.)
7	YOUNG, Terry (BK.)
8	YARNALL, Tim (NP.)
9	MEADS, David (DU.)
10	TRUMPAUSKAS, Lawrence (E.)
11	BRYANT, Craig (DV.)
12	BARHAM, Dale (CA.)
13	HOLLAND, John J (Dy.) (E.)
14	NOAH, Hubert (E.)
15	SMITH, Mark Richard (Y.)
16	MARSDEN, Michael (DU.)
17	CUTLER, Tom (MI.)
18	DOLDER, Kevin (LA.)
19	EVANS, Bradley (BU.)
20	VENNER, Ritchie (SX.)
21	WURAOLA, Abdul (SY.)
22	NILSSON, John (HE.)
23	MARPLES, Shaun (DY.)
24	BLAKE, Darren (SY.)
25	NICHOLLS, Damien (SP.)

TOP 5 JUNIOR BOYS

Ranking	Player
1	DRINKHALL, Paul (CV.)
2	KNIGHT, Darius (SY.)
3	REED, Daniel (CV.)
4	EVANS, Gavin (BU.)
5	MEADS, David (DU.)

TOP 5 CADET BOYS

Ranking	Player
1	EVANS, Gavin (BU.)
2	PITCHFORD, Liam (DY.)
3	MCBEATH, David (HA.)
4	CULLEN, Sean (DY.)
5	ANDREWS, Richard (BK.)

TOP 5 UNDER 13 BOYS

Ranking	Player
1	ZILESNIK, Zac (MI.)
2	MITCHELL, Edward (BU.)
3	HO, Ping (MI.)
4	LUMB, Harry (K.)
5	THURSBY, Joseph (NG.)

TOP 5 VETERAN MEN

Ranking	Player
1	WURAOLA, Abdul (SY.)
2	VENNER, Ritchie (SX.)
3	ECKERSLEY, Nigel (SX.)
4	KENNEDY, Joe (K.) (E.)
5	WILLIAMS, Keith (LA.)

TOP 25 SENIOR WOMEN

Ranking	Player
1	SIBLEY, Kelly (WA.)
2	LOWER, Helen (ST.)
3	PARKER, Joanna (SY.)
4	BAWDEN, Natalie (E.)
5	EMBLING, Abigail (E.)
6	CLARK, Sally (Y.)
7	VICKERS, Emma (DY.)
8	WANG, Sarra (E.)
9	RAINTON, Rosemary (SX.)
10	CLEMENTS, Sanya (HE.)
11	HALLOWS, Caroline (CH.)
12	COHEN, Michele (WI.)
13	UZAL, Shelley (E.)
14	WILSON, Naomi (SO.)
15	VICKERS, Jane (DY.)
16	WHITE, Nicola (Y.)
17	HICKS, Hannah (HA.)
18	FARQUHAR, Melanie (BK.)
19	HOWARD, Alice (CH.)
20	WANG, Lucy (E.)
21	RADFORD, Lisa (DV.)
22	MAY, Elizabeth (DV.)
23	CHAPMAN, Gemma (BK.)
24	STEDMAN, Sarah (SX.)
25	HARPER, Sandra (BD.)

TOP 5 JUNIOR GIRLS

Ranking	Player
1	VICKERS, Emma (DY.)
2	FARQUHAR, Melanie (BK.)
3	SPRINGTHORPE, Lauren (LI.)
4	WANG, Sarra (E.)
5	HALLOWS, Caroline (CH.)

TOP 5 CADET GIRLS

Ranking	Player
1	BATES, Emily (LI.)
2	LEFEVRE, Karina (CV.)
3	SUNDARARAJAN, Ayonija (BK.)
4	WRIGHT, Melissa (YS.)
5	TRAVIS, Martha (CO.)

TOP 5 UNDER 13 GIRLS

Ranking	Player
1	BATES, Emily (LI.)
2	DAVIDSON, Lucy (DY.)
3	KING, Yolanda (SX.)
4	WHYTE, Chloe (CV.)
5	TREVORROW, Rachel (CO.)

TOP 5 VETERAN WOMEN

Ranking	Player
1	BUOEY, Brenda (LA.)
2	LOCKE, Gillian (E.)
3	MUDGE, Kim (K.) (SY.)
4	WELSMAN, Margaret (NP.)
5	HARRISON, Jennifer (E.)



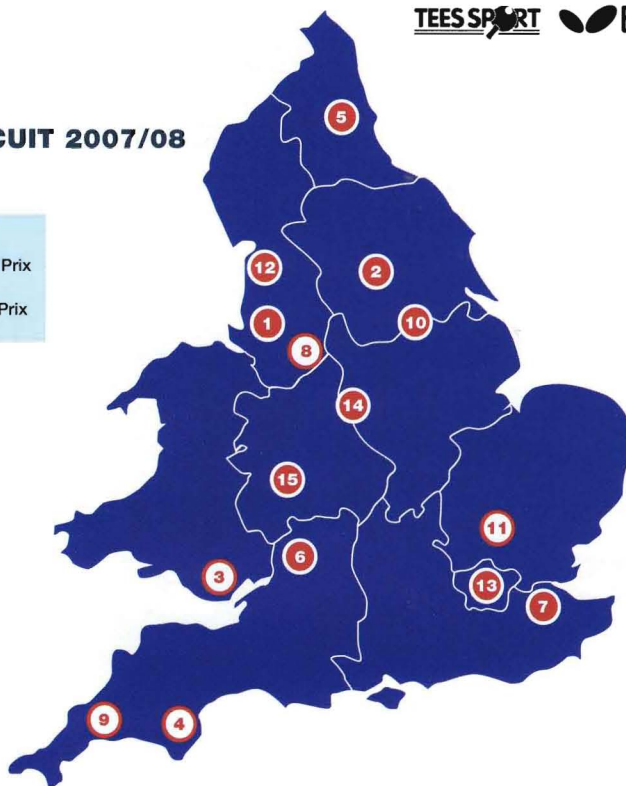
For the full list of player rankings go to our website

www.etta.co.uk



EVENTS GRAND PRIX CIRCUIT 2007/08

Key:
 = Butterfly Grand Prix
 = Satellite Grand Prix



1	City of Liverpool Open Butterfly Grand Prix Liverpool Tennis Centre, Wellington Road, Wavertree, Liverpool, L15 4LE	18/19 Aug 07
2	Leeds Open Butterfly Grand Prix University of Leeds, Willow Terrace Road, Leeds, LS2 9JT	1/2 Sep 07
3	Travel City Satellite Grand Prix - Cardiff The Welsh Institute of Sport, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, CF11 9SW	29/30 Sep 07
4	Clare Pengelly Memorial 3* Satellite Grand Prix Torbay Leisure Centre, Penwill Way, Paignton, Devon, TQ4 5JR	6/7 Oct 07
5	Newcastle Open Butterfly Grand Prix Eldon Square Leisure Centre, High Friars, Eldon Square, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 7XY	27/28 Oct 07
6	Bristol UWE Open Butterfly Grand Prix Bristol UWE, Centre for Sport, Frenchay Campus, Coldhambour Lane, Bristol, BS16 1QY	3/4 Nov 07
7	Medway Open Butterfly Grand Prix Black Lion Leisure Centre, Mill Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 1HF	1/2 Dec 07
8	Cheshire 2* Satellite Grand Prix Halton Table Tennis Centre, Halton Stadium, Lowerhouse Lane, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 7DZ	22/23 Dec 07
9	Cornwall 2* Satellite Grand Prix Cornwall Table Tennis Centre, Tregorrick Park, St Austell, PL26 7AG	26/27 Jan 08
10	Doncaster Open Butterfly Grand Prix The Dome, Doncaster Leisure Park, Bawtry Road, Doncaster, DN4 7PD	2/3 Feb 08
11	North Herts 2* Satellite Grand Prix Hitchin Boys' School, Grammar School Walk, Hitchin, SG5 1JB	8/9 Mar 08
12	Blackpool Open Butterfly Grand Prix Blackpool Sports Centre, West Park Drive, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY3 9HQ	5/6 Apr 08
13	London Open Butterfly Grand Prix Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, Ledrington Road, London, SE19 2BB (T.B.C.)	26/27 Apr 08
14	Wolverhampton Open Butterfly Grand Prix Aldersley Leisure Village, Aldersly Road, Wolverhampton, WV6 9NW	10/11 May 08
15	Hereford Open Butterfly Grand Prix Hereford Leisure Centre, Holmer Road, Hereford, HR4 9UD	7/8 Jun 08

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