

KENT COUNTY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

AFFILIATED TO THE ETTA

**PRESIDENT: LES ETHERIDGE
CHAIR: MARTIN SMITH
VICE CHAIR: BOB BAKER
SECRETARY: ROGER HARRIS
TREASURER: STEVE BISPHAM**



News LINK

JANUARY 2014 News and Views

THIS EDITION – Kent League, Kent Team Tournament, Match Play, Junior Development Series, County Teams, Web Sites, Committee Corner, ETTA Regions.

KENT LEAGUE

In this the first season where the divisions have been any age there are some familiar faces and some new faces leading their divisions. The situation as at 01st December: Division 1 leaders Medway A have a 2 point lead over North West Kent and Ashford A, each has played 3 and won 2 lost 1. Results Medway A 6 v 4 NWK 4, Medway A 3 v 7 Maidstone A, Medway A 9 v 1 Ashford A, NWK 6 v 4 Dover, NWK 6 v 4 Canterbury A, Ashford A 7 v 3 Maidstone A, Ashford A 8 v 2 Dover, Canterbury A 8 v 2 Ashford B. Division 2 sees the two Tonbridge Tunbridge Wells teams in the lead, the unbeaten B team having a 3 point advantage over the A side, each having played 3 matches. Sittingbourne A and Maidstone B sit 3 points back having played a match less. Results Tonbridge TW B 5 v 5 Medway B, Tonbridge TW B 8 v 2 Bromley, Tonbridge TW B 7 v 3 Tonbridge TW A, Tonbridge TW A 7 v 3 Folkestone A, Tonbridge TW A 7 v 3 Medway B, Sittingbourne A 7 v 3 Folkestone A, Sittingbourne A 7 v 3 Medway B, Bromley 4 v 6 Maidstone B, Folkestone A 2 v 8 Maidstone B, Folkestone A 6 v 4 Bromley. Division 3 has Maidstone C just in front by 2 points over Canterbury B after their first three matches. Results Maidstone C 9 v 1 Canterbury C, Maidstone C 9 v 1 Thanet, Maidstone C 7 v 3 Canterbury B, Canterbury B 10 v 0 Maidstone D, Canterbury B 10 v 3 Folkestone B, Ashford C 7 v 3 Gravesend, Maidstone D 5 v 5 Gravesend, Folkestone B 7 v 3 Thanet. Full league tables, match cards, reports and leading averages on the kent web site at www.ketta.co.uk. **Reminder – all teams can post their results on the web site.**

KENT TEAM TOURNAMENT

THE SENIOR TEAM TOURNAMENT FOR TEAMS FROM KENT LEAGUE DIVISION ONE IS ON 09th FEBRUARY AT THE HOWARD TTC. TEAMS FROM ASHFORD, BROMLEY, CANTERBURY, DOVER, MAIDSTONE, MEDWAY, NORTH WEST KENT, SITTINGBOURNE, THANET HAVE BEEN INVITED. A TOTAL OF 10 TEAMS CAN ENTER.

AN INTERMEDIATE EVENT FOR TEAMS FROM KENT LEAGUE DIVISIONS 2 and 3 HAS BEEN INTRODUCED THIS SEASON.

THE INAUGURAL KENT INTERMEDIATE TEAM TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2013 at The Howard TTC, Rainham.

MAIDSTONE B WIN THE FIRST KENT INTERMEDIATE TEAM TOURNAMENT



Congratulations to:
Left Winners Maidstone B
Miro Danadzhiev, Adam
Simpson, Petar Tancevski,
Right Runners Up
Canterbury B Connor
Russell, Kell Davies, Jack
Young



Ten teams from across the County took part in this event for players of Kent League division 2 and 3 standard. The teams were separated into two groups of 5 with each team playing each other. Group 1 contained the top seeds Medway whilst in Group 2 were second seeds Maidstone A. The top two in each division go forward into the semi finals with the remaining teams playing place matches. All matches comprise of 4 singles and a doubles and who plays A/B/C or X/Y/Z is drawn by lots for each match (A and Y play 2 singles, everyone else plays 1 singles and 1 doubles). Each match finishes as soon as a team wins three games, making the doubles a key game, as it is the third to be played preceded by two singles and followed by two more singles..

Group 1

1st Maidstone B beat Medway 3-2, beat Folkestone A 3-1, beat Gravesend 3-1, beat Canterbury B 3-1

2nd Canterbury B beat Medway 3-0, beat Folkestone 3-1, beat Gravesend 3-0

3rd Folkestone A beat Medway 3-1, beat Gravesend 3-0

4th Medway beat Gravesend 3-0

5th Gravesend

Group 2

1st Tonbridge/TW beat Maidstone A 3-1, beat Folkestone B 3-0, beat Ashford 3-0, beat Canterbury A 3-0

2nd Maidstone A beat Folkestone B 3-0, beat Ashford 3-2, beat Canterbury A 3-0

3rd Ashford beat Folkestone B 3-0, beat Canterbury A 3-0

4th Canterbury A beat Folkestone B 3-0

5th Folkestone B

Semi Finals Maidstone B beat Maidstone A 3-2 Tonbridge/TW lost Canterbury B 3-1

Final Maidstone B beat Canterbury B 3-2

Final Placings

1st Maidstone B 2nd Canterbury B 3rd Tonbridge/TW 4th Maidstone A 5th Folkestone A 6th Ashford 7th Medway 8th Canterbury A 9th Gravesend 10th Folkestone B

The final was a tense affair and kept the audience on the edge of their seats. It was a repeat of Maidstone B's first group match when they overcome the Canterbury B youngsters, of whom Connor Russell, rated around 80th in the UK at under 18, went all day without losing a game. The drawing of lots left Adam Simpson playing the two singles for Maidstone and Jack Young for Canterbury B. No one knew at the outset the match was to hang on the result the game between the two of them. Honours were even after the first two singles with Miro Danadzhev and Connor Russell respectively winning. Then Canterbury won the doubles in straight legs to get their nose in front. 2-1 down Maidstone needed to win the last two singles. These last two singles started together on adjoining tables and if Canterbury won game 4 it was all over. Game 4 was Adam Simpson versus Jack Young. Adam went 2-0 up then dropped a leg to be 2-1 up. Meanwhile game 5 finished, Petar Tancevski of Maidstone taking it from Kell Davies. Game 4 meanwhile went to 2-2, Jack had done excellently to pull it back. Everything depended on the very last leg of the afternoon. Tension took hold before Adam came over the line to win 11-6, so Petar Tancevski's win over Kell in the 5th game sealed the title for Maidstone B by 3-2. A hard fight all day for all ten teams. Every player is to be thanked for their participation in the competition and providing numerous excitingly close games, many going to deuce in the fifth. The ages of the competitors ranged from 14 to 75 and included 7 ladies - all played their part in providing a competitive but friendly event. It was tough going as play was continuous, having started at 9am it concluded at 4.45pm. Congratulations to them all for providing TT to a high standard and an enthralling climax to the day.

We also acknowledge those in the background who made the day a success. Mrs Diddams of the Howard club who serviced everyone with bacon butties, various rolls, snacks and copious supply of hot and cold drinks. David Cue as overall organiser, coordinator and tournament scheduler (who managed to fit in a new hip operation as well as the tournament), his band of helpers setting up the matches and drawing lots with captains (Bob Baker and Malcolm McKay), the referee collating the results Neil Le Milliere, Steve Waud the Howard Centre Manager for ensuring the venue was ready for play and tidying up afterwards. Lastly but not least of course were those who came to support and spectate, as they added to the atmosphere. It was the first time for most of the players in such a competition, which provides games against players from across the county that they do not normally get the opportunity to play. A contrasting range of styles, a playing format that is unique in Table Tennis all helped to provide an excellent days TT. The tournament is supported by the KCTTA but it aims to be self funding, costs being covered by the £35 entry fee for each team. Photos N. Le Milliere.

MATCH PLAY – Does your League or Club take action?

- **TOLERANCE** of bad serving (especially to gain an advantage) and bad behaviour. Does your League actively clamp down on this? Do they put out regular notices and do Clubs themselves address it with any of their players? When these traits occur it tends to sour the match atmosphere, worse sets a bad example for others and particularly youngsters. Should we do more to reduce it.
- **SERVING** has there been improvement in your League or Club? Are more players now throwing the ball up properly. When a player has it mentioned to them it often causes a niggle. However the failure to serve properly is the cause – not the person who is brave enough to raise the matter. How the matter is raised helps, a quiet word can usually get the best result. However when it is raised players should think twice about getting indignant and instead think about throwing the ball up. Players practice shots and rallies but how many practice serves. A good and proper serve can be a match winner. It is actually not that hard to turn a bad service into a good one.
- **BEHAVIOUR** there are still those who throw a wobbly when things are not going well. There is a difference between the odd comment to unnecessary swearing, arguing with the umpire and throwing a bat. It does still happen, nothing is perfect but it is for Clubs not to tolerate what is selfish behaviour. The enjoyment of the match is spoilt and it sets a bad example for others, particularly our younger members. Unfortunately it happened in a Kent League match a few weeks back. Certainly the person concerned was experienced enough to know better. Yes they did receive a reprimand. Such behaviours should be stamped on whenever it occurs. To quote a phrase from a colleague – table tennis is a wonderful game to play in – do not spoil the experience. The reputation of persistent offenders goes before them, is such behaviour justified, very rarely. Think twice, it is never too late to make a difference.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT SERIES

The series organised by Claire Moore on behalf of The Kent Schools TTA. Entry forms are available for their Individual Tournament 2013/14 on Wednesday 29th January 2014 0900 hours to 1700 hours at The Medway Park, Mill Road, Gillingham, Kent. ME71HF. closing date for entries is 20th January. Entries is for boys and girls but individuals must inform the PE Teacher of their entry to validate their Schools affiliation to the KSTTA.

Details are available from event Organiser Claire Moore on 0772572439, 01634388558 or mooreec@thehowardschool.co.uk. Entry forms can be downloaded from the Kent web site www.kctta.co.uk.

COUNTY TEAMS

The season we have 2no Senior teams, 1no Junior, 1no Cadet, 6no Veterans and 2no Over 60. Ted Tydeman is our Coordinator with help from Marianne Jorgensson Seniors, Mark Walsh Junior and Cadet, Mark Romano Veterans, Chris Hooper Over 60. Team captains have posted their results and reports on our Kent web site.

Ted has confirmed his standing down at the end of the season.

The County Teams Policy has been updated to simplify content and aid any new Coordinator(s) who take over next season. It also better sets out the the cost of running each team. This runs out at about £280 per team, the nature of the fixtures (ie some are in Yorkshire for example means a few teams are considerably more and others playing more locally are of course quite a bit less). The total Affiliation fees received from our Leagues is approximately the total cost of running our 14 teams.

WEB SITES



A number of responses came back on this subject. Some Leagues are happy with what they have, others have tried the ETTA approved TT365 system and others are currently using it in parallel with their own. The system benefits reported include the link to the ETTA Individual Membership database, initial end user thoughts were quite

critical, the web system as a result has been upgraded and will continue with the addition of further features. Each League will obviously make up its own mind on the pros and cons. The ETTA declared their Policy is wanting all Leagues to be using their approved TT365 system by 2016/17, about 150 Leagues are currently use it.

OUR LEAGUES AND CLUBS

Anything going on in your organisation that is of interest to the wider Kent Community? Let us know and we can post it. It is there for publicising our sport.

COMMITTEE CORNER

Our next MC meeting is on 13th March in Maidstone. If you have any matters to raise send them to secretary@kctta.net.

Other than mentioned elsewhere in this NewsLINK the main points of interest from the last meeting on 15th December were;

- Discussion on the restructuring of the ETTA in line with Sport England requirements for receiving the substantial grant monies they have set aside if progress to plan is met. The Development Centre for the South East is going to be at Harlow. It was noted Kent was not well represented at the ETTA which may reflect on the County.

- The take up of the invitation for Kent League team captains (or team member) to input their match results onto the KCTTA web site has been partially successful. Each League is asked to remind their captains and ensure they have the passwords. It helps if everyone participates, we can then have up to league tables.
- The role of Development Officer remains vacant and a volunteer remains a welcome addition to the KCTTA team.
- The 2014 Kent Closed will again be over the First May Bank Holiday weekend at The Howard TTC. Juniors on Saturday 03rd May and Seniors on Sunday. 04th May. Entry will be £6 per event.
- The introduction of new plastic TT balls at ITTF level at least is still understood to be July 2014. Leagues and Clubs will have transition period but the issue will become pronounced when players use plastic in some events and celluloid in others.
- Our County Team Coordinator Ted Tydeman has been put forward to the ETTA as a nomination for their annual Leslie Forrest Memorial Trophy. This is awarded to some one in a County administrative capacity who has made greatest contribution to promoting the County Championships. Ted is standing down at the end of this season after making such a contribution for twenty five plus years.

THE ETTA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our Regional Development Officer (South and South East), for several years Lisa Williams, will be changing as of 01st January 2014. The ETTA have restructured from 10 regions into 4 areas. Our area is now London/South East and our Development Officer is John Andrews. John has been with ETTA for over 5 years and previously covered the Eastern Region, whilst Lisa is moving to the South West area. It was always difficult for one person to cover what was quite a large and active area. It remains to be seen how the restructuring will actually affect TT in Kent. As has been reported the ETTA are moving headquarters to Milton Keynes in 2015 to a more purpose made centre, shared with governing body for Badminton.

KCTTA DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The post remains vacant. Do you know an appropriate person who would be prepared to take on the role? Please let any Management Committee member know if you do. The role is to coordinate anything that Kent County TTA can do to promote TT across the County.

NewsLINK

Here is hoping everyone has an enjoyable second half the season.

All best wishes from the KCTTA Management Committee.

Roger Harris Secretary

Management Committee.

Chair: Martin Smith

Secretary: Roger Harris

National Councillor: Neil Le Milliere

County Teams Coordinator: Ted Tydeman

Kent Closed Tournament Organiser: Bob Baker

Coaching Officer: Mark Walsh and Ken Muhr

Committee Members:

Claire Moore, Marianne Jorgensson, Jill Shipton, Wayne Matthews, Carol Day.

Disciplinary Sub Committee: Mark Romano, Roger Pingram, David Cue, Peter Armory.

Vice Chair: Bob Baker

Treasurer: Steve Bispham

Deputy National Councillor: Ken Muhr

Kent League Organiser: David Cue

Umpires Secretary: David Cue

Development Officer: Vacant