



Middlesex Table Tennis Association

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2

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COMMONWEALTH GAMES—TT REVIEW

I was fortunate enough to watch some of the very few matches in table tennis that was broadcast.

Thankfully there were some really good matches that I got to see. One was the exciting encounter in the Men's team event where England played the home nation India. England did not start that well, Liam Pitchford lost in 3 straight games to Sharath Kamal Achanta. They drew level with an inspirational fight back from Paul Drinkhall who first beat Anthony Amalraj and then India's top player Sharath Achanta. Andrew Baggaley added the scalp of Subhajit Saha and the result was 3-1 to England. My most vivid memory of the match was the sheer determination on

Paul Drinkhall's face when playing Sharath Achanta. It was dramatic—he was not only playing against Sharath but had the home supporters to contend with and he somehow silenced the crowd with his aggressive play.

In the finals England had the perfect start with Liam Pitchford causing an upset beating highly ranked Gao Ning. However, the Singaporeans won the next 3 and the title. A Good Silver for the English team.

In the Women's event the English Women finished 4th after losing to India in the semis and then to Malaysia in the 3rd place play off.

Individually there was some success for the English

pairs. Andrew Baggaley & Liam Pitchford won a bronze medal in the men's doubles. Paul Drinkhall & Joanna Parker won the bronze in the Mixed Doubles.

Tony Dias



JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The county was well represented in the Junior Boys Singles, with Zak Zilesnick seeded 4, Igor Morais seeded 7, brother William Morais seeded 13, Ryan Maynard Seeded 19, Connor Neenan seeded 25 and a host of other players participating. Zak qualified in

the group stages without dropping a set, as did Igor. Ryan Maynard had a slightly more difficult time with a 5 set win over Jack Bennett and a 4 set win over Tom Punter. In the knock-out phases, Tyrone Wells, Mikael Papantoniou, Vincent Stacey, Con-

nor Neenan all departed in the 1st round, whilst William Morais lost to Lewis Gray of Kent in the last 16. Zak & Igor successfully negotiated their passage into the quarter-finals.

Zak went on to win his quarter-final matchcontd. on back

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Commonwealth Silver for England*
- *2 bronze medals in the Individual competitions*

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Sponsors Wanted!!

If you wish to sponsor the MTTA, please contact any of our Committee members. See back page.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Middlesex girl ousts top seed*
- *Runners-Up spot for Zak Zilesnick*



IGOR MORAIS

IGOR DOUBLE AT CADET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

In the recently concluded National Cadet Championships, Igor Morais claimed a double. He won both the Singles and Doubles titles. In the group stages, he was never seriously troubled.

Other players to qualify from the group stages were - Tyrone Wells, Vincent Stacey, Senyo Owusu, David Rahbani, Daniel Wright, Khassal Omar, Charlie Austen, Ryan Gaveglia, Zachary Bull, Erick Fuentes, Jamie Dignum, Charlie Rahbani.

Of these, Senyo Owusu, Charlie Austen, Vincent Stacey & Tyrone Wells progressed to the last 16 .

Senyo lost to Paul Smith from Cleveland in the quarter-finals. Charlie Austen lost to Igor, Vincent to Danny Lawrence from Kent, and Tyron to Helshan Weerasinghe the number 2 seed from Sussex.

All in all a pretty decent showing by our cadet boys. Igor proceeded to the final

with ease and in what was described as a “pulsating encounter” he triumphed over Helshan in 5 sets 11-8, 10-12, 10-12, 12-10, 11-6.

Partnering Helshan in the doubles they progressed to the final where they beat Jared Patel & Alex Holland from Essex, 11-4, 9-11, 11-7, 11-7.

Well done Igor!!!!

“WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR THESE 2 TALENTED AND EXCITING PLAYERS?”

TIN-TIN HO EXCELS

Another magnificent showing by Tin-Tin ho in the Girls events in the Cadet National Championships. Tin-Tin won her group matches with extreme ease.

In the knock-out stages Tin-Tin eliminated Ella Patel and Emily Bolton to face Maria Tsapsinos from Berkshire. Maria had sensationally defeated Megan Knowles also from Berkshire, the number

4 seed and also the number 2 seed Emma Torkington from Sussex. Tin-Tin had a comfortable 3 straight set victory over Maria, 11-8, 11-4, 11-8.

Partnering Emma Torkington she went on to win the Cadet Girls Doubles title with victory over Emily Bolton and Hanna Nouch of



Cumbria and Lincolnshire respectively.

Congratulations Tin-Tin!



TIN-TIN HO

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS—SENIOR, JUNIOR & CADETS

The county Senior 1st team started the defense of their title in the Premier Division with 3 wins.

They beat Devon, Yorkshire & Berkshire with identical scores of 6-4. Well done.

The Junior 1st team won 2 and drew one in the Junior Premier Division, again defending their title. They beat Hertfordshire & Yorkshire 7-

3 and drew with Cleveland 5-5.

George Walsh.

MIDDLESEX INTER-LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

Unfortunately it was not possible to organise the Ted Connell competition in the traditional system of home

and away matches through out the season. Only two Leagues entered and they were only able to enter one team each.

The provisional plans are to organise all four Inter League competitions Victor Barna (Men) , Norman Pegg (Women) , Ted Connell (Veterans) and Russell Grant (Juniors) during the week end of 19/20 March. Entry Forms will be sent to Leagues as soon as possible after arrangement have been finalized.

“ARE WE GOING TO HAVE A REPEAT OF LAST YEARS’ SUCCESSES?”

IS THIS THE START OF A REVIVAL?

The Wembley & Harrow Table Tennis League has in the recent past had some experienced an increase in the number of younger players taking up table tennis through the attendance of youngsters at their coaching sessions, those run by the league and those run by individual coaches.

Nevertheless, when it came to actual league play, strangely these numbers did not convert to additional teams or maintaining the

status quo in terms of number of teams.

However, in an effort to give some of these youngsters a taste of competitive table tennis without the stress of playing league matches, the committee have revived their Cup Competition for Juniors—The Olympus Shield.

This competition was last played in the 1994-1995 season, with Sudbury Hill being the last club to win the title.

This season, there are 12

teams participating. The clubs who have entered teams are Eastcote, Hillingdon, Lowlands, Vagabonds & newcomers Oshwal NW.

The committee are hoping that this will help regenerate interest in table tennis and will be the start of an increased participation in league matches by youngsters. They also anticipate participation from established clubs—DHS G Progress, Maccabi, Sudbury Hill.



“OSHWAL NW IS A COMMUNITY CLUB BASED AT THE HARROW LEISURE CENTRE”

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS—VETS

The County Vets 1st team won one and drew one of their matches in Div 1b.

The 4th team won one and lost one in Div 4C. They beat Berkshire 6 9-1 and lost to Herefordshire 2 2-8

The 3rd and 4th team have yet to play any match, the first session being on 11th December.

The Over 60's team have

started well in Division 1b. They beat Kent 2, Herts 2 and Berkshire 2 to top the table. Dave Crowley, Alan Boyle & Ian Mablin did not lose any of their singles encounters, Paolo Cheng won 5 of the 6 he played. Good start!!!!

As the county vets secretary, I am appealing to all those vets - especially ladies who are interested in represent-

ing the county to contact me, so that I can gauge the availability of people and the number of teams to enter.

At the start of this season, we agreed that there was limited availability what with the struggles the 3rd team had and so we entered 4 teams, only to find people grumbling that there was a lack of opportunity to play. Please respond asap. Tony

The ETTA website still shows the laws for 2009/2010. It has not been updated for 2010/2011. Please note that 2 additional laws regarding approved rubbers and bat changing have been included for 2010/2011.

TWICKENHAM BRUNSWICK

Twickenham Brunswick Club was established for young people, with a view to encouraging their participation in sport. The club has both an ABA Boxing section as well as being an ETTA Premier Table Tennis Club. It caters for boys and girls between 8 and 21 years.

All activities are co-ordinate through volunteers. Like

many established clubs, lack of volunteers has had an impact in the club's ability to attract more people.

Nevertheless, since 2008, when their membership was around 35-40, they can now boast around 140 members.

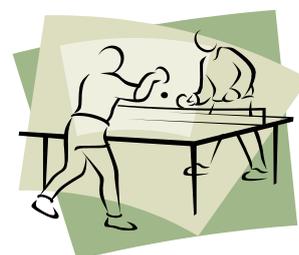
The club has many talented players, the Rahbani brothers—Alex, David & Charlie, Tony Egan, James Corner to

name a few.

The membership fees are reasonably priced in this day and age and the clubs ability to maintain their membership levels is a testimony to the hard work of the volunteers who help run it.

Unfortunately, I do not have their full names, but suffice to say a big thank you for your devotion.

If you have an interesting article, or would like your club's activities to be promoted, please contact the editor.





MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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 Deputy Chairman: Mrs. Doreen Stannard
 Hon, Secretary: Michael Close
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 County Match Secretary (Veterans & Over 60s): Tony Dias
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 Tournaments Secretary: Mrs. Doreen Stannard
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 Willesden—Ron Boucher
 Wembley & Harrow—George Walsh

Organisational Representative
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VISIT THE MTTA WEBSITE AT
[HTTP://WWW.MIDDLESEXTTA.ORG.UK/](http://WWW.MIDDLESEXTTA.ORG.UK/)



Sponsors of the M.T.T.A.

County Ranking list (Top 5 based on ETTA ratings)

Sr Men.

- 1 ZAK ZILESNIK
- 2 TOM CUTLER
- 3 NEIL CHARLES
- 4 DANIEL BASTERFIELD
- 5 IGOR MORAIS

Jr Boys

- 1 ZAK ZILESNIK
- 2 IGOR MORAIS
- 3 PING HO
- 4 WILLIAM MORAIS
- 5 RYAN MAYNARD

Cadet Boys

- 1 IGOR MORAIS
- 2 TYRONE WELLS
- 3 VINCENT STACEY
- 4 SENYO OWUSU
- 5 DANIEL WRIGHT

Sr Women

- 1 EGLE ADOMELYTE
- 2 KLAUDIA SZADKOWSKA
- 3 TIN-TIN HO
- 4 BARBARA IZYK
- 5 SARAH HORSNELL

Jr Girls

- 1 TIN-TIN HO
- 2 CHARLEIGH KIRBY
- 3 MAJADA YASMIN
- 4 SALLY HOANG
- 5 SAYEEDA MIAH

Cadet Girls

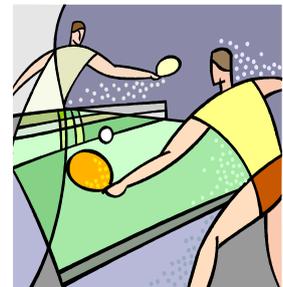
- 1 TIN-TIN HO
- 2 EDA AYDIN
- 3 TRACEY SIMPSON
- 4 SAMANTH LAI
- 5 RAYNA BAGCHI

Veteran Men

- 1 C PANATONIOU
- 2 F RASUL
- 3 L MIDDLETON
- 4 J SENORIN
- 5 C PICKARD

Veteran Women

- 1 RACHEL SMITH
- 2 SUE PLAISTOW
- 3 SUE WILLSON



JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS—CONTINUED

and defeated the number 2 seed Sean Cullen in the semi-final.

Alas, he was not able to repeat this feat against the number 1 seed—Gavin Evan to whom he lost 8-11, 6-11 and –8-11. All the same, it was a creditable performance by this young man.

In the girls event, Tin-Tin Ho was seeded 7 and others included Charleigh Kirby, Sally Hoang, Tracey Simpson, Sayeeda Miah and Majada Yasmin.

Sayeeda Miah had the misfortune of playing against her higher ranked county colleague Charleigh Kirby in

the first round of the knock-out phase and lost in 3 straight sets. Charleigh went on to reach the semi-final stage where she lost to Tressa Armitage from Hampshire.

Tin-Tin sensationally defeated the number 1 seed Karina Le Fevre in the quarter-finals 8-11,11-9,11-2,11-9. Unfortunately she was unable to overcome the 4th seeded Chloe Whyte from Cleveland who went on to win the title.

In the doubles events, Igor continued his partnership with Helshan Weerasinghe who he played with in the Cadet doubles, and they lost in the semi-finals to Sam

Walker and Lewis Gray 11-9, 7-11, 3-11, 5-11.

In the girls doubles, Charleigh Smith partnering Vicky Smith, and Tin-Tin Ho partnering Yolanda King, both reached the semi-finals where they lost .

The performance of our young players at these major events is very encouraging and bodes well for the future of table tennis in our county.

Well done to all our players, successful or not. You have done yourselves proud and I'm sure that you will need little encouragement to continue to shine and give your very best.



ZAK ZILESNIK



The Middlesex TTA is looking for sponsors for newsletter and our website. Please contact the editor if you know of anyone who would like to become a sponsor.