



Week commencing 16th March 2009

A tight match between Eathorpe J and Free Church Q in Division C went to the wire and was settled by the doubles. Keith Jenkins took a single for 'Thorpe, but missed out against a very game youngster, Ben King, who beat him in five sets. Ben added another single for the Church cause, before Eathorpe's Billie-Jay Jenkins finally reaped some reward for her plucky displays and hard work as she picked up her first win of the Spring campaign. With the doubles set to decide the match, the extra composure from Keith helped steer Eathorpe to a 3-2 win.

Eathorpe K were comfortable winners over Free Church R, with an uncompromising Graham Rose powering to a maximum. Son, Samuel, added two of his own, before teaming up with his dad to win the doubles in the deciding set and complete the 5-0 win. Free Church S were also 5-0 winners – Kris Reiman and Matthew Flood pummelling their club mates, Free Church T. St Georges G continue to impress in their first season of league table tennis and Tom and Sam Poland beat Snitterfield D 5-0.

A single a-piece, plus the doubles from Matthew and Solomon Hayes saw Free Church O home 3-2 against Free Church P. Neither could beat a determined Paul Watkins, whose gritty, never-say-die attitude helped him to two tight five set wins. LCP Packers beat Free Church P 4-1 – two from Steven Deeley, one from Simon Walmesley and the doubles scored the points. Paul Watkins salvaged pride for Church with a single.

Such a close and entertaining Division B match between Eathorpe F and Rugby J! It was settled by the doubles, in the fifth leg. The victors were Malcolm Heardman and Majinder Dosanjh of Rugby, both of whom had taken a single earlier. Richard Freeman took both his singles to maintain his excellent form for Eathorpe.

Snitterfield C beat Free Church L 5-0 thanks to John Walker and Richard Bennett. Free Church N won 4-1 at Eathorpe H thanks to Andy Kendall's brace, a single from Nathan Seneviratne and the doubles. John Gymer kept a point for Eathorpe.

Unsurprisingly, in Division A, St Georges F kept up their standard pace with a 5-0 win over Free Church I through Gary Edwards and Brian Aston. Nomads D beat Eathorpe D 3-2 with one each from Steve Pool and Richard Miles, plus the doubles. Allan Stockham took both 'Thorpe points. Rugby H's Steve Patton took his two, plus the doubles with Jo Outhwaite who won one herself in a 4-1 win against Eathorpe E. Holly Savage won the point that prevented the whitewash.

Thomas Jacko and Ladislav Grezdo both won three for Ruby B in their Division 2 encounter with Enigmas B. Alan Chan added a single and won the doubles with Thomas. Malcolm Macfarlane and Henry Wong picked up a single each as Enigmas

went down 8-2. Rugby's C side also had a good win, as Jesse Kendrick-Hill's maximum led them to a 7-3 win against Nomads A. Pete Morris added two and Dave Cox one plus the doubles with Jesse. Dot Macfarlane won an excellent two and Tony Thomas one in reply.

Richard Grover excelled for St Georges D in their 7-3 win against Flavels. Richard took a hat-trick and partnered Alf Chapman for the doubles. Alf won two singles himself and Tracey Fletcher one. Trevor Bradley won a brace for Flavels; Mick Bennett one.

Phoenix Okimo encountered little trouble in their 9-1 demolition of WCC Crocs. Paul Calloway and Roy Joiner took three each plus the doubles, with Gordon Tucker adding two. Derek Harwood took the lone Crocs point. Colebridge Braves beat Whitnash B 8-2 with Chris Burgess maintaining his unbeaten record with another classy display. John Taylor and John Chandler won two each, with the latter taking the doubles with Burgess. Paul Ryman, as he has done so often this season, emerged as the star performer for Whitnash, taking two excellent wins.

WCC Antelopes took on Free Church B in Division 1 and their nerve held better in four of the six five-setters to give them an 8-2 win in an enjoyable encounter that produced some excellent games. Clive Irwin and Pat McCabe both won their three for the Antelopes and Phil Paine a brace. Alan Jones came back from 2-0 down in all of his singles, getting over the winning line against Paine for a single. It was 2-0 down again for Alan in the doubles, but he and Tom Brocklehurst managed to dig out a win to take a second, much needed point for Church B. Free Church A only dropped two sets on their way to 10-0 success over Church B – Gary Webb, Ron Vose and Hugh Matthews showing their stable mates no charity.

Alastair Nicholson may have lost out to Peter Moffatt of Rugby D, but that didn't detract from an excellent Eathorpe A performance in Division 3. Alastair won his remaining two and took the doubles with Chris Atkins. Chris won his three, as did Peter Titmas as 'Thorpe showed far better form than in recent weeks.

Pete Morris looked a class apart on his way to a hat-trick for Rugby E in their match against FISSC A. Dave Gillibrand added another three, plus the doubles with Pete, and Don Pritchard one. Gareth Conway took a single for FISSC in their 9-1 defeat.

Terry Babbage won his three for WCC Eagles, which set them up nicely for a 6-4 win over Potters Green A in Division 4. Pat Woolvin added two, plus the doubles with Terry. Frazer McGuinness took a single for Potters, before they picked up three points by virtue of the Eagles being one player short.

Mark Sandford took three for Potters Green as they drew 5-5 with title-hopefuls Free Church F. Mark also steered Potters to a doubles success with Taron Dillon, who also grabbed a single. Jack Hobbins and Luke Spencer both won two for Church; Scott Delday one.

The Leamington Closed Championships is being held this weekend, 21/22 March, at Sydenham Sports Centre. Play starts on Saturday with the junior and graded events and will conclude on Sunday where the senior events will be played. Players should check their match times and ensure that they arrive at least fifteen minutes before they are due to start.

All events will be played up to and including the semi-finals, with the exception of the Mens Singles which is played up to and including the quarter-finals. All finals will be played a fortnight later on Saturday 4 April, at Kenilworth Wardens Club in a single-table environment.

Spectators are welcome at all stages of the Championships.