



Week commencing 26th October 2009

Martyn Lilley won a comfortable two for Rugby H in Division A, as they beat Nomads E 3-2. Dot Macfarlane and Roger Palmer won a single each for Nomads, but Martyn was joined by Paul Lilley for a match-clinching doubles. Ian Beasley joined Dot as Nomads E completed a 5-0 win over Free Church H.

Nomads D side were not to be outdone by their E side colleagues and promptly dealt out another 5-0 defeat for Church H. Andy Davies and Richard Miles the duo who dropped only one set over the whole night.

Better news for Free Church I, who beat Rugby I 4-1. Claire Cram had to recover from 0-2 down against Michael Loizou to complete her maximum. Claire added the doubles with Luke Spencer, who grabbed a single, to complete the win. Michael saved the Rugby side from the whitewash. Unfortunately, Michael could not rescue Rugby I a second time, as they crashed to a 5-0 defeat at the hands of Dick Smith and Steve Poole of Nomads D.

Ryan Oldham continued his recent good Division B form, proving instrumental in Eathorpe E's 3-2 win against Whitnash C. Ryan won two plus the doubles with Dave Hawker – a game in which the pair had to recover from losing the first two sets 12/14! Mark Bradley and Jayne Fitton took one each for 'Nash.

Whitnash C had earlier played Free Church J, with Jayne Fitton (nee Sharp) making her league singles comeback against her former club. Jayne was one of the original seven founder members! Match sharpness should soon make her a force to be reckoned with, but on this occasion it was perhaps too soon as she was powerless to prevent the young Free Church pair of Roald Myers and Niall Herbert taking a 5-0 win.

Free Church I were close winners against Eathorpe F. Jack Hobbins won his two, which were countered by Richard Freeman, who won a single plus the doubles with Mark Hancock. Anita Whitehouse notched a crucial single for Church to seal the match.

An excellent and very competitive match took place in Division C, between Eathorpe G's older players and Free Church M's impressive young ladies. Jess Campion did so well against the experienced Jonathan Milton to score Church M's consolation single and Dave Herbert added strength in the doubles to take a second point. Jonathan picked up a single for 'Thorpe, with Richard Milton putting in a match-winning shift to battle his way to two five-set victories leaving the final score as 3-2 in favour of Eathorpe.

Free Church K defeated Free Church L 3-2 thanks to an assured performance from David Marguerie, who won his two plus the doubles with Chris Beckett. James Payne and Ben Haigh both took one for the Ls.

Eathorpe H's dad and lad team of Graham and Samuel Rose played well against two determined opponents from Free Church Q to take a 3-2 win. Graham won his two singles, plus the doubles with Sam, while Church Q's points came from Kris Reiman and Matthew Flood who both won one.

The technical excellence of young left hander, Simon Cooper, shone through for Free Church O as his two singles set them up for a 4-1 win over Free Church S. Ben Simpson added one, plus the doubles with Simon. Luke Watkins showed excellent mettle to win a five-setter for the S side's consolation.

Snitterfield D beat Free Church T 3-2 in Division E, with Jason Grey and Peter Vale-Humphries taking one each, plus the doubles. Neither could topple the diminutive Andrew McIlvaney though, who won his two in reply.

Eathorpe I had the better of Snitterfield D with Keith Jenkins putting in a strong performance to take his two plus the doubles with daughter, Billie-Jay, for a 3-2 win. Jason Grey and Elizabeth Corkhill won one each in reply.

Keith Jenkins looked impressive once again, winning his two against Free Church R. This time, however, the doubles eluded Keith and Billie-Jay, as Jeremy Knott and Tom Sharpe, who had both picked up a single, dominated the Eathorpe pair to clinch the match 3-2.

The National Cadet League for the midlands area took place on Sunday 18th October, at Westfield Table Tennis Club, Wellingborough, with Lillington Free Church fielding three sides.

The first team, consisting of Luke Spencer, Niall Herbert and Chris Beckett, won three out of five matches. They got pasted 0-6 by Bedford Modern A, but only lost the other game against Clifedale Chandlers A 2-4 . Luke played exceptionally well under pressure, winning eight out of ten. Niall Hebert, at number two, won four out of ten and Chris Beckett playing at three won two vital games and lost another deuce in the fifth. The A side finished in third place in the top division.

The second team, playing in the second division of three showed impressive attitude, but ultimately couldn't keep out of the relegation slots as they finished second from bottom. Solomon Hayes, playing at number one finished with five wins from ten; Kris Reiman and Lauren Delday both won two from ten, losing several close games in the fifth.

The third team found life hard, finishing at the foot of the bottom division, but Ben King, Charlie Snelson and Callum Guest all picked up some victories and avoided a day consisting solely of defeats by battling to a draw against Westfield B.