

Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells & District Table Tennis League

Newsletter Three – November

Last newsletter I confidently announced the match of September had been John Lynch's five set win over Martin Dunville in Leigh C's 8-2 away win to Teen & Twenty C. This was, however, before I had received the scorecard from Byng Hall A's 30th September match against Leigh A. The first match of the evening was an absolute cracker. Matches don't really get closer as Leigh's Mark Romano beat Byng Hall's Jasmin Ould 17-15 12-10 11-13 11-13 14-12.

Leigh A lead the title race in Division One. They are currently nine points ahead of second place Byng Hall A, though they have played a game more. Otford A and Otford B aren't far behind them so there's still a lot to play for. Teen & Twenty A have given themselves some hope of survival after two back to back wins. They're seven points behind Otford B but they should have played at the beginning of November. I suspect the result of that match will be crucial to deciding Teen & Twenty's fate.

Congratulations to Darent Valley. They have now sealed their promotion to Division One with two matches to spare. The battle for second place is far closer in this division, and it looks like it'll go down to the final week. Otford C currently have the advantage with a three point lead over third placed Leigh B, but have still got to play champions Darent Valley. Teen & Twenty B can't be counted out yet and lurk ready to pounce on slip ups by their rivals. Otford D look to be heading for relegation as they are currently eleven points away safety.

All of a sudden, the title race in Division Three has become interesting. Leigh C had appeared to be cruising to promotion until they played Byng Hall B on Friday 8th November. Byng Hall won 7-3 and overtook their opponents with just two games left to play.

Due to unavailability of the Otford venue on Tuesday 12th November, the Otford B vs Leigh A and Otford D vs Leigh B matches have been moved to Tuesday 17th December.

The first two rounds of the handicap competition are now complete. Having both won two out of two, Leigh J and Byng Hall B will now meet each other in the final at Leigh on Thursday 12th December. The third and fifth place playoffs will take place on Tuesday 10th December at Otford whilst Teen & Twenty C will play Leigh C on Friday 13th December to see who will avoid the wooden spoon!

To replace the handicap competition in the second half of the season, the league will be running a doubles competition. The details of this are just days away from finalisation and will be sent out shortly after. However, I have been granted special permission to give you all a sneak preview at what is likely to be included!

- It will be a team competition with team squads.
- For reasons of practicality there will be an upper limit to the number of teams accepted.
- Entries will therefore be on a 'first come, first served' basis.
- The competition will be run on a league basis and will have either one or two divisions.
- Teams can be made up of players from the same club or from different clubs.
- Confirmation of the rating cap will be advised at the beginning of January and the exact divisional format will be provided in February 2014, once the number of team entries is known.

Finally, a couple of dates for your diary. The date for the annual closed tournament is **Sunday 6th April 2014** with a finals night scheduled for **Wednesday 9th April 2014**.

Daniel Powley
Registration Secretary
12th November 2013
Email: reg.sec@ttwttl.com
Website: www.ttwttl.com