

## Table Tennis Title Race Hots Up

**The New Milton Table Tennis Club were involved in six 6-4 scorelines in the Bournemouth and District league last week and came out on top in four of them. Their best result of the week came from the E team with a 10-0 whitewash to ram home their title challenge in Div 3.**

The week's big success story came in Div 3 where the E team whitewashed third-placed Merton E 10-0 home at Mudeford Wood. In their second full-house in three matches, captain James Lewis, Gerard Redman and Peter Eke recorded their eleventh, ninth and third hat-tricks respectively this campaign. This excellent win was still not enough to take Milton (55 points) to the top of the division because leaders Merton F took maximum points off Bournemouth Sports L to accrue 56 points.

Up in Div 1, the B team avenged their first round away drubbing by beating a weakened Bransgore A 6-4 at home. Captain Malcolm Floyd, Bob Fagan and Paul Bolter bagged a brace apiece but all lost to Gore's Colin Milton, the only regular member available to play. There was nothing on the doubles, which was fortunate as Floyd and fourth-man Shaun Newcomb lost over five ends despite going 2-0 up.

The second of the club's 6-4 home victories came from the C team who got the better of basement boys Broadstone C in Div 2. Continuing the comparison with the B team, captain Terry Jenvey, Mick Barry and Roy Hobbs won two apiece but all lost to Stone's star player Jon Sweet. Again, Milton went 2-0 up in the doubles, but Barry and Hobbs completely ran out of steam in the fifth and final end.

Also in Div 3, the D team of Bev Scott-Johns, Bill Page and Alex Everett-Bolter beat struggling Winton YMCA A 6-4 in their own backyard. Teenager Everett-Bolter bagged a brace as did the veteran Page, his first of the campaign, and they teamed up well to take the doubles over four ends. Captain Scott-Johns only just missed out on his own brace as he lost out to Winton's Graham Jeneson 10-12 in the fifth end having won the first two.

Div 4 saw the F team of John Parkhouse, Les Smith and Angela Farmer lose 4-6 at home to the struggling Winton YMCA C. Captain Smith and Parkhouse both beat Winton's Alistair Feltham who played out of his skin to see off the hard-hitting Farmer in three straight ends. Farmer added to the tally by beating Steve Ratcliffe who perversely got the better of Smith and Parkhouse. There was nothing on the doubles apart from games-difference, but Smith and Parkhouse ran out winners over four ends.

In Div 5, the G team of Malcolm Douglas, Sam Watkins and Keith Kensley recorded their second 6-4 victory in a row, this week away against fellow strugglers Shamrock C. Captain Douglas and Kensley won two each and Watkins chipped in with the one win. All three of Watkins' matches went all the way to five ends, but he kept the faith and emerged victorious from the last singles match of the evening. The doubles were required for victory and Douglas and Kensley battled hard to win out over five ends.

Also in Div 5, the H team of Andrew Daish, Richard Barrett and Danny Williams lost 4-6 away against Merton J having beaten them 6-4 at home in the first round. Williams continued to impress with a brace and teenager Daish and Barrett chipped in with the one apiece.

Up in the heady heights of the Premier league, the bottom placed A team (14 points) had a bye but slipped further into the mire as second from bottom Kinson A took a point off Bournemouth Sports D to amass 19 points.