

## Table Tennis Players Press For Top Spot

**New Milton Table Tennis Club recorded four wins, three losses and one draw as the Bournemouth and District league resumed for the third and final round of matches. The E team continued their assault on the Div 3 title with a 9-1 victory and just miss out on the top spot by games difference.**

The A team of Alan Gordon, Steve Hemmings and Brian Vibert recorded only their third win in the Premier with a 8-2 victory over Bournemouth Sports C who turned up a player short at Mudeford Wood. Hemmings and Vibert added to the three-game advantage by beating both players who showed and they combined well to take the doubles in three straight ends. Captain Gordon only just missed out on a win by losing to Bourne's Saul Harris 8-11 in the fifth and final end. This maximum pointer brings bottom placed Milton up to 18 points, just one point away from second-from-bottom Kinson A who lost 2-8.

Div 1 saw the B team of Shaun Newcomb, Bob Fagan and Paul Bolter hold high-flying Bournemouth Sports F to a 5-5 draw for the second time in the campaign, this time down at Chapel Gate. Newcomb bagged a brace, including a tremendous victory over rising star Hugo Pang whom only just beat Fagan over five ends. Fagan and Bolter joined Newcomb in beating Bourne's Lewis Proudley. The doubles were needed for the draw and Newcomb and Fagan combined clinically to see off the Bourne pairing in three straight ends.

In Div 2, the C team of Terry Jenvey, Mick Barry and Roy Hobbs lost against Bransgore B for the first time this season in a 3-7 away defeat. Captain Jenvey drew only his second blank of the season, Barry bagged an excellent brace and Hobbs chipped in with the one win. There was nothing on the doubles which was fortunate as Jenvey and Hobbs lost over four ends.

Div 3 saw the D team of Bill Page, Bev Scott-Johns and Alex Everett-Bolter do the treble over Dorset Police with a 6-4 home win. Veteran Page and teenager Everett-Bolter won two apiece and captain Scott-Johns chipped in with one. The doubles were needed for the victory and Page and Everett-Bolter combined devastatingly to win out in three straight ends.

Also in Div 3, the E team of James Lewis, Gerard Redman and Lewis Reading performed their own treble over basement boys Shamrock A with a 9-1 home victory. Redman was brimming with confidence after winning the Div 3 individual title the previous week and joined captain Lewis in a hat-trick. Reading showed that he has returned to form and only just missed out on his own treble by losing 9-11 in the fifth end against Shamrock's Paul Allen. This maximum points victory brings Milton up to 59 points, the same as leaders Merton F who remain top courtesy only of games difference.

Div 4 saw the F team of John Parkhouse, Les Smith and stand-in Danny Williams lose for the third time against Bournemouth Sports M, this time by 3-7 away at Chapel Gate. Parkhouse put on an impressive display to bag a brace, including a four sets victory over Bourne's Bayrem Kuzu who has only lost seven games all season. Captain Smith did his bit to secure a point by beating Bourne's Robin Thomas 15-13 in the fifth and final end. There was nothing on the doubles which was just as well as Parkhouse and Smith lost in three straight ends.

In Div 5, the G team of Paul Douglas, David Plumb and Peter Scott lost for the third time against leaders Bournemouth Sports R, this time by 0-10 at home. Apart from the whitewash, the main talking point came in the last singles of the evening between Paul Douglas and Bourne's Tom Martin. Martin took the first end 11-8 but Douglas took the second by the mind-boggling 27-25 which was testament to both teenagers' tenacity and patience. That proved to be a false dawn however as Martin went on to win the next two ends 11-9 to deprive the home side of a consolation.

The H team of Richard Barrett, Ted Linsley and Sandy Fagan fared better in Div 5 with their first win over struggling Shamrock C. In a 7-3 victory away at Cole Hill, Sandy Fagan picked up her second hat-trick of the campaign, teenager Linsley bagged a brace and Barrett chipped in with the one win. There was nothing on the doubles, but Fagan and Linsley played as if there were and won in three straight sets.