

## Winter Draws On For Table Tennis Players

**In an improvement over last week, New Milton Table Tennis Club won the same number of matches (three) in the Bournemouth and District League but managed to swap three of the five defeats for draws. One of the two defeats came at the hands of one of the Club's teams in the first of the local derbies.**

In the Premier, the A team of Brian Bickell, Steve Hemmings and Brian Vibert had a very tough match against last year's runners-up Bournemouth Sports B and lost 2-8 away. Bickell and Hemmings both beat Tressa Armitage, but Vibert suffered a rare duck this week. The doubles would have salvaged a point but Hemmings and Vibert lost out over five ends.

Div 1 saw the B team of Shaun Newcomb, Paul Bolter and Rob Fagan recover from last week's 2-8 defeat to beat Bournemouth Sports G 7-3 at home. They all lost to Louie-La which was no disgrace as he was playing in the Premier last season. Newcomb and Fagan combined well to take the doubles over four ends, but by then the three points were already secure.

In Div 2, the C team of Terry Jenvey, Mick Barry and Roy Hobbs held Bournemouth Sports H to a 5-5 draw at home. Bourne's J-D Marshall often trains with Milton but no quarter was given as the Frenchman put the trio to the sword. Captain Jenvey beat the other two Bourne players but Barry and Hobbs could only muster one each. The doubles were needed for the draw and Jenvey and Barry did the business in three straight ends.

Div 3 saw the end of E team Captain James Lewis's unbeaten run since joining the league early last season. In a creditable 5-5 draw away against Nimrod B, Lewis gave Nimrod's Dave Grant a good run for his money but went down 9-11 in a five-ended humdinger. Proving that it is all a question of styles, Lewis Reading and Peter Eke both beat Grant, but Reading lost to Nimrod's Ken Burrage to join his captain in a brace. The doubles were needed for the win and an extra point but Lewis and Reading lost out 8-11 in the fifth end.

The D team also managed an away draw in Div 3, in their case against Bournemouth Sports L. Teenager Alex Everett-Bolter and Malcolm Elliott came up with a brace apiece but Bill Page had to settle for the one win having lost to Bourne's Alistair Nelhams over five ends. Like their E team, the D team needed the doubles for a win but Everett-Bolter and Elliott were similarly frustrated.

In Div 4, the F team of Angela Farmer, Max Doohan and John Parkhouse reversed their last week's 3-7 defeat with a 7-3 home victory over Merton H. Parkhouse came up with his much-threatened hat-trick and Mrs Farmer and teenager Doohan bagged a brace apiece. The doubles would have landed maximum points but Farmer and Parkhouse surprisingly lost out in three straight ends.

Div 5 saw the first of the local derbies between the G and H teams, which the H team (Danny Williams, Teddy Linsley and Fern Daish) won 7-3. Unfortunately, the G team could only muster two players (Malcolm Douglas and David Plumb) who both managed to beat Fern. Williams made an impressive league debut by winning his two matches, as did the more experienced teenager Linsley. The G team needed the doubles to salvage something from the evening, and Captain Douglas and teenager Plumb did the necessary over four ends.