

Better Week For Table Tennis Players

New Milton Table Tennis Club had a much better week in the Bournemouth and District league as they won five out of their six matches. Their E team climbed back to the top of Div 3 and the A team have a glimmer of hope in the Premier.

The A team managed to haul themselves off the bottom of the Premier and out of the relegation zone with a 6-4 away victory over fellow strugglers Bournemouth Sports D. Steve Hemmings defended doggedly to come up with his fifth hat-trick of the campaign and captain Alan Gordon and Brian Vibert chipped in with one win apiece. The doubles were needed for victory and the vital extra point and Vibert and Hemmings eventually won out over five ends. Milton leap-frogged over their victims to claim third from bottom place through games difference, but the bad news is that they face title-challengers Bournemouth Sports A in their next match.

Div 1 saw the B team of Shaun Newcomb, Paul Bolter and Malcolm Floyd put struggling Bournemouth Sports E to the sword with a 9-1 home victory. This tremendous win put the icing on the cake for Milton who had already secured their survival in Div 1 the previous week. Newcomb recorded his second hat-trick of the campaign, Bolter came up with his third treble and captain Floyd bagged a brace. There was nothing on the doubles but Newcomb and Floyd combined clinically to demolish the Bourne pairing in three straight ends.

In Div 3, the E team (James Lewis, Gerard Redman and Dave Sutton) beat struggling Winton YMCA A 8-2 at home to leapfrog over Merton F to the top of the table. Captain Lewis led from the front with his fourteenth hat-trick of the season and Redman came up with his thirteenth treble. Sutton chipped in with the one win and was relieved when Lewis and Redman won the doubles to claim maximum points.

Also in Div 3, the D team of Bev Scott-Johns, Malcolm Elliott and Alex Everett-Bolter hammered Bournemouth Sports K by 9-1 in their own back yard. Scott-Johns put in an excellent captain's performance to come up with his second hat-trick of the campaign, teenager Everett-Bolter came up with his third treble and Elliott bagged a brace. Next up is the third and final of the local derbies between the D and E teams, and the E team are looking for the treble over their club mates to press home their title challenge.

In Div 5, the G team lost heavily against Bournemouth Sports N for the third time this season, this time by 2-8 down at Chapel Gate. Captain Keith Kensley got the ball rolling by winning the first match of the evening, but then Milton had to wait until the final singles of the night for their next and only other victory. Teenager Josh Harris played ever so well to nick victory over Bourne's Wendy Hall by 12-10 in the fifth and final end. The doubles would have salvaged a point, but it was not to be as Kensley and Harris lost in three straight ends.

Faring better in Div 5, the H team of Danny Williams, Teddy Linsley and Richard Barrett beat Nimrod D by 6-4 in their own back yard. Milton's wins came from Williams and teenager Linsley who recorded their fourth and third respective hat-tricks of the campaign.

The C (Div 2) and F (Div 4) teams weren't in action this week because their matches were played earlier to avoid the Easter Bank Holiday Monday. As previously reported, the C team lost 2-8 against Bmth Sports J and the F team lost 3-7 against Merton G.