

## **E Team On Top In Local Table Tennis Derbies**

**New Milton Table Tennis Club could only muster one win out of eight matches in the Bournemouth and District league last week. That win came at the expense of one of their own sides in the third and final of the local derbies in Div 3.**

The E team have already won promotion from Div 3; it's just a question of whether they go up as winners or runners-up. The D side did them no favours as they took a point off them in the third and final of their local derbies, but the E's claimed bragging results by doing the treble over their club mates with a 7-3 win. The D's teenager Alex Everett-Bolter upset the apple cart by beating the E's captain James Lewis over four ends having lost the first end. Alex also beat Lewis Reading, as did Malcolm Elliott, but lost to Gerard Redman who went on to bag his 14<sup>th</sup> hat-trick of the campaign to equal his captain's record. There was nothing on the doubles apart from games difference and the E's Redman and Lewis beat Everett-Bolter and Bill Page in three straight sets.

Up in the Premier, the A team of Alan Gordon, Steve Hemmings and Brian Vibert slipped back into the relegation zone following a 2-8 home defeat against title challengers Bournemouth Sports A. It looked like Milton were good for at least a point as they went into a 2-1 lead thanks to wins from Hemmings and Vibert. This proved to be a false dawn however as they went on to lose the next seven matches including the doubles. It looks increasingly bleak for second from bottom Milton whose remaining match is against third placed Merton B.

Div 1 saw the already safe B team of Shaun Newcomb, Bob Fagan and Malcolm Floyd take a point off runaway leaders Kinson B in a 3-7 away defeat. Fagan and Floyd both beat Kinson's Darren Bellis who overcame Newcomb in four ends. Newcomb's victory came against Tom Stride who beat Floyd in a match that went to expedite. There was nothing on the doubles which was fortunate as Floyd and Newcomb lost over five ends.

In Div 2, the C team of Terry Jenvey, Mick Barry and Roy Hobbs slipped ever closer to the relegation zone as they went down 2-8 away against Merton D. Eight of the matches including the doubles went all the way to five ends, but Milton only came out on top of two of them courtesy of wins from captain Jenvey and Hobbs. Milton have only two matches left to save themselves and these are against the bottom two teams (Lynwood B and Broadstone C).

In Div 4, the F team of John Parkhouse, Max Doohan and Les Smith thought that they were in with a chance for the treble over North Bournemouth C as North turned up a player short. However, North held Milton to a 5-5 draw down at the Winton YMCA as Parkhouse and teenager Doohan added one apiece to the three game advantage by both beating Dave Turner. Both Parkhouse and Doohan took North's Les Whittaker all the way to five ends, but Whittaker emerged the winner on both occasions. The doubles would have brought victory for Milton but it was not to be as the duo once again lost out over five ends.

Div 5 saw the G team of Keith Kensley, Josh Harris and Peter Scott lose 3-7 at home to Bournemouth Sports P. Captain Kensley bagged a brace and teenager Harris chipped in with the one win. There was nothing riding on the doubles as the point had already been secured and the captain fielded the teenage duo of Harris and Scott. The youngsters lost the first two ends, rallied well to take the third, but went on to lose the fourth end.

Faring only slightly better in Div 5, the H team of Danny Williams and Fern & Andrew Daish lost 4-6 at home to Bournemouth Sports N. The Milton trio all beat Bourne's Wendy Hall, but Williams bagged his brace by also beating the ever-improving Jo Kuzu. The doubles would have forced the draw, but it was not to be. Williams and Fern Daish gave the mother and daughter combo Jo & Becky Kuzu a good run for their money, but lost out over three close-scoring sets.