

New Milton Table Tennis Club

Secretary's Report 2008/2009 Season

We have completed what must rank as our best ever season in the Bournemouth & District Table Tennis League (B&DTTA) with New Milton A returning to the Premier Division after a two-year absence by securing the runner-up position in the 1st Division and both New Milton C and F ending the season as Division 3 and 5 Champions respectively. None of our teams finished the season in the relegation zone. The cost of hiring Sway Village Hall rose by £3 to £28 and Mudeford Woods increased by £1.75 to £36.25 with effect from the 1st January 2009. There is likely to be a further rental increase next year. However, the Sunday Club Nights have been very well attended and our intention is to continue them beyond the AGM at least until the 26th July 2009. I am pleased to report that the number of club members increased from 28 last year to 40 this year (33 seniors and 7 juniors).

In July 2008 we initially registered six teams in the Bournemouth & District Table Tennis Association League, one side each in Divisions 1, 2, 3, & 5, and two teams in the 4th Division. However, when the fixtures' schedule was issued the League took the decision to keep New Milton "D" in the 3rd Division. This year we also entered New Milton A and B in the Times & Directory competition and both sides reached the semi-final stage.

The "Free Evening of Table Tennis" promotion, which was originally introduced in September 2006, has continued and I have issued approximately a dozen vouchers to new players this year.

Because of increasing Child Protection Regulations it is desirable for some club members to have an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check which must now be carried out through the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA) from the 1st April 2009. Further information may be obtained from the B&DTTA website (www.btta.info). Application forms for a CRB check can be downloaded from the ETTA website (www.englishtabletennis.org.uk). In any case every adult has a duty of care towards children at club nights or matches.

In March 2009 a Club Dinner was held at the Amberwood in Walkford which was attended by 22 Club members including guests. This was a very enjoyable evening and our thanks are due to John Parkhouse for organising this event.

The high attendance at the Sway Club night has resulted in some members having to wait a considerable time for practice. I tried to mitigate the effects of this by initiating an earlier start to appeal to our younger players. Earlier in the year your committee met to consider the way forward and the feasibility of (1) an alternative venue; or (2) a shared venture with the Bashley Rydal Cricket Club who want to redevelop their pavilion with an annexe suitable for table tennis (the planned area is to be 30m x 10m). In May Shaun, Brian and myself visited the Waterside Table Tennis Club at Testwood Sports College to have a look at their facility. At the same time we met Sara Lunn of the ETTA and Jamie Burton from the NFDC. Sara is based at the Hampshire County Council offices in Winchester. To have any chance of securing the funding we were advised by Sara of the criteria to be followed to achieve PremierClub and ClubMark status. There are targets for coaching, health & safety, child protection, administration, equipment, playing areas, facilities, etc. There are many boxes to tick to achieve the necessary accreditation.

On the 8th May 2009 Shaun, Brian, Alan and myself attended an open day for local sports clubs at Brockenhurst College together with representatives from the Waterside Table Tennis Club, the object being to give us greater exposure in the community and attract new Club members. Matthew Ware

was also at this event. As a consequence one new person came to the Sway Club Night. We have been further invited to be present at a Junior Sports Festival (Have a Go) planned for August.

I am sorry to report the deaths of 5 people from other clubs since our last annual general meeting all of whom I knew personally for many years: Derek (Nobby) Clark (Shamrock), Brian Aspell (North), Bernie Corb (Merton), Tony Johns (Broadstone) and Don Nicholls (Winton YMCA). I am also sorry to report the death of Maurice Elcock last July who was associated with the Bournemouth League for many years.

Team Reports I am pleased to report that at the end of the season two New Milton sides finished the season as champions and another team was runner-up. Two more of our teams finished the year in strong mid-table positions, the details of which are given below:

Team A: Division 1.

New Milton A had another superb season and improved on their third place of last year, being runners-up at the end of the season with 68 points, having won 17 out of 24 matches. The highest individual average was achieved by Brian Vibert who made a welcome return to our club. Brian scored 81.3% finishing the season in 5th place in the individual ratings. The averages of Steve Hemmings and Alan Gordon were virtually the same as last year being 78.8% & 68.5% respectively. This team also reached the semi-final stage of the Times & Directory competition.

Team B: Division 2.

New Milton B had another good year finishing in 4th place with a tally of 48 points. Shaun Newcomb achieved an average of 62.7%. The averages of Malcolm Floyd and Rob Fagan were 59.6% and 40.3% respectively. Rob played in every match this season, with a total of 62 games. New Milton B also got to the semi-finals of the Times & Directory.

Team C: Division 3.

New Milton C had a tremendous year and finished the season as Division 3 Champions with 81 points having won 20 out of 27 matches. Congratulations are due to Kevin Harris, Roy Hobbs and Mick Barry on a great team effort, whose individual averages were 82%, 82% and 71.4% respectively. The averages of Malcolm Elliott and Ian Linney were 40.7% and 40% respectively.

Team D: Division 3.

New Milton D finished the previous season (2007/2008) in the relegation zone but the League decided to keep the team in the 3rd Division. This season the D Team finished in 8th place with a tally of 42 points. I felt this was a satisfactory result partly because Sylvia Smith had left the team due to injury and Clive Pitts found it difficult to play in some of the latter matches because of injury and family commitments. The penalty of 4 points was incurred because of confusion about the date of an away match. The highest individual average was achieved by Clive Pitts with a tally of 81.3% finishing the season in 5th place in the table. The averages of Alex Everett-Bolter, Peter Hyde and myself were 43.1%, 33.3% and 28.8% respectively.

Team E: Division 4.

New Milton E finished the season in a strong mid-field position in 5th place with a tally of 58 points, after gaining promotion from the 5th Division last year. This was an excellent result considering the very strong opposition they faced. The averages of Lewis Reading, David Sutton and Peter Eke were 56.0%, 62.3% and 58.5% respectively. I was pleased to see that Bill Page was able to play again after his knee surgery last July and he achieved an average of 33%.

Team F: Division 5.

New Milton F surpassed the success of our Division 5 team last year with a tally of 87 points of

which 21 matches played were wins with the remaining 3 matches drawn. Congratulations to all those team members who made this possible – Captain Les Smith, James Lewis, Gerard Redman, Brian Theaker, Fern Daish, Max Doohan, Teddy Linsley, Josh Harris and David Plumb. I hope the squad does as well in the 4th Division. New Milton F was also awarded the Farnum Cup for the best team performance of the year. In addition, James Lewis won the Division 5 individual tournament in February at Winton YMCA and during the season he was unbeaten. The averages of the two youngsters Max and Teddy were 88.0% and 78.6%. The averages of Brian, Gerard and Les were 72.4%, 86.7%, and 68.6% respectively.

Individual Performances

Shaun Newcomb has continued to enjoy success throughout the year. In July 2008 Shaun started the season's Disabled Grand Prix series at the Disability Sport England National Championships with gold medals in all three parts of the competition (Open Wheelchair Singles, Class 4/5 Singles and Wheelchair Doubles). Shaun went on to win multiple medals in all four national events over the year gaining a current (March 2009) ranking of 2nd place.

In October Shaun was elected Vice Chairman of the BTTAD, the British Table Tennis Association for people with Disabilities, sanctioned by the British Paralympic Association, the National Governing Body for disability table tennis in Great Britain. He now also sits on their Technical Services Group and on the Selection sub committee.

In November Shaun was presented with the ETTA's Equality Award at their National Coaching Conference awards dinner. The citation recognised Shaun's continued coaching of individual wheelchair players, his work at Salisbury Hospital's spinal injuries unit, with the ETTA as a course tutor on their Premier Club "Ability" programme and his serving on the ETTA's Equality and Child Protection Committees.

This spring Shaun was presented with the New Forest Sports Council's Senior Disability Sportsman award and was one of three nominees for the Hampshire Disabled Sportsman of the Year. In September Shaun will be assistant team manager for the England disabled table tennis team at the UK School Games, to be held this year in Cardiff.

Shaun is currently updating his ETTA coaching qualification to the UK Coaching Certificate and attended the level 2 bridging course in May 2009.

In the local able-bodied leagues Shaun's team New Milton "B" finished a creditable fourth in the Bournemouth second division and in the Southampton league his team Waterside "B" won the first division. Shaun's side included two New Milton players, Brian Vibert and Alan Gordon and Kinson's Samantha Meredith and Simon Mitcheson.

In addition to the foregoing, as well as running his own Health Insurance business from home, Shaun is also the driving force behind securing bigger premises and improved coaching facilities for the New Milton Table Tennis Club.

I would like to express appreciation for all the excellent work done by Malcolm Floyd. As well as being Club Treasurer Malcolm is also Results Secretary for the Bournemouth League, providing league tables every week on the internet and regular reports on our club's activities to the local paper. This exposure has been invaluable to our club and gives a higher profile to table tennis locally. Reports on the activities of the New Milton Table Tennis Club can also be found in the club section of the Bournemouth & District Table Tennis Association website (www.btta.info).

Internal Championships	Results of Finals held on the 6th & 13th July 2009	
Singles	Winner Runner-up	Brian Vibert Steve Hemmings
Handicap Singles	Winner Runner-up	Simon Daish Gerard Redman
Over 40's	Winner Runner-up	Rob Fagan John Parkhouse
Doubles	Winner Runner-up	Terry Jenvey / Shaun Newcomb Fern Daish / Simon Daish
Junior Tournament	Winner Runner-up	Max Doohan Teddy Linsley
Under 40's	Winners Runners-up	Teddy Linsley Max Doohan

There was a high level of entries in the Singles, Handicap Singles and Doubles events. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all those who took part in and helped me with the administration of the tournaments, umpiring, etc., especially Rob and Malcolm.

Bournemouth & District Table Tennis Association

1. **Annual Tournament:** The Bournemouth & District Table Tennis Association annual individual tournaments were held at the beginning of February and New Milton was represented in some of the events. I am very pleased to report that James Lewis was the winner of the 5th Division individual competition and Malcolm Floyd was the runner-up in Division 2.
2. **Presentation Evening:** Twenty-two people from New Milton attended the Annual Presentation Evening of the Bournemouth Table Tennis Association on the 22nd May 2009 at the Carrington Hotel in Bournemouth. New Milton Table Tennis Club collected a record number of trophies. New Milton C and F teams were presented with the Champions Cups for taking the titles in Divisions 3 and 5. New Milton F was also awarded the prestigious Farnum Cup for the best team performance. James Lewis was awarded the trophy for winning the Division 5 individuals and Malcolm Floyd received the runners-up shield in Division 2. It was a very enjoyable evening. The quality of the food was much improved over the previous year and my table managed to win 4 raffle prizes. The date of next year's Presentation Evening will be on the 21st May 2010 at the Carrington Hotel.
3. **Annual General Meeting:** The AGM of the Bournemouth League was held on the 24th June 2009. The Meeting approved a resolution to increase the player registration fee to £12 for seniors and £7 for juniors. So far 16 league players have expressed an interest in undertaking a coaching course which includes several people from New Milton. A fresh batch of ETTA Individual Registration Forms for 2009/2010 was issued at the meeting. These must be completed by all registered team players by the start of the coming season. Direct registration with the ETTA will be implemented next year. The New Milton Table Tennis Club continues to be well represented on the League Committee. Malcolm Floyd is to continue in his excellent role as Results Secretary. James Lewis is to be the new B&DTTA League Coaching Development Officer. Malcolm Floyd was voted in as one of the Leagues' Vice-Presidents. Brian Theaker and myself are members of the new Executive Committee. Next year there will be a new Individual Competition for veteran's over 70.
4. **First Aid/Coaching Courses:** Ten players from the New Milton Table Tennis Club attended first aid courses at Winton YMCA in two separate sessions during February and March. Brian Vibert is pursuing a coaching qualification for the first time. Alan Gordon and Shaun Newcomb are seeking to update their coaching qualifications. Shaun began his UKCC intensive course towards the end of May. Four other New Milton members have expressed an interest in taking a UKCC Level 1

Coaching Course. The coaching and assistance that Brian and Shaun have provided on the Sunday club night is very much appreciated.

5. **Extraordinary General Meeting:** This was held on Wednesday, 30th July 2008 at Winton YMCA to deal with matters deferred from the Annual General Meeting held on the 24th June 2008. Three rule changes submitted by the New Milton Table Tennis Club were approved.

Next Season:

The Committee are considering entering two more New Milton teams in the League this season, making a total of eight teams. To this end I have booked the small room, next to the main hall, at Mudeford Woods on Wednesday evenings from 7.00 pm for this purpose. Because of this we are looking at the possibility of replacing the Jacques table. This may have implications for the fees charged on match nights.

James Lewis is currently arranging a programme of coaching sessions to be held at Sway or Mudeford in the near future.

Mudeford Wood CC	Opening Club Night: 7 th September 2009
Sway Village Hall	Opening Club Night: 30 th August 2009

I have booked Mudeford Wood for league matches next season and Sway Village Hall for the Sunday Club Night.