

CROWBOROUGH TABLE TENNIS CLUB

www.crowboroughttc.org.uk

NEWSLETTER No. 9 - MAY 2009

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

The Wealden League season is at an end, the days are lengthening, we look forward to our Annual Club Tournament and to our Summer holidays, and to reading this, the ninth edition of the Newsletter - I hope!

The usual features include a report on how our three teams did in the second-half of the Wealden League season, a "Player Profile" of Nick Dawson (thanks Nick) and important information on both our AGM and Club Tournament. And, of course, there's the "From the Past" feature where our longer standing club members can see if they're included and see if they can remember!

We hope that members will continue to play regularly during the Summer period.

CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This takes place at the Jarvis Brook HQ on Monday, 15 June. Look out for the agenda, coming soon.

As well as electing the Officers of the Club, it also gives the opportunity for all members to make comment on club activities and to put forward their views. It is always good to hear the thoughts of newer members.

We hope that you are able to attend. It will not take more than one hour and you can play table tennis afterwards, at no cost!

CLUB TOURNAMENT

This takes place a little later this year over four evenings in June on both Mondays and Fridays, starting on June 8.

By using Friday evenings we hope that those regular social players will enter the two Handicap Events, which in theory at least should give all players an equal chance of success.

An entry form, for all members of the Club, is enclosed with this Newsletter. We look forward to receiving yours by the closing date of May 27.

FROM THE PAST

Scorecard 22/1/1997:
Mike Gorman beat John Sidey 25-23, 21-17 in an all Crowborough clash.

1990/91 Season:
John Wilson got a 71.92% average playing in Division Three of the TW League.

Scorecard 4/1/1983:
Keith Dixon beat Chris Buck 21-16, 21-16 in another all Crowborough match in the TW League.

1991/92 Season:
Manny Godfrey and Peter Wright played in Division Three of the TW League and achieved averages of 43.13% and 30.55% respectively.

PTO

WEALDEN LEAGUE REPORT

In the end, for our "A" side, their grip on the League Title went down to the eighth game of their last match of the season. And it turned out to be against the "B" team!

With a full strength side in the second half, the "A" team had fought hard to give themselves a chance to retain the title if they took 29 points from their last match. That eighth game proved decisive with Chris Buck edging out John Neal by 3-1 in a game full of attrition. The 28-8 score line gave Broad Oak "A" the title by just one point, no doubt the closest result ever.

The "A" team finished with 16 wins out of 18 and 443 points and this was achieved in spite of having to use various reserves in 42 individual matches. Michael Gaughan, in his comeback year for the Club, got an excellent average of 91.67%, losing only four games out of 48. Mick Derbyshire finished with 92.31% from 39 played and John Neal 78.79% from 33. The doubles partnership of Mick and Michael was a resounding success with 10 wins out of 10.

Our "B" team scored 362 points with 11 wins and will finish, at worst, in fourth position. (There are a few outstanding games to play). Highlights were both-half wins over Ridgewood "A" and a second-half win over Five Ashes by 23-17. In defeat, the team took 18 points against league winners Broad Oak "A" going down by 26-18, which was instrumental in setting up the dramatic final match between the "A" and "B" sides.

Mike Stringer finished with the highest average of 65.7% from 35 games played, but both Bob Fordham and Chris Buck

played more games to finish with very respectable figures of 54.5% and 61% respectively. (ED. Editor's discretion does not allow me to mention my own figures!)

The "C" team enjoyed limited success, but improved their position over last season. A pretty regular team of Tim Mann, Philip Boghurst and Nick Dawson battled hard throughout and Nick finished with an excellent average, regularly getting two wins out of three.

Their two wins were both over Broad Oak "B", but other good score-lines were fighting defeats by 24-15 at the hands of Five Ashes and by 21-15 against our own "B" team.

League Table (Final Leading Position):

Broad Oak "A"	Played 18 - 444 Pts
Crowborough "A"	Played 18 - 443 Pts
Crowborough "B"	Played 18 - 362 Pts
Ridgewood "A"	Played 17 - 316 Pts

"50" CLUB

Many thanks to all those who have joined the "50 Club" this year. We have 25 members and the first draw for £20 will take place this month.

As usual winning numbers will be displayed on the Notice Board at Jarvis Brook and in this Newsletter. Good luck!

CLUB WEBSITE

Don't forget to visit the Club website (address above).

Thanks to Ray Potheary for his work on this and keeping it up-to-date when the Committee give him the information to do so!

CLUB NIGHTS

The Friday sessions continue to be very well supported. These take place at the Scout & Guide HQ in Jarvis Brook between 8pm and 10pm each week.

During the Summer, most Monday evenings are also available for more serious practice, but note the Club Tournament running during June.

PLAYER PROFILE

NICK DAWSON

How and when did you start playing?

I started playing table tennis for a team when I was 16, although I played at school. Unfortunately I was in a dilemma as my table tennis night clashed with my new sporting interest of judo. As I was young then, I stopped playing table tennis to concentrate on my judo.

What leagues have you played in?

East Grinstead local league and, of course, Wealden.

What has been your best individual win?

Probably wins this year over "A" team players Mick Derbyshire and Michael Gaughan, both fifth set juice games.

Your best moment in TT?

Beating all the "B" team players in one evening, followed up the next week with two wins out of three versus the "A" team. Also every time I make an impossible backhand passing shot, I frighten myself! (ED. And us as well!)

Your worst moment in TT?

Going to the 2009 Wealden Tournament at Broad Oak, drawing John Sidey in the Open Singles and pulling out my son's bat

from my case. Nightmare! (ED. Thanks Nick for giving me a chance!)

Any TT "honours"?

Only last year's Handicap Doubles win, with Mick Derbyshire, in the Club tournament.

Interests outside TT?

Sporting wise, still go to judo now and again, going carp fishing in France, trying to finish my VW camper conversion and, until recently, finishing off my extension at home.

Anything else of interest?

I would like to thank Bill Abbott for beating me every week from my early playing days at the Aldene Centre and everyone involved with the Club.

PS. Nice to see Gary Smith playing here again. Unfortunately for the "A" and "B" sides I have arranged for his agent to contact the "C" team first for next year's season, so hands off!

CLUB SHIRTS

We still have three club shirts for sale @ £5 each (reduced credit-crunch price!) - royal blue polos with club logo - sizes 36", 38" & 42/44". Contact Bill Abbott or John Sidey.

CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME!

These are always welcome for inclusion in the Newsletter.

If you have any ideas or articles for future editions, please let me know.

EDITOR: John Sidey
01892 654306 - john@sidey.net