



M.A.L.

Table Tennis DIGEST

LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

EDITOR: Jack Lambert
4, Rhosemor Road,
Liverpool L32 7QU.
Tel: 546-3081

EDITORIAL: A. Upton
BOARD: J. Mc Kim
D. Cameron
K. Armonson

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Issue 1

EDITORIAL

A new season, a new system and even a new idea. I have seen a few seasons but somehow this one seemed to spring on us without warning.

The new system, well not really new, the system has been renovated. We had divisions at the top, and below we had regional table tennis, North, South, East and West (The Wirral), this was the only system I had played in since before the war. We then changed to our present system of straight divisions. This was short lived as we then had the battle of the pyramid system, with Jim Green battling away and of course the pyramid eventually won and has survived for about twenty years. I feel we now have no alternative but to return to straight divisions, particularly as the committee are now having the courage of the rules and moving teams about at their discretion. I hope it continues.

The new idea for us is the Veterans knock-out Competition - with so many 'oldies' knocking about it seems a good idea. Anything is worth the effort to try and rekindle interest.

The Leeds Building Society now sponsor table tennis nationally, but if you feel like sponsoring local table tennis contact Brian Leeson or John McKim.

DIVISION ONE

KEN ARMSON

The change in relation to the divisional set-up leaves this div. unaffected with the exception of also having been reduced to thirteen teams. I expect that eventually we will be reduced to twelve. We have lost both Maghull teams to sighs of relief all round and along with them have gone W.H. Park. They have been replaced by Bootle Y.M. who have at last rejoined us, and Wav. Lab. 'B' back after one season in the 2nd; but for how long? The merger of Colonsay and W.H. Park brings in a Colonsay team.

There has been little player change with the expected return of Keith Williams taking place. Not so expected has been his change of club. Trevor Hughes is rapidly becoming the 'Mr Big' of table tennis with his captures. Paul Hutchings made a brief and unexpected return which I will refer to later. Elec Supply have lost Wayne Percival and replaced him with Ian Campbell pushing Les Molyneux back to No.4. Not a nice way of treating their 86/87 Readman Cup star who I rate a far better player than Ian. He has already demonstrated this by inflicting the only defeat to date on Andrew Eden and currently has the best average in the team. He recently blotted his copybook in the eyes of his team-mates by not turning up against Elec. 'A'. It is not like Les to miss a match so what went wrong? Eng. Elec. have brought in Andrew Eden from Southport and he quickly made his mark. Bath St. will be introducing Paul Dilger from the Staffs. league and I feel he too will make his mark very quickly. By the time you read this Paul will have commenced playing and his expected results will have transformed Bath St. from possible relegation candidates to a middle div. team, possibly higher if the present in-form of Ken Jackson continues. Amongst his wins Ken can point to victories over Mal McEvoy and Rob Bevan. At the rate 'El Finish' is dropping sets it will soon become difficult to find a player who has not beaten him this season. Could this become the booby award of the season?

It was my good fortune to select the Elec. 'A' v Lab 'B' match for my first visit this season. The result was a hard fought draw and an entertaining match. As always the 'Boys' gave their all, but still remembered that winning, whilst important, should never overshadow sportsmanship, team spirit and match enjoyment. Lab. 'B' were drawn into the spirit of the match and it was a great night for table tennis all round. Alan Chase was at his best and won his three. If any of you ever lose sight of what it is all about I suggest you spend a night watching Frank, Ted, Alan and team umpire Mick Allen. You will come away revitalised. No trophies in sight for these 'boys' and no fear of relegation either. The same cannot be said for Lab. 'B' who are doing very badly with only Justin Evans really getting amongst the sets in a big way and who is having a good season. Paul Griffiths is having a lean spell and this seems more due to lack of

disciplined play than bad form. I rate them as very possible candidates for another return to the 2nd div.

As with Lab. 'B'; Bootle Y.M. are also having little success since their return and the picture for them looks even gloomier. Their sets return is very low and the team is not strong enough to survive with only Mike Keane producing sets of any note. They have picked up sets against both Y.M. 'A' and Colonsay but did not pick up the victories needed against two teams just above them. At this early stage it is beginning to look as if these two will make the season easier for those above them by removing any fear of relegation from them. It is early and I could be proved wrong, but for me Y.M. 'A'; Colonsay and any team round them can safely look forward to looking down on Lab. 'B' and Bootle Y.M. for the duration of this season. Not that any team comprising Chris Ford, Robert Lowe and Brenda Bucey are likely to be troubled by any relegation threat for they are all picking up sets and Chris is playing really well and few players can face him with any real certainty of winning for he is never easily defeated.

Off with the relegation problems and over to the title battle which with the changed teams has become a more open issue than for some years and could become as close a tussle as that when Wav. Lab. just got home ahead of Vernon Sangs. in the 85/86 season.

A pre-season quote by Mal (Finish) McEvoy to the effect that it would be the mixture as before has been sunk without trace for his team kicked off with a series of misfires with the main culprit being El Finish himself. In their first match Mal fell to newcomer Andrew Eden, lost two against Fernhill, were they were soundly thrashed 8-2, lost to Mike Keane, Bootle Y.M. and lost yet another set to Frank Murphy with his team also playing short. With Rob Bevan not always available they have brought in Ian Campbell as a replacement for Wayne Percival. Only Les Molyneux has continued the form of last season and unless they produce better and more consistent results their reign as champions will be over.

It is fair comment to say that having strengthened their team with the signing of Keith Williams it is no surprise to find Cadwa in the running for honours. Any surprise stems from their not only being in the running, but actually making the running and carving themselves an early lead, and this without the regular support of Peter Flint. Mike Mahoney, Neil Gravener and Ken Hartley gave a good account of themselves last season and with the addition of Keith they will take some stopping. There is a long way to go but with results like Bath St. 9-1; Lab 'B' 10-0; Elec 'A' 9-1; Elec 1st. 9-1; and Liv Y.M. 9-1; with only Wav. Lab taking them on and holding them to a draw, they have built up that early lead which can be so important.

The reshaped Wav. Lab. team must also come into the reckoning now that their club have got their priorities right and ranked in strength. They are already

trailing by several sets with the biggest setback to their ambitions coming from their own 'A' team who held them to a draw. The 'A' team played above themselves to force this draw in a match in which no quarter was given. Unfortunately for Wav. Roy Smith was unwell and his clubmates took advantage of this with Mick Tierney and Paul Kinsey beating him in two straight. Paul was in sparkling form and also took a set off Dave Roberts. If Paul and his team-mates could produce the same level of endeavour against other teams they too could be a force to be reckoned with, but this is unlikely to be so and there is nothing down for them, certainly not the 2nd place achieved last season.

How Fernhill will fare is another question to be answered for the return of Paul Hutchings was brief but profitable. Unfortunately it was marred by their decision to rank him at the bottom and then turn him out in a 2nd div. match meant he played at No.4. No doubt they will have many reasons to advance for this, but for me it was inexcusable to play a player of his calibre at No.4. in that div. and showed scant regard for their opponents. Ranking was introduced to stamp this sort of practice out, looks as if we failed. I hear it was because they wanted to get in as many matches for him as possible in readiness for the Cup, but they could have achieved this far more respectably by ranking him No.4. with Lawrence Kenwright and the rapidly improving Andy Wright and more than useful reserves available they will be a threat to any team and I expect to see them up there with Cadwa and Wav. Andy Wright has developed the unfortunate habit of muttering very audible comments between points which are unprintable.

Whilst these are aimed chiefly at himself it is a part of his game he could well do without. Any player with ability, and any without, for that matter, should let their bat do all the talking.

Much could be said of other possibles for the title but I don't expect these four to find themselves under any real challenge from the rest. Certainly, there will be many hard fought matches, but the eventual champions will come from these teams with Cadwa a shade ahead in the betting.

Liv. Y.M. will, I am sure, consider themselves as capable of getting above one of these to finish in the first four but they will have to perform much better than to-date having lost 6-4 to Wav. Lab; drawn with Lab 'B' and suffered a rare 9-1 defeat at the hands of Cadwa with Peter Taylor picking up a very notable scalp in the shape of Keith Williams with a 2 straight win. Malcolm Pu has again returned to them and has yet to produce the form we know he is capable of. The real question is will Malcolm complete the season? Y.M. are hard pressed for quality 1st div. players with only Dave Tagg capable of filling in. Eng. Elec. newcomer, Andrew Eden, made his mark in his first match beating Mal McEvoy and Rob Bevan and remained unbeaten in his next four matches adding Peter Lee. Malcolm Pu and Lawrence Kenwright to his list of successes. It must be some time since a newcomer made such an impressive debut in this league,

Wav. Lab. 'C' did well to beat Linacre 8-2, Mal Cray and Ken Ainsworth preventing the whitewash and Val Franco maintaining his 100% with wins over Mal Cray and Jack Davidson.

Another very strong team unbeaten so far is Electric Supply 'A' for whom Neil and Paul Jennings are playing well, along with Alan Biggs and Alan Radcliffe. Supply 'A' beat Bath St. 8-2, the two games being won by Bill Clayton and Jonh Letch, two veterans who can beat anybody if the playing style is right. The Supply 'B' team is a very solid middle of the table team and did well to beat Maghull 7-3.

John Moore and Rob Conley winning two each. John beating the highly rated Stuart Fay and the very Consistent bat-twiddler Chris Roberts. the two English Electric teams contain a mixture of class and experience from the stylish hitting of Julie Prince, the all-round play of Ro Craddock and the combination bat play of Wally Sill in the 'D' team, plus the highly rated Ritchie Cragg, the experience of Norman Challoner, the left handed looping of Pete Holmes and the spin serve and unexpected hitting of Ian Lunt in the 'C' team. The 'D' team have made the better start with wins over Supply 'B' Maghull and Rodney Youth. The 'C' team have yet to chalk up a win but have had to play the stronger in the early weeks of the season.

The Liverpool Jewish team looks formidable although Bob Hudson lost to the Southalls against Fords. The Jewish team includes John Henshaw, J. McGhee and Z. Wolfson who has 100% so far.

Impressive wins so far this season include Bill Proffitt 14 in 3rd over John Henshaw in Fords 7-3 win over Jewish, Stuart Fay beating the all-action Joey Williams, and Jimmy Williams 2 straight win over the highly rated Rod Bulmer in an exciting draw between Rodney Youth and Maghull. Stuart Fay and George Frost just losing a tense close doubles to Peter Jones and Sandy Sanderson 22/20; 22/24; 22/24: Sandy who is an outstanding Wirral League player and an ex English Electric player of the fifties is a very difficult player to beat and has mastered the art of bat-twiddling which makes it tricky for the opponent to read the spin on any particular ball. This season I am looking for the best doubles pair, so on my travels I'll be asking for records details. Two other requests to the team captains - please write the Christian names of your team on the sheets and please indicate star games on the card. Players with 100% records so far are No1 players David Ng and Neil Jennings, No2 Val Franco, No3 players John Lau and Reg Edwards and at No4 Z Wolfson and Ming Liu. I expect this division to be won by a team with a match average of no more than 7 due to the closeness of the team strengths and if it is not the unchanged team (so far) of M.C.Y.A. it could be whichever strong team had the best reserves, possibly Jewish, Fords, or Electric Supply 'A'.

P.S:- From our officials - captains MUST fill in all score cards correctly.

The new season is well under way now and with very few score cards to hand it is impossible at this stage to predict the outcome.

Plessey 'A' have started well. From the two results so far, Peter Wass has not dropped a set, and Paul Morgan has dropped on to Brian Gregory Maghull 'B' in winning his four games, Arthur Birch, Wav. Lab. 'D' lost his first game of the season to George Wright, Police 'A' 22/20; 19/21; 19/21: and has not been beaten since.

Tony Leary, English Electric E's number two is unbeaten after two matches, but he struggled to beat Jason Killip, Bootle Y.M.C.A., winning the second set 25/23 to stay in the match. Phil Marcoft playing at number four is also unbeaten but number one Peter Lee has lost only one. That again was to Jason Killip.

Jason has won five out of six for Bootle Y.M.C.A. now he has gone to University, so Roly Wright, Danny Every and Les Higham will have to buckle down if Bootle Y.M.C.A. are to stay up with the leaders.

Bootle J.C. 'A' have yet to be beaten, having gained 35 points from five games after drawing their first game at Police 'A'. Waterloo were unbeaten after six games, but then went down at home to Bootle J.C. 'A' but they were held to draws by Jewish 'B' and Brownmoor Park. In the Jewish match L. Rosenbloom had a tough battle with Ray Hibbs. Hibbs took the first set 22/20, Rosenbloom the second 22/20 and the latter took the third 21/18. In the match with Brownmoor Park, Ken Nelson took the first 21/18 against John Forrest, but Forrest came back to take the next two 21/19;21/19.

Action Youth have not won after six games but number one Tony Dixon has had some good wins under his belt. He beat John Ashley, Wav. Lab. 'D' 19 in the third, Len Dyson, Police 'A' and Dave Graham Bootle J.C. 'A' Maghull 'A' are in mid-table: A close game for Bill Salter against Brian Marsh, Action Youths' number two. Bill dropped the first set 19/21 but won the next two 19 and 19.

Maghull 'B' are certainly struggling and are well behind the rest of the field. Here are a few close results Arthur Birch, Wav. Lab. 'D' beat Brian Marsh, Action Youth 21/23; 21/17; 23/21. Mike Poole Jewish 'B' beat George Wright, Police 'A' 22/20 in the third, Tom Purcell Police 'A' beat Poole 21/18; 20/22; 21/19 in the same match. John Ashley, Wav. Lab. 'D' beat Tom Purcell 23/21 in the third, Bill Stanley, Wav. Lab. 'D' beat Harry McGanity Maghull 'B' 21/19 in the third and in the same match McGanity beat John Ashley 21/17; 18/21; 22/20.

Close Doubles Results: Andy Armstrong and Ken Nelson, Waterloo beat Alan Williams and Bill Spencer, Brownmoor Park 22/20 in the third. Tony Connor and Billy Stanley, Wav. Lab. 'D' beat McGanity and Whittaker Maghull 'B' 19 in the third. Alan Langfield and John Pilkington, Bootle J.C. 'A' beat Len Dyson and Arthur Garnett, Police 'A' 19 in the third. Harry McGavity and J. Gill took the first set 26/24 against the two Banks' in the Maghull "Derby" match. Len Dyson and Alan Wood, Police 'A' took the third set against Tony Dixon and James Broughton, Action Youth 25/23 and finally in the match between Action Youth and Wav. Lab. 'D' John Ashley and Arthur Birch beat Tony Dixon and Paul Howard 22/20; 19/21; 21/12 and Bill Stanley and M. Ashton beat Brian Marsh and Carl Anderson 28/26 in the second.

Well, a Happy Christmas to you all and every success for the New Year except when you come up against Bootle J.C. 'A'.

DIVISION 5

BARRY MEYER

What a strong division we have this year, or am I just going downhill fast?. I can foresee a very tight battle for the championships between all the teams who have thrashed my side so far. Every week I say "well I think they're the best team in the division", but the next match we lose to someone I think is even better.

My instinct tells me I'm mad to predict who'll win the league but after my success at picking the whole of 4B last season with about 80% success compels me to try to do it again, so here goes:- 1. Bootle Y.M.B; 2. Plessey B; 3. Bath St.C; 4. Cadwa; 5. Bath St. D; 6. Police B; 7. Vagabonds A; 8. Electric Supply C; 9. Aigburth; 10. Wav. Lab. E; 11. Colonsay C; 12. Aigburth A; 13. University. If I am 50% correct with these I'll back a 100% shot to win next years Derby!.

The main reason I've picked Bootle Y.M. to finish champions is that they were the only team to make a fool of me last season by finishing three places higher than I predicted and this will stop them doing it again!. The Bath St. side could well finish higher but they seem to be struggling to get four players for each team each week and to date have conceded nine points with walkovers to my knowledge already.

With very few cards to hand, it is very difficult to see any clear picture of who our top players are going to be but I can't see Ken Davies losing many at No4 for Bootle or Fred Price at No1 for Plessey Whilst the eternal - or is it infernal - Alex Gould will take some beating whichever Bath St. team he is in. However, my tip for the top player award of the "Barry Meyer Jealousy Certificate" is Les Griffin of Cadwa. Aigburth have been suffering through the loss of Bill

Leeming, who has been in hospital with a disc injury - I told him to stick to playing tapes - but happily he is now on the road to recovery, although he is unlikely to play for a few months yet. With Peter Knight missing most of the start of the season through work commitments and the semi - retirement of Peter Meyer the club has had to struggle through the first few matches.

However, with P.K. back now and the signing of the ex - (about 15 years ago) Kent league player Alan Fowler, hopefully we can shoot up the league into the top ten!. Alans' signing will compensate for the loss of Simon Killeen who has given up on health grounds - he got sick of being beaten!.

With the new composition of the league it has been nice to meet up with some players I've not played against for several years and enjoyed a particularly good game against Jack Power who doesn't seem to have slowed down one iota in the 10 or so years since I last played him. Also a recent game against Ken Ray (Vags.), the first time I have played him since his Knotty Ash days about twenty years ago, we were both about 8 years old then.

Closest set of the season to date was Ian Fletcher's (Cadwa) defeat of Eric Woods (Aigburth A) 23/25; 21/19; 22/20: Others include Charlie Gallantry (Aig.) v Ted Green (Plessey) 16/21; 23/21; 22/20, and in the same match Aian Crist (Aig.) defeated Jerry Richardson 21/16; 15/21; 25/23 and Jerry beat Peter Knight 21/19; 19/21; 21/18. In a very tight doubles Jim Geddes and Ken Davies (Bootle) overcame Ted Green and Bob Bell (Plessey) 21/19; 18/21; 22/20.

Finally I have the card from the Wav. Lab. vs Bath St. C match in which Bath St. gained three walkovers though rain stopped play? this just isn't cricket!. Especially as all three were conceded by the same player. I promise in the next issue I won't mention my own club so much, but it has been difficult to write much of this issue with only 11 cards to hand.

DIVISION 6

JACK LAMBERT

Although the division is not as strong as we would wish, we do at least have a reasonable division thanks to the forethought of our sec. and fixture sec. John and Eddie who have stolen a team from the rest of the divisions one way or another - so we have to be thankful for small mercies.

As Ken and I could not pin point a correspondent - Ken opted to write a book on the first division and I am putting a few notes together for division 6 - if by chance we have a budding journalist in the division this is your big chance - this is where Moya Jones (ex Liverpool champ.) of Bohemians of the Liverpool Echo and Sue Hughes (Eng. Elec.) now in the big time in London Journalism started - so you can see where it can lead!?

Drop outs Eng. Elec. 'F', Brownmoor Park 'A'; M.C.Y.A. 'A' and Liverpool Y.M. 'A' have been slightly counteracted and helped by the inclusion of Bath St. 'D' and 'E', Alecs' gang are certainly flourishing, Electric Supply 'D'. With A C, D, and E team one has to say that Liverpool Jewish are also flourishing under the guidance of my old mate and adversary Dave Cohen.

With all the 'flourishings' knocking about actual cards are few and far between and information thin on the ground so I think on this occasion I can comment on all the results I have received to date with accent on the Jewish Club, naturally I suppose with three teams with us. A resounding win by the 'C' team over the 'E' although Norman Simmons gave the experienced Jerry O'Keefe an 18 and 19 run for his money. They (the C) then lost to Rodney Youth 'A' despite a double from Eric Young.

For Rodney, Paul Keating and Kevin Barton had a ball - winning five of their sides six games, Kev had a battle with Ted Cramsee winning 13/21; 21/19; 21/17; as did Neil Bates in his sides sixth win beating Richie Blackburn 14/21; 21/17; 21/18: seems to have been quite an exciting match, oh dear not Jewish 'C' again (you well might mumble) but it is - with trebles from Jerry O'Keefe and Ian Anderson in their win over Action 'A' with Lee Burnett and Paul Howard winning Action's loan points. A slight variation on the theme Jewish 'D' this time with Miller being involved in his sides two points - the doubles with Walsh against Cadwa 'D' who had two of my old team mates playing Gloria Burns and Pauline Lawrenson, a crafty double for Pauline but trebles for Don Douglas and Bob Jude - nice work. Another win for Cadwa 'D' brought trebles from Gloria and Bob with Hope winning her two for Electric Supply 'D'.

I feel somehow I should have been playing for Bootle Y.M.C.A. 'C' against Bath St. with Ron Georgeson, Eugene Berger, Brian Cunningham (with three wins) playing for the Street. How did Karen get away?. Mike Hughes and Peter Shackleton winning Y.M.'s four sets. Mike with Geoff Storer fought hard for the draw eventually losing 15/21; 23/21; 14/21 to Wayne Gould and Eugene, a battle all the way.

There is nothing like tight 6-4 or five all for excitement and atmosphere, and it doesn't matter if it's the top two in Division 1 or the bottom two in Division 6 if it's tight (the match I mean) it's good for the players and good for the game. Never mind the Channel Tunnel try the Leed Building Society - they are very kind to table tennis.

HANDBOOK ALTERATIONS

Bath St. - Match Sec. Reg. Edwards, 29 Brownmoor Lane Crosby L'pool L23
OTP 4 928 2339; Division 5 'D' team Key 13 M.N.Thurs: E Team Key 11.
Division 6 M.N. Wed.

Brownmoor Park: 'A' team, Division 6 out.

Bootle S.C.: Now play at Fernhill S.C. Fernhill Rd Bootle 1st team Division 1
Wed 'A' team Division 2 Wed.

Cadwa: 1st team Division 1 Thurs 'B' team Division 3 Mon..

Colonsay: All teams now play Monday.

Electric Supply: 'D' team Division 6 Key 3.

Eng. Electric: 'F' team Division 6 out.

Maghull 'C' team Division 4 out.

TABLE EDGES

Congratulations to Barbara Kirkman on the birth of a bouncing baby girl. Barbara is missed on the circuit this season, lets hope she 'bounces' back soon

Trevor Hughes is playing it pretty cool these days - always an excellent club Cadwa and producer of many famous and popular names. He has turned them into a top power - no pun here on the Power influence. The signing of Keith Williams was good for the club and the league.

Eddie Cameron the fixtures secretary is very keen on the numbers game - particularly when it comes to match numbers and players ranking numbers on score cards.

Vice Presidents may come and go but there can be no more worthy recipients of the title than ex Internationals Ted and Peter Rumjahn always a credit to the game and the backbone of the old Rafter's Club. Add Ken Hyde and Don Foulis internationals and you see what power we had.

A magnificent trophy has been received from Mrs Newton - Dave's wife. A lovely gesture received with thanks and appreciation. Back in the fold come George Smith (L'Pool Y.M.) and Kathy Baxendale as 'was' at Colonsay and 'is' Kathy Haydon of Liverpool Jewish - welcome home.

The much travelled Zerrick Wolfson of Jewish has crossed bats with Barna, Bergman and Leach but now contents himself with the comfort of Division 3.

John Fishwick at Action and Roy Cook Hannah at Rodney Youth are two stalwarts who are bringing much needed youth into the game and the lads do them credit. Roy's gang en bloc represented Liverpool at Junior Level.

The Leeds Building Society have certainly given Table tennis a boost with sponsorship, the hierarchy must be well pleased with this generous gesture.

In the course of sponsorship I think names must be mentioned whenever possible - while it has a personal flavour - I see no harm in saying that Andrew Eden the outstanding English Electric junior is sponsored by Mawdesley Eating House - so when in the Mawdesley area you know where to eat.

Any more sponsorships?.

Every credit to John McKim and Eddie Cameron for equating the divisions so that top and bottom get a fair crack of the whip. City players and sixth divisions players all pay the same fees.

Brenda Bouey (Colonsay) and Julie Hope (Electric Supply) were returning down the motorway from a tournament, when their car skidded on a patch of oil and a speeding car hit them. Although their car is a write off and numerous other cars were involved - Brenda and Julie are O.K.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR 16 AVALON ROAD

Dear Jack,

I am told that the recent changes to the Service Law are causing problems in League matches in Liverpool and District. Perhaps the enclosed details explanation from the National Umpires and Referees Committee will help to iron out some of the difficulties - if you have space to publish it in its' entirety in the Digest.

In any case it might be as well to remind players that if they do not comply with the new law, they are not playing table tennis. They are playing their own similar version of the game. the law states: The server shall project the ball, by hand only without imparting spin, so that it rises at least 16 cm. (6 inches) after leaving the palm of the free hand. As the ball is falling from the highest point of its trajectory, the server shall strike it, etc.,. If the server does not obey this law, he/she must lose the point. No discretion on this is allowed.

The enclosed explanation should help to explain why this new law was introduced.

Best wishes,
Brian Leeson.

Brian has sent me a full set of Guidance notes from the E.T.T.A. on the service law. The following are a few extracts, I am assuming THAT WE ALL KNOW THE PRE 1987 SERVICE RULE I.E.. The ball to rest freely on the palm of the hand with the thumb free and the hand stationary. This is to ensure that the ball is not held and restrict as far as possible to impart spin. Free hand ABOVE the level of the table and must NOT drop BELOW the table level.

The throwing up within 45° has been deleted. The ball must now be thrown upwards at least 15cm to 17cm (the height of the net approximately). This is to ensure that the umpire can ascertain that the ball is struck when falling.

A player must serve so that the umpire can see the correctness of his service and the umpire has no dicretionary power to ignore or warn the player the point is lost, the service law is a law just as much as 21 up or the 9' x 5' table size.

Note In my original club I had one of the top exponents of finger spin Jack Neil, his power as a player was reduced considerably when finger spin was banned. I reckon none of his lethal spins were nearly as lethal as those imparted by modern 57 variety type rubbers.

Editor.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

K. ARMSON WAV. LAB. T.T.C.

Dear Editor,

i feel I must take you to task in respect of your Editorial in the last issue of last season. I cannot see how any Editor can wear two hats. You are either an Editor expressing an editorial view, or you are a club secretary expressing the club point of view. You cannot be both at the same time, a fact which I am sure you fully appreciate.

On the subject of Maghull. I don't quite know what it is I said which you don't agree with, but I would point to my final comment on this unhappy saga when I said, "The question must be asked, who failed who?"

Moving to the question of the Maghull team who moved their playing venue to Eng. Elec. However much people may feel it desirable for certain things to take place the simple fact remains that Rules are Rules. As such, they can only be changed at an A.G.M. of the league. They are there to protect the majority from the desires of the minority. In the case of Maghull 1st team and Eng. Elec. you were the minority at that time. For what you were really asking for was that Maghull 1st team should cease to exist, and that they be replaced by an E.E. 2nd team who would have been promoted when they had not won that right as an E.E. 2nd team. There is rightly no provision for such a thing to be done.

If the subject was really so contentious why did we only get the usual "barrack room lawyer" talk? Why did not clubs and players put pen to paper? One club did, but did it in such a way that it could not be progressed. The players talked, moaned, groaned and complained, but did no more. Do any of these players act in the same way when their own club turn out weak reserves in 1st division matches, or is this seen as a different thing altogether? They will chorus, yes, because it suits them. I would say, no.

Finally, Jack, had the Management Committee taken the line you felt they should have taken then any club could have submitted a protest. Such a protest, if submitted, would have to have been upheld. That is the real position the Management Committee were in at the time.

The ball lies in someone's court, but when a season has commenced, it certainly does not lie in the court of the Management Committee. For they are the body elected by the members to uphold the Rules of this League.

I hope no-one will mis-read this as being an official quote on behalf of the Management Committee merely because I happen to be a member of that body. These are my views which I believe to be the right ones to hold. The trouble with most members is that they don't make full use of our magazine to expound their views. We try hard enough to draw their views out, but they prefer instead to indulge in idle chatter amongst themselves.

This problem has now sorted itself out as it was fully expected to do and no rules have been flouted. The players concerned, who I agree are a great bunch of players, are still where they should be, but let us hope the members have learned a lesson from this and use their magazine to fully air their views.

Yours sincerely,
Ken Armson.

100 CLUB DRAW

SEPTEMBER AT VAGABONDS

Bath Street	£25
Alan Smethurst (Maghull)	£12
Alan Langfield (Bootle J.C.)	£10

OCTOBER AT FORDS

Stan Harvey (Plessey)	£25
Jack Power (Cadwa)	£12
Peter Carney (Elec. Supply)	£10

Members are up on last year which of course means better prizes, there are still a few vacancies, so if you have a few bob to spare have a bit a fun, help the league funds and the prizes are better than Blankety Blank!.

Whilst a 12 monthly membership is preferable and most popular, smaller investments are welcome a six - three - or even ONE month - have a go Joe.

WARREN DAVIES

What can you say when we lose one of the stalwarts of the league, for just on thirty years Warren graced our scene, his sportsmanship and competitive spirit was renowned - not perhaps in the highest spheres but in the third and fourth divisions he was always a hard man to beat. He loved to talk table tennis as well and helped me for quite a while on the Digest.

A sad loss to the league more so to the Liverpool Jewish Club, he also played for Harold House and had a short spell with Victoria Park. He was recovering from his car accident nicely when he collapsed.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Estelle his wife and family.

DIVISION1	P	W	L	D	PTS
WAVERTREELABOUR	10	7	1	2	74
CADWA	9	7	-	2	71
FERNHILLS.C.	10	7	2	1	62
ELECTRIC SUPPLY	9	6	1	2	59
COLONSAY	10	5	3	2	55
WAVERTREE LAB 'A'	9	4	3	2	47
ENGLISH ELECTRIC	10	3	7	-	38
L'POOL YMCA 'A'	10	1	6	3	36
WAVERTREE LAB 'B'	9	1	4	4	35
ENGLISH ELEC 'A'	8	2	3	3	33
LIVERPOOL YMCA	8	1	4	3	32
BOOTLEYMCA	9	1	8	-	25
BATHSTREET	7	2	5	-	23

DIVISION2

POLICE	10	7	-	3	81
COLONSAY 'A'	10	7	1	2	66
ENGLISH ELEC 'B'	10	6	2	2	59
FORDS	10	6	4	-	56
CADWA 'A'	9	5	2	2	51
FERNHILLSC	9	6	3	-	51
PLESSEY	9	3	5	1	48
BATHSTREET 'A'	9	3	4	2	39
BOOTLEJC	8	2	6	-	29
COLONSAY 'B'	9	2	7	-	27
LIVERPOOL JEWISH	6	3	2	1	26
LIVERPOOL YM 'B'	8	1	6	1	24
VAGABONDS	9	-	9	-	23

DIVISION3

ELECTRIC SUPPLY 'A'	8	7	-	1	58
FORDS 'A'	8	6	2	-	54
LINACRE	10	3	3	4	51
LIVERPOOL JEWISH 'A'	8	6	2	-	48
MCYA	7	5	2	-	43
WAVERTREELAB. 'C'	8	4	2	2	42
MAGHULL	10	2	4	4	41
ENGLISH ELEC. 'C'	8	2	5	1	36
CADWA 'B'	7	2	4	1	31
ENGLISH ELEC 'D'	6	3	2	1	30
RODNEY YOUTH	9	-	7	2	30
BATHSTREET 'B'	7	2	4	1	28
ELEC. SUPPLY 'B'	8	1	6	1	28

DIVISION4	P	W	L	D	PTS
BOOTLEJ.C. 'A'	8	7	-	1	59
WATERLOO	10	4	2	4	58
POLICE 'A'	9	5	2	2	57
WAVERTREELAB 'D'	9	7	2	-	52
BOOTLEYMCA 'A'	10	3	6	1	48
PLESSEY 'A'	8	4	3	1	45
MAGHULL 'A'	9	4	4	1	43
BROWNMOORPARK	8	3	3	2	37
L'POOL JEWISH 'B'	7	2	3	2	35
ENGLISH ELEC 'E'	6	3	3	-	33
ACTION YOUTH	8	-	6	2	27
MAGHULL 'B'	10	1	9	-	16

DIVISION5

CADWA 'C'	8	8	-	-	62
BOOTLEYM 'B'	8	5	2	1	53
WAVERTREELAB 'E'	9	6	2	1	53
PLESSEY 'B'	7	4	2	1	44
BATHSTREET 'D'	6	5	1	-	43
VAGABONDS 'A'	8	2	4	2	37
BATHSTREET 'C'	6	5	1	-	35
AIGBURTH	7	2	4	1	33
AIGBURTH 'A'	10	1	7	2	29
POLICE 'B'	6	2	3	1	27
ELEC. SUPPLY 'C'	6	1	5	-	19
COLONSAY 'C'	7	-	6	1	19
UNIVERSITY	4	-	4	-	6

DIVISION6

LIVERPOOL JEWISH 'C'	8	6	1	1	62
ACTION 'A'	7	4	1	2	45
CADWA 'D'	6	4	-	2	42
RODNEY YOUTH 'A'	6	4	-	2	39
LIVERPOOL JEWISH 'D'	7	3	3	1	37
BATHSTREET 'E'	6	2	2	2	27
BOOTLEYM 'C'	6	1	5	-	26
UNIVERSITY 'A'	5	1	4	-	15
ELEC. SUPPLY 'D'	4	-	4	-	6
LIVERPOOL JEWISH 'E'	5	-	5	-	1

Team Captains please check your League record, send in your missing cards and let the Fixture Secretary know if you still disagree.

How to fill in your score cards, hint No.1

After your team name there is a bracket () this is for your fixture key number shown shown on page 9 or 10 of the handbook e.g. Electric Supply Div.1 Fixture Key is No.1. Always put your Fixture Key Number in this bracket.