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# Table Tennis

# DIGEST

## LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

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VOL 47

FEBRUARY 1993

NO. 2

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### EDITORIAL

What do you think of the show so far? .....

Considering the blow of English Electric's demise with two teams and ten players forming a crypto club at Waterloo Park and all but two of the rest still playing in Liverpool. So the league survives a minor crisis and bashes on regardless.

Next item in the wind of change, which hardly affects the average player – the mass registration cum any old other fees that playing may entail. I would think quite a boon from an admin point of view both club Secretary and Bill Salter wise. What other effects? I can hear Bill Profit chuckling with his annual 1,600 signings! With his shift work this has been more or less essential. Then again it could open the flood gates. In English Electric's halcyon dates of D'arcy and Clayton, we had access to the country's top players we could under the present system sign them all on and play the odd one in the crunchies – just a thought.

Next W.O.C. item 'The closed' have you answered the call? Do you want a competitive cum social get together each year. Brian Leeson and the Committee have done their best – have you?

Having had three or was it four bats during my fifty odd years of Table Tennis – the first cost 3/6 (20p) and the last 14/6 (75p) and improved, from my point of view, with age, I now find it almost obscene when I see players changing a 19.00p rubber for, say a 25.00p rubber during or before a game. Beware my multi-millionaires, new regulations regarding glue are being enforced and I hope according to John McKim our Secretary will be included later in the Digest! These will apply to Health reasons, nothing to do with my little gripe. Have a nice day.

## DIVISION 1

KEN ARMSON

I said last time, who would be a forecaster in this division, and events have proved me correct. Elec Supply don't appear to have stumbled, but Wav. Lab. kept in touch by plugging away. They then played their ace with a 9-1 thrashing of E. Supp. Malcolm saving the 'whitewash' with a win against Dave. This Wav. Lab's nose in front and at present, if E. Supp. were to win their 2 matches in hand 10-0, they would be neck and neck. Rumour has it that E. Supp. have obtained the services of Ian Johns and A. N. Other to help ensure they clinch our 1st. Div. title. Hopefully I am right and it is the L'pool 1st Div. title we are playing for. Is this, I ask myself, a weakness of our new system in that having paid on a per team basis imported players can be brought in at no extra cost.

Eng. Elec. have conceded that relegation will be their fate, but that has not prevented their having a say in the title chase as Mike Corcoran proved when he beat Mike Mahoney in the final set of the night to take a point off Liv. Y.M. It is now left to G.P.T. and Liv. YM 'A' to fight it out with the prize, a precious one, being 1st div. status next season. Anyone who thinks it is tough at the top should try battling it out at the bottom. Much may depend on team turnouts as we saw when Paul Hutchings made a surprise re-appearance for GPT and won his three against Lab 'A'. They also did their cause a power of good with a draw against Colonsay. Bob Edwards really coming good with a 2 straight win over Chris Ford and getting a second from Peter Coyle. Trevor and Paul chipping in with one each and taking the doubles for the draw. Their match against fellow candidates YM 'A' brought them a 6-4 win and more importantly 6 sets. Once again Peter Taylor was in fine form for YM 'A' winning his three with the 4th coming from Dave Tagg. GPT have kept plugging away by picking up sets from most teams above them. Trevor recorded a good win against Bernie and evened it up by taking one off E. Supp when he beat Paul Kinsey. Bob Edwards has also done his share by picking up the lone sets with a win against Ian McElwee amongst others. But at this stage the strenuous efforts of GPT look like being to no avail, YM 'A' being 9 pts ahead with a game in hand. They also have Peter Taylor in great form and it is his form which has mainly been responsible for their opening up a relegation saving gap. Could even be Vets championship form for our 'Closed' Championships. They took 4 off Bath St. Peter getting 2 which included a win against Ken Jackson. No easy task as many will agree, especially Dave Roberts, Dave Tagg made it a miserable night for Ken by also taking a set off him. It was left to Mike Keane to save Bath St's blushes by winning his three. Against Colonsay they took 5 with Peter again in great form taking his 3 including a 2 straight 15 & 5 against Natasha. Amhed making it a bad night for Natasha by also taking a set off her.

I am still certain E. Supp will take the title in spite of, or, perhaps, because of the pressure being applied by Wav. Lab. This is were nerves come into the reckoning with sets being lost in tight matches which would normally be won. Wav. faced this against YM 'A' when an expected 10.0 became an 8-2. Once again the man of the match being Peter Taylor with wins against Dave and Gary. I can't really see E. Supp needing anyone else to take the title as Wav. will probably lose it in the run in by the dropping

of sets due to the pressure of needing to win. Obviously I will be hoping they prove me wrong.

What about Y.M.? Judging by their results that comet must be nearer than I thought. They are going really well and keeping up the pressure on E.S. and W.L. Much of this has to be due to Keith Williams who is back in top form and proving a great inspiration to his team-mates. For many years Liverpool's most consistent and successful player, and also a most sporting one, he fell away very slightly and this was reflected in Y.M.'s results. He now appears to have regained his appetite and his team-mates are responding to his lead. Certainly, he seems to be in title winning form and this has come at just the right time for our 'Closed'. I feel certain he is again going to win back the Men's Singles Title and a well deserved win it will be. The team have a great camaraderie and really work and play as a team. Their weakness continues to be their inability to notch up 10-0's against lower teams. Both their recent matches against E. Elec resulting in a dropped set with Mike Corcoran beating Mike Mahoney in one and the redoubtable Ted Birch duffing Mike in the other. Mike M starred in another notable defeat when he lost to D. Oluyumbo in his first appearance this season, possibly his last. This got them both in the 'Echo' much, I am sure, to Mike's chagrin. They could still make it into 2nd place and have the benefit of an easier run-in than W.L. and E.S. But to make certain of this they have to stop dropping winable sets.

Cadwa are still in a good position to take advantage of any slips, only a few pts adrift and turning in consistent results. They got a bonus against Wav. to add to their early season win when Bernie was absent and gifted them 3 sets. This got them a draw. They appear to have lost the services of Neil Gravener, but not their appetite, as they showed with a draw against Y.M. They took 8 off Colonsay, only Natasha managing to subdue Kevin and Phil, but not able to prevent Neil reversing their earlier result.

We now know E. Elec. will go down and their companions likely to accompany them, but Colonsay, in spite of, on paper, a strong team, will look with relief at the final placings for they have flirted with relegation this season to a very dangerous extent. At this stage they are lying 4th from bottom and only ten points above YM 'A'. O.K. they are 20 points ahead of GPT, but the writing is on the wall and they would be well advised to heed it for next season.

The rest are comfortably placed in the middle with no worries but plenty of enjoyment. Who will finish in 5th place is debatable but I fancy Bootle J.C. to sneak in ahead of Bath St. if they can start producing their real form. Their match ended in a draw, Ken and Mike getting the sets for Bath St. Andy Clark getting two for Bootle, but falling to Ken. Honours are fairly even between them with Bath St. taking 3 off Liv. YM and Bootle getting three off E. Supp. including a win for Andy against Mal. The enigma title must now go to Wav. Lab 'A' whose fluctuating results don't rally do them credit. I feel certain they are capable of better and expect them to improve on their present position of 5th from bottom. They have now lost the services of Gary Watson, promoted to 1st team, but this should not really have too great an effect on their results. Rumour has it that we are about to see the return of Phil Luxon which may improve their results, but then again, it might have the opposite effect.

The lengths to which the editor will go to get the notes in on time are unbelievable, on this occasion I was sat in what was left of my car somewhere in darkest Yorkshire wondering how I was going to get home when lo and behold up pops our editors henchman the redoubtable Kenneth, who proceeded to stick his head into the car and pass me an envelope of scorecards with the observation that as I was obviously not going anywhere I might as well make a start on my next set of notes. I think it must have been the shock of the crash that prevented me from replying in a rather forthright manner.

Now interesting as all of this is, I'm sure you prefer to see some reference to Table Tennis in these notes so here goes.

I haven't seen anything to make me doubt the accuracy of my previous notes in terms of the promotion and relegation stakes. Cadwa "A" must be odds on favourites to finish winners of the division, always provided they can continue to turn out their strongest team, the fact that they are the only unbeaten team in the division seems to prove the point.

Bootle J C "A" seem to be finding it a little more difficult to pull away from the two GPT teams and must be in some danger of losing second spot unless they can stop dropping silly sets, however I still think they will hold on for the second promotion place. How either of these teams will fare in the top flight is another matter, my own feeling is that they will both struggle unless they can strengthen their respective squads.

The relegation places are still not fully sorted out, Colonsay "A" have picked a few extra points over the first half of the season but I doubt if they can escape the bottom spot, who will keep them company in Div. 3 next season is not at all obvious, either Bath St. "A" or Waterloo would seem to be the obvious candidates. Bath St. "A" seem to be making life difficult for themselves, they have used more players than any other team in the division. They seem to turn out a different team every match with only Bob Hawkins and Karen Gibson turning out on a regular basis. Waterloo seem to have a more settled team with Alan Reid Ray Hicks, Ken Nelson and P. Frazer the apparent first choice team, not an easy team to beat but struggling a little in this division.

Harold House have a slightly different problem, they seem to be unable to get a matched played, they, along with English Electric "A" are 3 matches behind most of the other teams and it would appear, from the cards in my possession, that they have been unable to play Wayne Percival regularly. Perhaps Wayne's first match of the season against Colonsay's Natasha Williams destroyed his confidence, I doubt if Wayne has ever lost to a junior girl player in all his years in the game. The fact that Natasha, in what was also her first game of the season, won 21/12; 21/13 against a player of Wayne's ability speaks volumes for the talent of the Welsh junior.

As I suggested in my last notes Colonsay "B" have dragged themselves up from 8th spot to 5th place whether they will stay there largely depends on the two teams below them who have games in hand. Despite that I still feel that Colonsay "B" are more than

capable of holding on to 5th place although they do rely a little too heavily on the two girls, Paula and Brenda picking up sets regularly.

Once again a list of players who saved their teams form a whitewash;  
Billy Clayton, Bath St. "A" beat Ian Lunt of English Electric "A".

Alan Reid of Waterloo beat Mark Whittaker GPT "B"

Ken Nelson, Waterloo beat Stuart Fay, Bootle J.C.,

Steve Gittins and Paula French, Colonsay "B" beat Ian Miller and Billy Hargreaves of Cadwa "A".

All of these the only winners in 9/1 defeats.

Natasha Williams for Colonsay "A" beat Wayne Percival and Eddie Clein of Harold House.

Paul Gittins, Police beat Julian Quirk.

Stuart Fay, Bootle J.C. , Ian Wensley and Ted Gilmour of GPT "A" beat Mike Power of Cadwa "A".

Bill Harris beat Stuart Fay and Martin Hunter beat Dave Graham in the Bootle J.C. "A" v Colonsay "A" match.

And finally, Dave Garbe and Norman Carter of Fords both beat Rob Davies playing as reserve for Cadwa "A", all in 8/2 defeats.

As a final comment how refreshing it is to find the E.T.T.A. so quickly adopting the directives of the I.T.T.F. in banning the use of soft glues on bats. Not only are such glues a considerable health hazard but are arguably a form of cheating, when are we as a sport going to take away the advantages from the use of unequal equipment and make players equal. I don't advocate the use of only one type of rubber, but how about demanding that both sides of a bat be covered by the same type of rubber, just for starters.

And finally may I wish you a belated happy and prosperous New Year.

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## DIVISION 3

**ROD BULMER**

Let me first apologise in advance for these divisional notes. They are being rushed and as such may lack some detail, I also do not have a current league table but here goes.

Bootle J.C. B would seem on paper to have a very strong side, they have used Mike Moran, Alan Walton, Roger Neal, Ray Parry, Rod McPherson, Sylvia Graham and Ken Strahan and looking at these players they seem more than capable of achieving promotion. Against the Division promotion hopefuls they lost 6-4 to Cadwa B, and drew with Maghull and Bath St. B, this would suggest that the results against the middle and lower placed teams will decide the Division's promotion spots.

Bootle now seem to have sorted out their ranking positions with Alan Walton, Roger Neale, Mike Moran and Sylvia Graham being the running order.

Now what of Cadwa B, I have not had the pleasure of playing them yet this year, so all comments will be based on score cards only. They look to have a good mixture of youth and experience but do seem to have problems fielding the same side 2 weeks running. Their preferred order looks like Jonathan Allen, George Higham, Rob Davies and Emma Fletcher and this side normally does well though some re-ranking has taken place.

Some good wins to note, Jonathan over Rod McPherson and Mike Moran of Bootle JC B, Emma Fletcher 21/18 against Alan Walton in the same match. Rob and Don Davies both beating the talented Andrew Owens of GPT C. Emma Fletcher beating the always enthusiastic Rob Conley of Electric Supply A and of course the hard to beat George Higham keeps winning whichever position he plays in.

We enjoy the company of 2 Wavertree Labour teams in the Division the B and C teams. Neither seems strong enough to win promotion but nor will they go down. For the B team only Bill Stanley and Geoff Myles appear to be regulars. Good wins by Bill over newly returned to our shores Alan Tolson of GPT C, Bill then combined with Geoff to win their doubles to record their only points. Bill saved the day against Cadwa B taking the only set against Emma Fletcher. Some fine team wins worth noting 8-2 against Linacre and 8-2 against Police A.

Wavertree Labour C have a much more settled side of Bob Owen, John Gratten, Gordon Langshaw and Ken Roberts. Bob Owen will still give any one a good game and only seems to have lost 3 times so far. John beat Rob Davies 21/16 in the third in the match with Cadwa. Convincing 8-2 win against GPT C but only a Bob Owen double and a Gordon Langshaw win over John McCann prised any points out of Bath St. B.

Well readers that is all for now, good luck for the rest of the season and may the best teams win.

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## DIVISION 4

## TONY CONNOR

Well folks, no surprises at the top with Electric Supply played 15, points 116. Wavertree Labour have also played 15 for 104 points and Maghull A are somewhere in between these two. So, with five matches to go a clear hierarchy emerges, and I fear Labour will miss the promotion boat. Doomed Bootle Y.M. yanked three valuable sets off them, with Chris McGuire recording a fine 21-17 win in the third, after being 8-1 down against Labour reserve Francis Lay. In the same match, Tommy Wong (Bootle) blasted Labour's John Reynolds away with some fine hitting 17 and 17. Three pen holders on view here (Francis, Tommy and myself) with Francis continuing his comeback trail by edging Tony McGuire 16 and 20. Staying with Chris, though, he outlasted both Mike Poole and John Hodges of Harold House A 16 and 21 in the 3rd respectively. Especially creditable as Chris had been routed by John 16 and 10 only three weeks earlier. But, how about Jim Geddes (Bootle) versus Mike Poole (Harold House) in the same fixture for a mega turn-around in fortunes. On 18th November an easy 6, 14 win for Mike was recorded but in the return (8th December) Jim clawed his way on top in a -19, 24, 19 thriller.

Each of these 4 sets was a 'homer' verdict, but perhaps the least relished away venue is the table tennis version as Yeovil Towns sloping pitch. Where? Yes, Maghull home patch where our technical advisor Sandie Sanderson demonstrated a 1:4 incline (only slightly exaggerated) from the floor to the back wall by laying a ball on the table and watching it trundle (quickly). To top it all, Maghull A happen to be a very good team as well. No sign, from them, of the frailties inflicting Labour against the lower teams in the division, as 8-2 seems to be their worst victory against teams outside the top four. So who's doing the biz for the A's? They don't actually carry a weakness, with Harry McGanity, Steve Woods, George Frost and Wilf Gibon all way up the averages. It would be more interesting to highlight sets that this quartet have lost. Wilf Gibson 15, -21, -15 to Waterloo's Bill Spencer and -17, -9 to the excellent Clive Chislett of Bath Street (Too good for number 4!). George Frost lost -17, 13, -16 and -13, -12 to Bath Street pair Dave (Hit 'em 'ard) Stoddern and Clive Chislett. Harry McGanity lost out -14, -12 to Labour's John Reynolds whilst Steve Woods lost to Labour's Mike Ashton and Cadwa's Peter Roberts. Sorry lads, but defeats are few and far between for you and the visitors can rightly feel pleased at those results.

So, can Maghull A overtake Supply at the top? Obviously with this level of consistency it is possible, but Alan Biggs and Peter Carney, both functional and tactically excellent NEVER lose. The more flamboyant (and consequently less consistent) Trevor Hughes and Arthur Harrison might yet lose enough to let in Maghull, but I doubt it. I also doubt there is a better back-hand hit/ loop outside of the 1st division than Trevor's.

Bath Street also ride high (4th) and might well fancy their chances of a late promotion run. I know that Supply have the utmost respect for this quintet of Rob Peat, John Langton, Dave Stoddern, Pete Mercer and Clive Chislett and, if, as expected, they meet in the cup final, this is likely to be a closely run affair. When Clive meets Peter Carney (Supply) in the battle of the 4's, someones unbeaten record has to go, but I wouldn't like to predict which. Rob Peat and John Langton continue their GBH to TSP's but both struggled to overcome Tom Downing 20 and 13 in the 3rd respectively in the 7-3 victory over GPT 'D'. In the same match Bobby Bell routed Rob Peat 16 and 19 for an excellent win before succumbing to Dave Stoddern's particular brand of cruelty to balls later in the match.

Amazingly, Harold House A have achieved a level of consistency in team selection, as nine players used in four early matches (last notes) has not multiplied to twenty two players in ten matches. In fact, it remains at nine players. Clearly, there is some talent available here with Bob Hudson, Paul Morgan, Mike Poole and Dave Cohen combining to beat GPT 10 nil. They are a clear 5th and have the players to trouble anyone with John Hodges also turning out.

Harold House B aren't faring as well and compete with Bootle YMCA for the wooden spoon, but they do have a recruitment policy second to none. No, they don't target the schools, nor run coaching sessions. Far more sophisticated than that.

#### 4 EASY STEPS

- 1) Eric (Young) takes dog for walk in Calderstones Park.
- 2) Eric spots likely candidate with a dog and asks "Do you like table tennis?"
- 3) Likely candidate (Les Mulholland – ex 1st Division OR Rodney Ross – ex County Youth) replies 'Yes'.
- 4) 'Will you play for us?' 'Yes'.

Yes, it's true folks, Les is a fine acquisition winning many despite his teams lowly position. In the 3-7 reversal against their A team, he shaded Dave Cohen 22/20, 22/20. Ted Cramsie wins most when he plays (eg John Langton 14 in the 3rd) but overall, this promoted team is finding it too hot in the 4th division.

Maghull B are clear of relegation danger and mid-table respectability beckons. Phil Christie is finding form and demolished Cadwa's Peter Roberts 15 and 16, and Russell Thornton 7 and 14. The match finished 7-3 in Maghull's favour against a team four places higher. And this, without two top players, Bill Salter and Brian Gregory.

However, Cadwa still maintains comfortably their hard won higher status (6th). In their mid-table battle against GPT, they emerged as 6-4 victors helped by a fine double from Jack Power against Bobby Bell and Tom Banton, Tom Downing (GPT) has his fair share of close games and in this match he just lost to Peter Roberts whilst just shading Russell Thornton. Waterloo cling to a mid-table spot, but amazingly have won none and lost seven out of 10. Obviously, many 4-6 reversals. They continue to rely on Bill Spencer and John Forest for many of their sets, but Fraser Farquarson's victory over GPT's Bobby Bell -11, 18, 18 helped Waterloo to a draw. One of only three draws all season so far all involving Waterloo.

Well, that's all folks – Enjoy the rest of the season.

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#### DIVISION 5

#### JACK LETCH

Well, as we reach the halfway stage of the season, as forecast Bath Street are on top but also that unknown element of University is now only too well known to us all: and they are now clear favourites to win the division with Bath Street D in the runner up spot – both teams have now opened a gap ahead of the rest, 3rd spot Wavertree Lab. look like edging out Aigburth who, if they could, have turned out their strongest team each week could have been a stronger challenge for promotion.

The middle teams, Maghull, Bootle YMCA (draw specialists) with Nuke Hughes and Eddie Preston performing well and young Colin Hughes improving as the season progresses. It is nice to see youngsters playing instead of us 'oldies'. The other team in the middle is my team Bath Street E.

At the lower end, Merseybus, who appear to have played only a few games? and therefore, it is difficult to say what impact they will make in the league. Police lead LIHE, Waterloo and Harold House, I think a star should be awarded to both Waterloo



and Harold House, two great sets of players who turn up every week with little success – well done lads.

**Harold House 6, Police 4;** (2) for Richard Blackburn and one each for David Lewis, Stephen Daniels and Garry Adams – Arthur Garnett replying with (2) for Police.

**Waterloo 6, Police 4;** (2) for S. Weldon and one each for A. Platt, C. Singleton and Mal Clarke, and yes (2) for Arthur Garnett again replying for Police.

Nelson TSE (LIHE) saved his team a whitewash against Bath Street D 21/19, 21/8 against Richard Woodley.

Timothy Edwards saved his team a whitewash against University 16/21, 21/18, 21/16.

**Bath Street E 5, Police 5;** good result for Police (2) Arthur Garnett (2) Brian Jelly (1) Ollie Solani.

**LIHE 4, Maghull 6;** This game saw the battle between two lady number ones in our division Joey Wong and Sue Anderson the result eventually won by Joey 11/21, 21/10, 21/18 she then went on to beat Phil Maitland 30/28, 17/21, 21/14.

Well, no phone calls, so I have no snippets of gossip on controversial points to write about.

**Good Wins** Reg Edwards 21/14, 19/21, 21/18 v Keith Warburton.

Alec Gould 21/14, 23/21 v D. Preston.

Gary Abrams 19/21, 21/18, 21/14 v Ben Ng.

Mabel Neary double against Bath Street 'D' 21/16, 21/17 v A. Gould, and 14/21, 21/12, 21/15 against Clive Chislett.

Mal Clarke 19/21, 21/12, 21/19 v Brian Jelly.

**Close Games** Joey Wong 30/28, 17/21, 21/14 v Phil Maitland.

Nau Hung 21/16, 18,21, 26/24 v Phil Maitland.

Bill Leeming 23/25, 23/21, 21/18 v John Letch.

Eddie Preston 20/22, 22/20, 21/16 v Bill Leeming.

Bill Leeming 18/21, 21/17, 22/20 v Reg Edwards.

Ken Armson 22/20, 15/21, 28/26 v Derek Traynor.

Reg Mirarndami 22/20, 19/21, 21/18 v Derek Traynor.

Alec Gould 21/12, 19/21, 23/21 v Nau Hung.

Well, no walkovers so far which is good news and may I say that our division is very friendly – every game is competitive but also a pleasure to play.

Keep up the excellent standard and sportsmanship for the rest of the season.

## TABLE EDGES

Not a lot!

Last Digest Table Edge regarding the Dublin should have read – “What a joy to see Secretan (the French International) in full flight and full of personality” Referring to the Dublin Championships, no ‘Secretary’ involved – I only hope I have spelt his name correct.

Returning from the Cleveland open, Stan Clarke was involved in a nasty accident, his car a near write off, nice to hear Stan came out OK – that must be good news.

Ken Armson was not far behind Stan, so was able to help out.

I wonder did Sandie Sanderson win his conservatory – ask him.

Paula French was the heroine in the Liverpool ladies win over Preston (6-4) beating Carey Delaney in the crunch game.

1994 will see England hosting the European Championships – Birmingham I think!

I feel the handicap Committee have been rather harsh on the lower ranks.

What do you think of the idea of table edges becoming a let. It is being considered at top levels.

Nice to see Frances Lay battling on at the closed.

**Coaching Course:-** Liverpool City Council are running a course for Sports Leaders/Assistant Coaches at Picton Sports Centre on 20/21 March, 1993, cost is £22.00, anyone wishing an application form please contact **John McKim**.

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## URGENT REGULATIONS

The following regulations from the ETA regarding ‘gluing up’ came into force on **29th January, 1993**.

The Use of fast glue is banned as from **24th January, 1993**.

No gluing up of any kind is allowed during any table tennis match or tournament.

If a bat is glued up using an approved glue, this must be done at least 48 before the bat is used.

The above is only a summary of the major points of the new regulations, when I receive, a copy of the regulation, copies will be sent to all club secretaries.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Jack,

### MANCHESTER v LIVERPOOL

It was my privilege and pleasure to have played with Keith Williams and Chris Ford in the above match. After tremendous tussles against Phil Bowen, John Hope and Brian Clements – both players emerged undefeated in singles matches, thus ensuring a 6-4 victory for Liverpool.

The impeccable standard of sportsmanship displayed by both of these gentlemen (and I use the word unreservedly) throughout the evening reflected great credit on themselves and the League and were an excellent advert for all that is best in our sport.

Alan Timewell

Dear Jack,

I feel compelled to write to you on the subject of the rescue of the Liverpool League. I have been involved in five of the clubs in the league at some stage or another, two of these being Cadwa and English Electric who are some of the stalwarts of the league and yet I find there is still a feeling of apathy in the attitude in a lot of the older members.

About ten years ago in my Secretary's report at Cadwa, I Suggested that all our members should become ambassadors for the league and try to encourage or cajole new players for the good of Cadwa at the time, but now I feel this is paramount to our league cause.

We have lost the likes of Frank Murphy, Gordon Brownlee, Eric Taylor and more recently Don Cameron – marvellous characters in their own right and dedicated to table tennis whether it be in playing or administration, and yet we still continue to be totally oblivious of the fact that numbers are declining.

It's a marvellous game but, why oh why can't we be more positive and constructive and try to attract more young players into the game. When we do bring new players in competitively and socially, lets just enjoy the evening. I can't help believing that in five year's time, we'll be down to three divisions.

I have also been playing in the Widnes League first division this season – they are really struggling as well.

So I put it to the members of the league, do you know anyone at all who might play table tennis at any standard for goodness sake try and get them interested – hopefully it won't be you place they take! At least you will have done your bit for the league and our game.

Yours sincerely,  
Trevor Hughes

DIVISION 1	P	W	L	D	PTS
WAVERTREE LABOUR	15	11	2	2	113
LIVERPOOL Y.M.C.A.	15	12	2	1	107
CADWA	14	11	1	2	96
ELECTRIC SUPPLY	12	10	2	0	84
WAVERTREE LAB 'A'	17	6	8	3	81
BATH STREET	16	5	10	1	70
BOOTLE J.C.	13	6	5	2	61
COLONSAY	13	4	6	3	61
L'POOL Y.M.C.A. 'A'	15	3	11	1	47
G.P.T.	16	1	13	2	41
ENGLISH ELEC.	12	1	10	1	29

DIVISION 4	P	W	L	D	PTS
ELECTRIC SUPPLY 'B'	16	15	0	1	122
MAGHULL 'A'	16	14	1	1	121*
WAVERTREE LAB. 'D'	15	11	4	0	105*
BATH ST. 'C'	15	12	3	0	103*
HAROLD HOUSE 'A'	14	7	5	2	76
CADWA 'C'	16	4	10	2	66
WATERLOO 'A'	15	2	9	4	60
MAGHULL 'B'	14	6	8	0	60*
G.P.T. 'D'	15	4	10	1	55
BOOTLE Y.M.C.A. 'A'	16	1	14	1	33
HAROLD HOUSE 'B'	14	1	13	0	29+

DIVISION 2	P	W	L	D	PTS
CADWA 'A'	16	14	1	1	128
G.P.T. 'B'	18	14	4	0	116
G.P.T. 'A'	18	10	4	4	109
BOOTLE J.C. 'A'	17	11	3	3	103
ENGLISH ELEC 'A'	16	7	8	1	84
FORDS	18	5	9	4	83
COLONSAY 'B'	17	6	9	2	74
POLICE	15	7	4	4	68
HAROLD HOUSE	15	5	9	1	67
BATH ST. 'A'	17	3	12	2	60
WATERLOO	17	3	13	1	60
COLONSAY 'A'	16	3	12	1	48

DIVISION 5	P	W	L	D	PTS
BATH STREET 'D'	16	13	2	1	129
UNIVERSITY	13	13	0	0	113
WAVERTREE LAB. 'E'	14	10	3	1	89
AKBURTH	14	8	4	2	85
BOOTLE Y.M.C.A. 'B'	15	6	3	6	85
MAGHULL 'C'	16	6	6	4	80
MERSEYBUS	12	7	5	0	68
BATH ST. 'E'	14	5	6	3	67
POLICE 'B'	16	1	13	2	50
L.I.H.E.	10	1	8	1	34
WATERLOO 'B'	15	3	12	0	30
HAROLD HOUSE 'C'	15	2	13	0	10

DIVISION 3	P	W	L	D	PTS
BOOTLE J.C. 'B'	15	12	1	2	115
BATH ST. 'B'	16	12	2	2	105
ELECTRIC SUPPLY 'A'	16	11	3	2	98
BOOTLE Y.M.C.A.	16	8	5	3	92
CADWA 'B'	16	9	6	1	88
MAGHULL	14	9	3	2	88
WAVERTREE LAB. 'C'	15	5	10	0	64
G.P.T. 'C'	17	3	12	2	58
POLICE 'A'	17	2	14	1	52
WAVERTREE LAB. 'B'	14	3	10	1	50
LINACRE	14	2	10	2	40

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Note \* 1 point added, + 3 points deducted ineligible player.

Secretaries should note that the last day for playing matches is Saturday, 3rd April. Any matches not played by this date will result in 0-10 walk overs against the home team. 3 walk overs will expel teams from division. Expelled teams may apply for re-entry in Division 5 only.

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