

# CROWBOROUGH TABLE TENNIS CLUB

([www.crowboroughttc.org.uk](http://www.crowboroughttc.org.uk))

## NEWSLETTER No. 27 - DECEMBER 2012

### EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Bit of a lull now that the excitement of the Summer is over, and it seems to have extended to our Club. Membership is at the lowest level for several years and Friday Club Nights seem unable to attract fresh faces, although it is encouraging that there are several junior players turning up regularly.

The Wealden League is at the half-way stage and there is a report below on our Team's performances so far this season.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, we have played two friendly matches against Hailsham during the summer and many thanks are due to Phil B, both for organising and for the report (see below) on those matches. Any more contributors!?

May I, on behalf of the Committee, wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

### CLUB NIGHTS

These continue to take place every Friday night from 8pm at Jarvis Brook. Why not turn up for a social game or two?

### CLUB SHIRTS

There are still a few FOR SALE if you missed the original order. We have two polos available, costing £9 and two fleeces in large size at £18.50. Contact John Sidey, details below, if you would like one.

### ANNUAL CLUB TOURNAMENT

In the last few years, this has taken place in December. It will now be held at the end of the league season - dates to be advised later.

### WEALDEN LEAGUE 2012/13

The Wealden Season commenced in October. Disappointingly there are only eight teams and it was sad to see that Five Ashes had to withdraw at the last moment, after many years competing in the League.

Our 'A' side has won all its games and is currently top of the table with 159 points from 6 matches. One of their wins, however, was extremely close with our team snatching victory by 21-20 over Ridgewood 'A'.

The 'B' team sits in fourth place with 92 points, having won two of its six games. There have been good wins over Broad Oak 'B' and Ridgewood 'C' and an extremely good 17-all draw against Herstmonceux 'A'. Although the all Crowborough clash resulted in defeat by our 'A' Team, the 'B's scored 11 points, which was a good effort.

As always results and other information can be seen on the website:

[www.wttl2009.leaguerepublic.com](http://www.wttl2009.leaguerepublic.com)

### MEDIA SNIPPET

Dan Lawrence, who is only 15 years old, from Tonbridge and Byng Hall Clubs has won his first national title.

Partnering Igor Morais from Middlesex, Dan took the junior (U18) boys' doubles at the Butterfly Cadet and Junior National Championships.

This was a great achievement as the pairing beat both the top and second seeds on their way to the title.

## **MATCHES V HAILSHAM**

Crow' v Hailsham      Friendly TT matches

This was an away match played on 17/9/12 and was a follow on to a summer fixture at home. On that occasion we were at full strength and both our teams scored full points. It is as well to mention that our contact at Hailsham, Tim Hanford, had to guess at the playing standards to find suitable players. The match was enjoyed by all and it was refreshing to play against unknowns.

The return was a bit different, the same players for us were not available but two teams were put together in the nick of time and it was down to me to make all the arrangements.

Over the phone Tim confirmed he had two stronger teams at the ready, whilst we had two weaker ones. Just for the record A team was John N, Nick D, Steve H. B side: Phil B, Julian L, Greg S.

The venue was a far cry from village halls; it was a large sports hall in full swing. The noise was unusually loud as six tables were in play and wait for it, four large trampolines in use by mostly sports clad teenage girls. (The things we have to cope with!)

The home team had been playing games for half an hour; their time is 7 to 10pm. We got under way straight away.

Results A: Nick 5pts including a good win. John 4 (I think) and Steve 1. One of their players was particularly accomplished. Strong win for away. I remember that John later approached me with a serious demeanour and thrust a crumpled score sheet into my palm saying "I'm afraid this doesn't make good reading".

B: myself 6pts 2 wins. Julian same, Greg 1pt. Match incomplete with two singles still to play. I made the score 14/13 to them but they assured us it was a draw. Playing in the right sequence was interfered with as away players disappeared and were replaced by others thus we faced 5 players in all. Also their score card was small; it seemed smaller than a postcard and had a different layout with micro type. However we all approved of the game scoring system in use consisting of printed cards that one simply flipped over to register a point. This looked to be the business and would be worth considering for our league.

Sitting out did not include chairs, only long low sports benches which were not comfortable though the trampoline scenery provided some interesting distraction!

All too soon time was called at 10pm and that was that, how do they complete any matches? Anyway it was all worth it.

Last thoughts; in my time at the club there have been no summer friendlies, now that a link has been established it was proposed that a repeat would follow next summer.

Incidentally the initial link to the Hailsham club was through John Sidey. There may be further possibilities if anyone has contacts at other clubs.

**Summer Match Captain      Philip Boghurst**

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