

CROWBOROUGH TABLE TENNIS CLUB

(www.crowboroughttc.org.uk)

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

A bit of a lull now that the League Season is over, but social and more serious play continues during the Summer (I'm sure it's coming!) at Club Nights.

We're hoping, again, to arrange a friendly match with Hailsham and the Club's AGM is coming up (see below).

The Wealden League season is now completed and our two teams have had a successful 2012/13. Many thanks to Mick D and Phil B for their reports on how their teams did. (see below also).

Whatever you're doing during the next few months, enjoy, and you can still continue to get a game in if you want.

CLUB AGM

Advance notice that the Club's Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, 10 June. This is an important Meeting and it would be great to have a good attendance this year.

Look out for more information soon.

WAITROSE COMMUNITY SCHEME

If you shop at Waitrose in Crowborough, please consider putting your green token in the CTTC box in their July scheme, which we are fortunate to be included in - thanks.

ANNUAL CLUB TOURNAMENT

The Committee has now decided to delay the Tournament until near the start of the new Wealden Season, so watch out for dates in September, to be advised.

CLUB SHIRTS

There are still a few FOR SALE if you missed the original order. We have two polos available, costing £5 and two fleeces in large size at £15. Contact John Sidey, details below, if you would like one.

WEALDEN LEAGUE 2012/13

'A' TEAM: Although, at the time of writing, there are still a few outstanding matches to be played, Crowborough 'A' has an unassailable lead at the top of the table, and will retain the League championship they won last season.

This time round, however, it was a much closer contest with Ridgewood 'A' and Broad Oak 'A' pushing us all the way. The 2 matches with Ridgewood were particularly competitive, with our 'A' team coming out on top by 21-20 in the first match, and 19-16 in the return. In fact, for a while, Ridgewood had the better points total, despite these 2 defeats, and it looked as if Crowborough could lose the league title, although they had won every game!!

In the end, however, it was the matches against Herstmonceux which proved decisive, with our 'A' team recording 2 victories against them, whereas Ridgewood managed only to win one and lose one. Over the season as a whole, our 'A' team went undefeated, and it was their strength in depth which saw them through to the title, with all 4 players able to score good points in the critical games.

If next season proves as competitive as this one, the league could become a very close run thing, as there are now no really weak teams offering easy points. This should make for some exciting table tennis matches! (Mick D)

WEALDEN LEAGUE 2012/13 (Con't)

'B' TEAM: The team players consisted of a four man squad; they were Nick, Phil, Steve and Julian, with a couple of reserves. Nick had a previous out season and was keen to return so his inclusion was a very welcome addition to overall strength.

With a view to helping standards I had introduced some stroke and service routines during summer play. These proved a popular diversion and did no harm at all. So we were all geared up to put it into practise.

We started off with a friendly v Hailsham which turned out to be something of a surreal experience, but was anyhow a match none the less.

Unfortunately it was at this time for me that a minor summer injury had suddenly worsened to serious proportions. The League began and I played three matches with difficulty but then withdrew with a compound hamstring injury. My season was in complete meltdown now and thus I became one of the best armchair players in the country. Steve now accepted the shop floor captain's role and did a good job with playing and keeping me up to date with results.

We were informed of team news; Five Ashes withdrew which was a shame and left a team short. Luckily, as if to redress the balance, Ridgewood had been busy in their hall and had manufactured a 'C' team from spare parts. For the record Hurstmonceux carbon copied last year by not playing a return match.

As for how the matches went, I was an occasional spectator but results say it all. With 5 wins, 6 losses and 2 draws the team placed a well deserved fourth and everyone's playing averages increased. The last match, as it happened, was versus our 'A' team who were the league leaders and eventual winners. (well done to them). I brought my armchair to this one. The match was played with good humour and spirit and I guess the outcome was already prophesied. Anyway the 'B' side did not mean to be completely hammered into submission

this time and made quite a scrap of it. Points and a few wins even were taken. Final score 13-27.

Concluding then, I would have liked to offer more depth on performances, individual and otherwise but cannot for obvious reasons, Last comment: all looking well for next time then. (Phil B)

Final Positions:

Crowborough 'A'	366 points
Ridgewood 'A'	302 points
Broad Oak 'A'	277 points
Crowborough 'B'	252 points
Ridgewood 'B'	181 points
Herstmonceux 'A'	175 points
Ridgewood 'C'	171 points
Broad Oak 'B'	107 points

(As Mick mentioned, there were a few matches unplayed - ED).

MEDIA SNIPPETS

WILL BAYLEY

Will, who won a silver medal at last year's Paralympic Games, is now based at Sheffield's English Institute of Sport with stars such as Jessica Ennis and is already preparing for gold in Rio 2106. However, he has recently been back in Tunbridge Wells training at the Byng Hall Table Tennis Club.

ENGLAND RATINGS

Brother and Sister Lewis and Daniella Gray, from Benenden, both members of the Weald Table Tennis Club based in Cranbrook, have reached their highest respective England rankings in the latest national lists. Lewis in at number 14 in the senior men's, whilst 17-year old Daniella is at 16 in the junior (U18) girls.

CLUB NIGHTS

These continue to take place every Friday night from 8pm at Jarvis Brook. And, now that the League season is over, also on Mondays.

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