



CIPPENHAM NEWS

Official Newsletter of Cippenham Table Tennis Club : February 2024 : No. 245

WBL divisional title secured

The Cippenham first team, comprising three junior players, did just enough to hold on to their lead in Division 3 of the Women's British League. They went into the second half of matches, staged at Wolverhampton, two points ahead of second-placed Worthing after an impeccable first weekend that had seen them win all five matches.

Cippenham consolidated their lead in the first match on Saturday morning when they beat bottom team Graham Spicer. Rachael Iles and Mia Lakhani both won their two matches while Anna Piercey lost to Chui-Que Wong but beat Michelle McGovern. The following two matches on Saturday proved disappointing. Rachael, who had an unbeaten run of twelve wins up to that point, mysteriously failed to win any of her four encounters across those two matches. Mia and Anna won one each in both matches but two 2-4 defeats to Greenhouse and Loop Dublin seemed to have dented Cippenham's title aspirations. By Saturday evening Worthing had leap-frogged Cippenham into top spot but with the two teams having to play each other on Sunday afternoon it was all still to play for.

Cippenham faced Colebridge on Sunday morning and got off to the perfect start as Mia beat Lisa Rinnhofer 3-0 and Rachael dispatched Debs Barrow 3-1. Anna then lost to Hanne Pui Yu Chui but Rachael won a tight five-gamer over Rinnhofer to put Cippenham 3-1 up. Cippenham's nerves jangled as Mia lost 11-9 in the deciding game to Chui and so it was left to Anna to beat Barrow to give Cippenham those all-important two points. This she did 3-1 but Cippenham were left still two points behind Worthing with the crucial decider to come.

Cippenham knew that they needed to beat Worthing in the final match if they were to claim the divisional title. Worthing had won all bar one of their matches so far, their only defeat inflicted in the first weekend by Cippenham. Mia Lakhani got Cippenham off to the start they needed, beating Lok Sze Sum 3-1 and this lead was extended when Rachael Iles eased past the experienced Sally Hughes 3-0. Hopes



Table Tennis England director Sally Hughes with the victorious Cippenham team: (l-r) Anna Piercey; Rachael Iles; Mia Lakhani

were high as Anna Piercey won the first two games in her clash with Holly Holder but Holder retrieved the situation and eventually won 3-2. Luckily for Cippenham, it mattered not as Rachael and Mia beat Sum and Holder respectively both 3-0 to give Cippenham the match-winning score they needed and the title was theirs. Anna led Hughes 2-1 at one stage of the final set but eventually lost 13-11 in the fifth to make the final match score 4-2 in Cippenham's favour.

Meanwhile, the Cippenham second team, comprised of veteran players, were operating in Division 4. Over the weekend they won two and lost three of their five matches but still managed to move up one place in the table from fourth to third. Cippenham started with a 5-1 victory over Jersey but the island team were handicapped by having only two players present. Mary Heffernan and Sue Hayes won the matches they played, the solitary loss coming when Holly McNamara beat Julie Dean. There then followed three defeats against Youngs 5-1, Ackworth 6-0 and Halton third team 4-2.

However, the final match of the league season brought some cheer as Cippenham beat Sutton at Hone 5-1 with Mary and Sue winning two each and Julie only faltering by the narrowest of margins in the final set.

Women's British League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Division 3							
Cippenham 1	10	8	0	2	42	18	16
Worthing TTC	10	8	0	2	30	21	16
Loop Dublin	10	5	1	4	32	28	11
Greenhouse 1	10	4	1	5	26	34	9
Colebridge TTC 2	10	4	0	6	28	32	8
Graham Spicer TTC	10	0	0	10	13	47	0

Division 4							
Ackworth TTC	10	9	1	0	48	12	19
Youngs TTC	10	6	2	2	38	22	14
Cippenham 2	10	4	1	5	30	30	9
Halton TTC 3	10	3	2	5	28	32	8
Jersey	10	3	2	5	25	35	8
Sutton	10	0	2	8	11	49	2

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Cippenham 1				
Rachael Iles	10	20	16	80
Mia Lakhani	10	20	16	80
Anna Piercey	10	20	10	50
Cippenham 2				
Mary Heffernan	10	20	12	60
Denise Weller	1	2	1	50
Sue Hayes	10	19	8	42
Julie Dean	9	17	7	41

Results:

Cippenham 1	Cippenham 2
5-1 Graham Spicer TTC	5-1 Jersey
2-4 Greenhouse 1	1-5 Youngs TTC
2-4 Loop Dublin	0-6 Ackworth TTC
4-2 Colebridge TTC 2	2-4 Halton TTC 3
4-2 Worthing TTC	5-1 Sutton

Double for Rachael at W&G

With an entry exceeding expectations and nearly double that of last year's inaugural tournament, the Cippenham Women & Girls' 1-Star Open proved an enormous success both for the club and for one of its star players. The tournament was part of an initiative by Table Tennis England to encourage greater female participation in the sport and judging by this weekend is well on course to achieve its objective.

The successful Cippenham player was Rachael Iles as the sixteen-year old won both events available to her, the Under-21 Singles in the morning followed by the Open Singles in the afternoon. In both finals she beat Greenhouse's Parmis Ahsani but how Ahsani must rue the six match points that came and went in the final match of the day.

Entrants were split into two age groups for the morning events: under-21 and over-21. This, when coupled with the later Open Singles, permitted all players to have two events during the course of the day.

The twenty entrants for the Under-21 Singles were arranged into six groups, the winners being Rachael Iles, Parmis Ahsani, Anna Piercey, Luna Archard, Evie Knaapen and Jonabel Taguibao. Second-placed players were also included in the main event but none made it through the first of the knock-out rounds. Only Cippenham's Anna Piercey of the top three seeds failed to make their allotted places in the semi-finals, Anna having been eliminated in the quarters by Taguibao, who was then beaten by Ahsani for the place in the final. At the top half of the draw Rachael was making short work of Valerie Lysikova and Archard and then won her first event of the day, coming back from a game down to defeat Ahsani 12-10 in the fourth.

Meanwhile the sixteen entrants in the Over-21 Singles were arranged into four groups with the winners being Sally Hughes, Kinga Oryl, Rita Lopes and Chloe Ireland. Top seed Sally Hughes beat Holly Holder in the first round but then, injured, conceded to scratch entry Ridhi Rohit after being two games up in her semi-final. Rohit had beaten Chloe Ireland in her quarter-final match between two Slough residents. In the bottom half of the draw, Gabriela Tankel beat Rita Lopes and Kinga Oryl beat Donna Hammond to set up a semi-final which Tankel won. Tankel then went on



Double champion Rachael Iles in action at the event

to win an extremely well contested final against Rohit 16-18, 11-7, 10-12, 11-9, 12-10.

Both age groups came together to contest the Open Singles in the afternoon with thirty-six players arranged into eleven groups. The final pairing of Rachael Iles and Parmis Ahsani was their second meeting of the day, having met in the Under-21 event in the morning. Rachael once again prevailed but it was a really close-run thing with Ahsani leading 2-1 and 10-6 and then 10-8 in the fifth but somehow Rachael's fighting spirit, which has never been in doubt, secured her all six match points and the title that had narrowly eluded her the previous year.

Prior to that, Rachael had seen off challenges from Rita Lopes, Jonabel Taguibao and, in the semi-final, Rushi Rohit. Parmis had dismissed Donna Hammond, Gabriela Tankel and Evie Knaapen while the other quarter-finalists were Anna Piercey and Valerie Lysikova.

The tournament was organised by Elena Tant and refereed by Sue Hayes.

Cippenham Women & Girls' 1-Star Open Results

Event	Winner	Runner-up
OS	Rachael Iles (Bu)	Parmis Ahsani (Mi)
O21S	Gabriela Tankel (He)	Ridhi Rohit (Bu)
U21S	Rachael Iles (Bu)	Parmis Ahsani (Mi)
OCon	Luna Archard (Mi)	Chloe Evans (K)
O21Con	Nadia Sprung (Mi)	Juste Nevar (Wa)
U21Con	Freya Allaway (JEY)	Emilie Fray (Mi)

Team Open produces Perfect Match

The seventeenth annual running of the Cippenham Team 1-Star Open was once again an enormous success. This competition, devised by Cippenham Table Tennis Club, allows for teams of two rather than individual players and, after the preliminary round groups, features a progressive knock-out format that produces a final ranking list of all twenty-four teams.

The ultimate winners were the Perfect Match combination of Mircea Neagu and Ewelina Sychta. They eased their way through the draw with a near perfect record, Neagu remaining unbeaten throughout while Sychta lost only once to Gabriela Tankel in the first progres-

sive knock-out round. Tankel remained one of only three players to remain unbeaten throughout the day as, apart from Neagu, only Kiarash Shaddel had a similar record.

Of the Cippenham players that took part, Jamie Woodford had the best return with six wins from eight matches, George Driscoll five out of eight, Sai Prasanna Kumar five out of nine and Bharath Prasanna Kumar three out of eight.

Cippenham Team 1-Star Open Results

Winners: Perfect Match (Mircea Neagu & Ewelina Sychta)
Runners-up: Devon's Finest (Kevin Nicholls & Simon James)

CIPPENHAM NEWS

Junior and cadet leagues day 3

National Junior League (Round 3)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Division 1							
Graham Spicer A	3	3	0	0	22	5	22
Cippenham A	3	2	0	1	13	14	13
Graham Spicer B	3	1	0	2	10	17	10
Chiltern A	3	0	0	3	9	18	9
Division 2							
Kidlington Forum A	3	3	0	0	26	1	26
EBATT	3	2	0	1	14	13	14
Ashford A	3	1	0	2	11	16	11
Cippenham B	3	0	0	3	3	24	3
Division 6							
Ashford D	3	3	0	0	21	6	21
Cippenham C	3	2	0	1	21	6	21
Warren Spring B	3	1	0	2	11	16	11
Warren Spring C	3	0	0	3	1	26	1

Players' Averages (cumulative):

	M	P	W	Av
Cippenham A				
Matthew Ley	9	27	18	67
Sai Prasanna Kumar	9	27	16	59
Bharath Prasanna Kumar	9	27	15	56
Cippenham B				
Jack Dennis	3	9	7	78
Samuel Wolfenden	6	18	5	28
Henry Wojcik	9	27	0	0
Edward Meacock	3	9	0	0
Ankust Srinivas	3	9	0	0
Daniel Brazil	2	6	0	0
Cippenham C				
Arman Hafeez	6	17	14	82
Ankush Srinivas	3	9	7	78
Arjun Prasanna Kumar	9	26	20	77
Yaseen Abdelbary	3	8	4	50
Aryan Sharma	3	9	4	44
Christopher Farrall	2	6	1	17

Results:

Cippenham A	Cippenham B
0-9 Graham Spicer A	0-9 Kidlington Forum A
7-2 Graham Spicer B	1-8 EBATT
6-3 Chiltern A	2-7 Ashford A
Cippenham C	
8-1 Warren Spring B	4-5 Ashford D
9-0 Warren Spring C	

Cippenham A retained their second place in Division 1 of the National Junior League on day three despite an emphatic 9-0 loss to divisional leaders Graham Spicer A in the final match. Earlier on, the A team had beaten Chiltern A 6-3, and 7-2 against Graham Spicer B. Sai won all three in the latter match while Bharath and Matthew Ley won two each.

The Cippenham B team, having dropped down to Division 2 following withdrawal of players in the previous round, were once again weakened and finished bottom of their new division. They lost all three matches: 2-7 to Ashford A, 1-8 to EBATT and 0-9 to Kidlington Form A who romped away with the division. Only Samuel Wolfenden won

any matches with Edward Meacock and Henry Wojcik drawing a blank.

The Cippenham C team, however, had a better time of it in Division 6, finishing level on points at the top of the table with Ashford D but lost out on promotion by virtue of their 4-5 loss against the Staines-based team. They won their two other matches easily against the two Warren Spring teams, 8-1 against the B team and 9-0 against the C team. Arman Hafeez had a great day winning all eight of his matches while Arjun Prasanna Kumar won six and Yaseen Abdelbary, on debut in this league, won half of his eight. The three Cippenham players shared the honours with one player of the match award each.

The Cippenham A team of Bharath and Sai Prasanna Kumar together with Aarav Seth finished in their customary position in the National Cadet League of second in Division 1, a place they have occupied after all three sessions to date. However, the B team, after finishing second in Division 5 last time, just before Christmas, fell from grace and finished last and will therefore drop down into Division 6 when the competition concludes in March.

Bharath won eight of his nine matches while brother Sai won seven times as Cippenham A beat Rosehill and Graham Spicer B both 6-3 but lost to divisional leaders Graham Spicer A 3-6. Unfortunately, Aarav has yet to register a win this season and we hope he can break this duck in the final session.

The B team really fell apart this time, losing all three matches to Kingfisher E 3-6, Chiltern C 2-7 and Bourne End Junior Sports Club A 1-8. Daniel Brazil won three of his nine matches while Christopher Farrall won twice and Yaseen Abdelbary once.

National Cadet League (Round 3)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Division 1							
Graham Spicer A	3	3	0	0	20	7	20
Cippenham A	3	2	0	1	15	12	15
Rosehill	3	1	0	2	12	15	12
Graham Spicer B	3	0	0	3	7	20	7
Division 5							
Chiltern C	3	2	0	1	17	10	17
Kingfisher E	3	3	0	0	16	11	16
Bourne End JSC A	3	1	0	2	15	12	15
Cippenham B	3	0	0	3	6	21	6

Players' Averages (cumulative):

	M	P	W	Av
Cippenham A				
Bharath Prasanna Kumar	9	27	25	93
Sai Prasanna Kumar	9	27	18	67
Aarav Seth	9	27	0	0
Cippenham B				
Daniel Brazil	9	27	16	59
Christopher Farrall	9	27	12	44
Yaseen Abdelbary	9	27	5	19

Results:

Cippenham A	Cippenham B
6-3 Rosehill	1-8 Bourne End JSC A
3-6 Graham Spicer A	3-6 Kingfisher E
6-3 Graham Spicer B	2-7 Chiltern C

Cippenham captain Denise Weller for the VETTS Super 60s team competition was unfortunately injured and not able to participate this year and so Scottish player Senga Thomson was recruited along with Hampshire's Celia Hooker to make up a four-player team. Mary Heffernan was, for the second season, Cippenham's most successful player, winning all eight of her individual matches. Sue Hayes won six out of eight, Senga four out of six and Celia four out of eight.

The two-day event started on Saturday morning during which Cippenham started immaculately, beating The Lady Charm 6-0. The lunchtime match provided another win, this time 5-1 over JMS with Mary and Senga each scored a brace. However, the winning run came to an end when Cippenham were beaten 4-2 by divisional winners Swerve Movers. Bottom-placed Rugby Rebels were easily defeated 6-0 on Sunday morning and so the final match became a shoot-out for second place against The Supremes. When Cippenham led 3-1, it looked as if Cippenham could repeat the runners-up spot they held in the competition's inaugural season. However, the 3-3 result condemned Cippenham to third spot behind their opponents.

VETTS Super 60s Team Comp

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Women's Division 2							
Swerve Movers	5	4	1	0	25	5	9
The Supremes	5	3	2	0	20	10	8
Cippenham	5	3	1	1	22	8	7
JMS	5	1	1	3	12	18	3
The Lady Charm	5	1	1	3	11	19	3
Rugby Rebels	5	0	0	5	0	30	0

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Mary Heffernan	4	8	8	100
Sue Hayes	4	8	6	75
Senga Thomson	3	6	4	67
Celia Hooker	4	8	4	50

Results:

6-0 The Lady Charm	6-0 Rugby Rebels
5-1 JMS	3-3 The Supremes
2-4 Swerve Movers	

CIPPENHAM NEWS

Key Club Contacts

Chairman, Head Coach & Coaching Officer
Ken Phillips : 07951 781151

General Secretary & Treasurer
Graham Trimming : 07903 335367

Deputy Chairman, Bookings Officer & Maidenhead League Captain

Elena Tant: 07946 227098

Welfare Officer
Sue Hayes: 07716 821171

Weekend Diary

Feb 3/4	County Championships
Feb 11	Level 1 coaching course
Feb 24	National Junior League (4)
Mar 10	National Cadet League (4)
Mar 17	Reading Closed Championships
Mar 23	Maidenhead Closed Championships
Apr 6/7	Senior British League (4)
Apr 13	County Championships
Jun 29/30	Cippenham Young Players' Summer Fest

Weekday Timetable

Mon	18:00	Beginners' Coaching Group (<i>term time</i>)
	19:45	Advanced Coaching Group (<i>term time</i>)
Tues	19:15	Maidenhead League matches (<i>seasonal</i>)
	19:15	Practice tables
Weds	19:30	Elite Coaching Group (<i>term time</i>)
Thurs	19:15	Maidenhead League matches (<i>seasonal</i>)
	19:15	Practice tables

Fees Season 2023-24

	Full	Conc'n
Annual Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£18.00	£9.00
Family Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£30.00	n/a
National Junior League registration	n/a	£12.00
National Cadet League registration	n/a	£12.00
Practice Fees	£4.00	£2.00
British League match fees	£5.00	
Maidenhead League Match Fees	£4.00	£2.00
Coaching Fees (Monday) (per term)		£25.00
Coaching Fees (Wednesday) (per term)		£35.00

Special award for Sue



Sally Hughes, a recently appointed director of Table Tennis England, was on hand at the Cippenham Women & Girls' Open to make a long-awaited presentation to Sue Hayes. This was all to do with the 2022 Pride of Table Tennis Awards, decided in March 2023, and was a special award from the panel for Sue's contribution to table tennis over a great many years. The nomination for Sue was made by the Buckinghamshire County Table Tennis Association for which Sue is currently General Secretary and National Councillor. Of course, we know Sue better for her quarter of a century help in making Cippenham the club it is today with her selfless work in coaching, event organisation and refereeing, and general administration.

Well done, Sue, richly deserved!



<https://www.facebook.com/cippenhamttc>



<http://twitter.com/cippenhamttc>



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/cippenhamttc>

Published by Cippenham Table Tennis Club, 1 February 2024
Edited by Graham Trimming, Rosemount, Juniper Lane, Wooburn Green, Bucks, HP10 0DE
All photographs © Cippenham TTC, except if/where noted

Cippenham Table Tennis Club

**Cippenham Table Tennis Centre,
The Westgate School,
Cippenham Lane, Cippenham,
Slough, Berks, SL1 5AH
www.cippenhamttc.co.uk**

Cippenham Table Tennis Club - Building A Future For Players Of All Ages And All Abilities