CIPPENHAM TABLE TENNIS CLUB

CIPPENHAM NEWS

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Successful start for youth teams

Cippenham's trip to Derby Arena for the first weekend of matches in the Youth British Clubs League proved reasonably successful. Both teams currently sit second in their respective divisions.

The Cippenham girls' team are playing for the third consecutive year in the Premier Division. However, two of the original three local players are now over age and so replacements, one from Devon and one from Warwickshire, have been recruited to partner Mia Lakhani.

Cippenham commenced the weekend with a great 5-1 result against Greenhouse, the London-based powerhouse of table tennis. Alyssa Nguyen, ranked fourth in the national junior girls' rankings, and Charlotte LokChing Wong both won twice while Mia lost only when Cippenham were already 5-0 up. They fared even better in the afternoon match against Belfast-based Ormeau. Once Mia had dismissed the challenge of Grace Looney 16-14 in the fifth game after being two games down, and Alyssa had made the score 2-0, it was all Cippenham as their opponents failed to register a single additional game.

However, losses by Alyssa to England's fifth and sixth ranked players, Eva Eccles and Hannah Saunders, tempered only by wins for Mia and Charlotte against Maja Wojcicka brought Cippenham down to earth with a 2-4 defeat in their third match against Grantham Academy.

Sunday morning brought Cippenham's second defeat, this time against divisional leaders London Academy. In a reversal of roles from the previous evening, this time it was Alyssa who won twice for Cippenham in the 2-4 defeat when getting the better of Sienna Jetha and Naomi Coker, ranked higher than her at two and three in the national standings.



Mia Lakhani; Charlotte Wong; Alyssa Nguyen

The weekend finished with a flourish with a 4-2 win over Draycott. This time it was Mia who led the way with wins against Millie Noble and Lily Walters while Alyssa and Charlotte contributed one apiece. The weekend finished with Alyssa having won seven of her ten matches while Mia and Charlotte won six each. Mia was rewarded for her efforts as she was acclaimed the girls' player of the weekend, the second time that she had been honoured in this way.

Meanwhile, elsewhere in the same Derby venue, the Cippenham boys' team remained undefeated in Division 5, winning four and drawing one of their five matches. Sai Prasanna Kumar, immediately before his inclusion in the World Hopes Week this week, led the team with a perfect record of ten out of ten in his individual matches. Naturally, this feat led to Sai being adjudged player of the match in all five of his team's matches. Three weeks earlier Sai had also been unbeaten for his team in the Senior British Clubs League and is therefore, as yet, undefeated while playing for Cippenham this season. His teammates, brother Bharath Prasanna Kumar and Louis Alexander weighed in with five wins each.

The weekend began with a 4-2 victory over Brittania Ipswich. Louis and Bharath both defeated Hamish Cookson to add to the two matches won by Sai. Exactly the same formula was applied to the afternoon match with Joola Plymouth 2. The Saturday evening match saw Cippenham go one better with a 5-1 victory over Graham Spicer, the New Malden-based club, as a result of Louis winning twice in this match.

The only slight glitch for Cippenham came on Sunday morning when they were held to a 3-3 draw by divisional leaders Halton. This was a very competitive match in which three of the five sets were decided in the fifth game and both sides claimed two each. The only encounter which ended 3-0 was Bharath's decisive win over Lok Hei Lam.

Sai's perfect weekend concluded with another brace as he led his team to victory, 4-2, in the final match against Grantham Academy 3. Louis and Bharath also won once each to leave Cippenham well placed in the eight-team division with two of the lower teams left to play next time around.

Vets Men's Team Start Well

Two weeks after the commencement of the new British Clubs Leagues season it was the turn of the veterans when Cippenham's three teams made their way to Derby for the weekend. It turned out to be an excellent first weekend for the men's first team but the second men's team and the women's team fared less well.

Due to availability issues the men's first team were forced to recruit a reinforcement at short notice and this came in the form of Steven Gray, a player from Cambridgeshire, who exceeded expectations to win six of his ten matches. Pride of place, however, goes to Robert Hansell who shone through to remain unbeaten across the entire weekend and was the driving force behind the overall second place at the halfway stage in Division 1A, his team finishing just a single point behind the leaders.

Men's Division 1A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Custom Deighton	5	4	0	1	19	11	8
Cippenham 1	5	3	1	1	20	10	7
PPong Jarek TT	5	2	1	2	17	13	5
Stocksbridge	5	2	1	2	17	13	5
Foresters B	5	2	0	3	12	18	4
Nailsworth Phoenix	5	0	1	4	5	25	1
Men's Division 2A	**P**	**W**	**D**	**L**	**F**	**A**	**Pts**
Cutnall Green	5	4	1	0	20	10	9
Wensum	5	3	1	1	17	13	7
Foresters C	5	2	1	2	17	13	5
Newton Abbot TTC	5	2	1	2	15	15	5
Topspin Fusion 2	5	1	2	2	14	16	4
Cippenham 2	5	0	0	5	7	23	0
Women's Division 2	**P**	**W**	**D**	**L**	**F**	**A**	**Pts**
Ellenborough 2	5	5	0	0	22	8	10
Foresters 3	5	4	0	1	20	10	8
Ashford	5	3	0	2	15	15	5
Irish Colleens	5	0	2	3	12	18	2
Cippenham	5	0	2	3	11	19	2
Billwood	5	0	2	3	10	20	2

Players - Men 1	M	P	W	Av
Robert Hansell	5	10	10	100
Steve Gray	5	10	6	60
Martin Adams	5	10	4	40
Players - Men 2	**M**	**P**	**W**	**Av**
Steve Joel	4	8	3	38
Samson Bekele	4	8	3	38
Hari Gehlot	4	8	1	13
Maciej Dlugozima	3	6	0	0
Players – Women	**M**	**P**	**W**	**Av**
Denise Weller	5	9	5	56
Mary Heffernan	5	10	3	30
Julie Dean	5	9	1	11

Results - Men 1	
Stocksbridge	4-2
Foresters B	5-1
Nailsworth Phoenix	3-3
Custom Deighton	6-0
PPong Jarek TT	2-4
Results - Men 2	
Wensum	2-4
Newton Abbot TTC	1-5
Topspin Fusion 2	1-5
Foresters C	1-5
Cutnall Green	2-4
Results – Women	
Foresters 3	2-4
Ashford	2-4
Irish Colleens	3-3
Ellenborough 2	1-5
Billwood	3-3

Things started nervously against Yorkshire's Stocksbridge with team captain Martin Adams losing out to Michael Stead and Robert having to save a match point against Richard Smith at 0-2 and 9-10. However, he passed this particular test with flying colours. Steven, on debut, dispensed of Dave Charlton and Martin followed up with victory over Smith. Rob then secured a 3-0 win over over Charlton and the match finished with a 4-2 in Cippenham's favour.

Things got even better in the team's second match against Foresters B as, despite Martin losing out to Peter Stahlman, but making up for it by overturning Stuart MacIntyre, Rob and Steven won two apiece as Cippenham completed an impressive 5-1 win.

Even highly-rated Darren Griffin alongside Dave Hadley, representing Phoenix Nailsworth, could not stop Rob. Unfortunately Martin could not add to the team's tally but Steven managed a fine victory over tricky opponent Liwu Wei to earn Cippenham a 3-3 draw.

The best result came on Sunday morning where top-placed Custom Deighton's squad of Jason Thompson, Lee Horton and Simon Pugh could not stop Cippenham's trio running away to a spectacular 6-0 victory. Rob earned his fourth consecutive player of the match award as his unbeaten run continued against Thompson and Pugh.

With an opportunity to go to the top spot, things ended disappointingly in the final match against PPong Jarek TT. Despite Rob extending his one-hundred-percent record with victories over Pawel Orzechowski and Jarek Chrzanowski, his teammates were unable to gain that crucial extra point or two and the match ended in a 2-4 defeat.

The men's second team found themselves unexpectedly elevated to Division 2A despite having finished the previous season only third in Division 3. What was obviously a tough assignment proved to be exactly that with Cippenham losing all five of their matches. Paradoxically, Cippenham's best two showings came against the top two teams in the division, Cutnall Green and Wenson, to whom Cippenham lost 4-2.

Against Wensum, all three Cippenham players, Samson Bekele, Hari Gehlot and Maciej Dlugozima, lost narrowly in the deciding game of one of their matches while, against Cutnall Green, Hari lost out to Phil Snelson 11-13 in the fifth game while Steve Joel picked up the player of the match award for a brace despite finishing on the losing side.

The other three matches, against Foresters C, Newton Abbot and Topspin Fusion 2, were all lost 1-5 although the Cippenham players did enjoy the privilege of competing against the 1980 European Men's Singles champion when John Hilton turned out for Foresters against them.

The women's team, operating in Division 2 of their competition, drew two matches but lost the other three. The 3-3 draws came against Billwood and Irish Colleens while Ashford and Foresters 3 both beat Cippenham 4-2 and Ellenborough 2 were successful 5-1. Denise Weller was the pick of the Cippenham players with five wins from her nine matches while Mary Heffernan won three out of ten and Julie Dean one out of nine.

YBCL Results

Boys' Division 5	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Halton TT Club	5	4	1	0	23	7	9
Cippenham	5	4	1	0	20	10	9
Grantham Acad'my 3	5	4	0	1	22	8	8
Graham Spicer 1	5	2	0	3	13	17	4
BTTC Ipswich	5	2	0	3	12	18	4
Kingfisher 3	5	1	1	3	10	20	3
Joola Plymouth 2	5	0	2	3	10	20	2
NETT Juniors	5	0	1	4	10	20	1
Girls' Premier Div	**P**	**W**	**D**	**L**	**F**	**A**	**Pts**
London Academy 1	5	5	0	0	24	6	10
Cippenham	5	3	0	2	19	11	6
Grantham Acad'my 1	5	2	2	1	17	13	6
Greenhouse 1	5	2	1	2	12	18	5
Draycott 1	5	1	1	3	12	18	3
Ormeau 1	5	0	0	5	6	24	0

Players - Boys	M	P	W	Av
Sai Prasanna Kumar	5	10	10	100
Louis Alexander	5	10	5	50
Bharath Prasanna Kumar	5	10	5	50
Players - Girls	**M**	**P**	**W**	**Av**
Alyssa Nguyen	5	10	7	70
Mia Lakhani	5	10	6	60
Charlotte LokChing Wong	5	10	6	60

Results Boys	
BTTC Ipswich	4-2
Joola Plymouth 2	4-2
Graham Spicer 1	5-1
Halton TT Club	3-3
Grantham Academy 3	4-2
Results – Girls	
Greenhouse 1	5-1
Ormeau 1	6-0
Grantham Academy 1	2-4
London Academy 1	2-4
Draycott 1	4-2

Mixed results for women

The new season of the Women's British Clubs League got underway at the weekend at Wolverhampton with the Cippenham team placed in Division 1, one step below the pinnacle of the Premier Division.

The team of Rachael Iles, Mia Lakhani and Anna Piercey were playing together for the fifth consecutive season under the Cippenham banner, having grown up together since they were all juniors. Mia is still a junior while Rachael is in her first season as a senior and Anna is a further year ahead. The team bonding was obvious as Cippenham stormed to a great 6-0 opening victory over Brighton who turned out to be the division's weakest team at the end of the weekend.

The second match was much more of a test with only Rachael managing to contribute her two singles sets in a 2-4 defeat to Draycott. The score stood 2-2 after Rachael had defeated both Millie Noble and Catherine Lv but Mia was not quite able to grab a point for her team when she lost the final set at 11-5 in the fifth game after sharing the first four games that had all concluded with the minimum two-point margin.

Saturday's matches were brought to a close with a well-earned 3-3 draw with Ellenborough. Rachael again won both her matches, against Sara Williams and Larisa Titievskaja while Mia earned Cippenham a point with her 13-11 fifth-game win over Diana Rusinova.

Sunday morning brought a heavy 0-6 defeat to top-of-the-table Flick TTC who lost only three sets all weekend. The weekend then finished with another 3-3 draw with Joola Plymouth, a result that saw Cippenham finish fourth out of six in the division at the half-way stage. All three Cippenham girls contributed to the result as Rachael beat Gemma Kerr while Mia and Anna both beat Yuki Gresswell. However, no-one was able to get to grips with Marketa Myskova and Mia was unlucky to lose the final set of the match 11-9 in the decider to Kerr.



(l-r) Ken Phillips (coach); Rachael Iles; Mia Lakhani; Anna Piercey

Division 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Flick TTC 1	5	5	0	0	27	3	10
Ellenborough 1	5	3	1	1	20	10	7
Draycott 1	5	3	0	2	16	14	6
Cippenham	5	1	2	2	14	16	4
Joola Plymouth 1	5	1	1	3	12	17	3
Brighton TTC A	5	0	0	5	1	29	0

Players	M	P	W	Av
Rachael Iles	5	10	7	70
Mia Lakhani	5	10	4	40
Anna Piercey	5	10	3	30

Results	
Brighton TTC A	6-0
Draycott 1	2-4
Ellenborough 1	3-3
Flick TTC 1	0-6
Joola Plymouth 1	3-3

Losing starts for JBCL teams

It proved to be a testing start for Cippenham's three teams when the Junior British Clubs League season got underway on Saturday. As usual, this national competition is being run at various clubs around the country with Cippenham playing host to twenty-four teams. Despite having home advantage, none of the Cippenham teams managed to win a match and all three finished bottom of their respective divisions. In mitigation, the Cippenham players are fairly young and six of the eleven players that formed the teams were making their debuts for Cippenham in competitive table tennis.

The most successful of the Cippenham contingent, and the only one to win more than half of his matches, was Yuvan Varshney who has also made his senior debut this season in the Maidenhead League in which he has recorded several good wins. Yuvan won four of his six matches for the Cippenham A team and was backed up by Nayan Yelkur and Aaron Mendonca who both won a third of their matches. Shaurya Bapna, for the B team, and Vivaan Dhankhar, for the C team, also won one-third of their matches. This is an introductory competition, despite being nationally based, and all will be hoping to improve as the season progresses.

Division 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rosehill B	3	2	0	1	17	10	17
Stanmore B	3	2	0	1	16	11	16
CGS A	3	2	0	1	12	15	12
Cippenham A	3	0	0	3	9	18	9
Division 4	**P**	**W**	**D**	**L**	**F**	**A**	**Pts**
Ashford B	3	3	0	0	27	0	27
Rosehill C	3	2	0	1	14	13	14
Stanmore C	3	1	0	2	10	17	10
Cippenham B	3	0	0	3	3	24	3
Division 6	**P**	**W**	**D**	**L**	**F**	**A**	**Pts**
Ashford C	3	3	0	0	27	0	27
Warren Spring B	3	1	0	2	12	15	12
Graham Spicer 5	3	2	0	1	10	17	10
Cippenham C	3	0	0	3	5	22	5

Players – Team A	M	P	W	Av
Yuvan Varshney	2	6	4	67
Nayan Yelkur	2	6	2	33
Aaron Mendonca	3	9	3	33
Alexander Taylor	2	6	0	0
Players – Team B	**M**	**P**	**W**	**Av**
Shaurya Bapna	2	6	2	33
Arjan Dhillon	3	9	1	11
Shay Bhambra	2	6	0	0
Dylan Bhambra	2	6	0	0
Players – Team C	**M**	**P**	**W**	**Av**
Vivaan Dhankhar	3	9	3	33
Ishaan Dhankhar	3	9	1	11
Avyan Varshney	3	9	1	11

Results – Team A	
CGS A	4-5
Rosehill B	3-6
Stanmore B	2-7
Results – Team B	
Ashford B	0-9
Stanmore C	3-6
Rosehill C	0-9
Results – Team C	
Ashford C	0-9
Warren Spring B	1-8
Graham Spicer 5	4-5

Key Club Contacts

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Weekday Timetable

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

Fees Season 2026-27

	Full	Conc'n
Annual Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£20.00	£10.00
Family Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£30.00	n/a
Junior British Clubs League registration	n/a	£20.00
Cadet British Clubs League registration	n/a	£20.00
Practice Fees	£4.50	£2.50
British Clubs Leagues match fees (home)	£7.50	
Maidenhead League Match Fees	£4.50	£2.50
Coaching Fees (Monday) (per term)		£40.00
Coaching Fees (Wednesday) (per term)		£50.00

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Weekend Diary

Nov 7/8	Senior British Clubs League (2)
Nov 14	Bucks Closed Championships
Nov 15	Heathrow League (2)
Nov 21	Junior British Clubs League (2)
Nov 28	Cippenham Women & Girls' 1-Star
Nov 29	Cadet British Clubs League (1)
Dec 5/6	County Championships Seniors
Dec 12	County Championships Veterans
Dec 13	Heathrow League (3)
Jan 9	Reading League Individual Handicap
Jan 10	Cadet British Clubs League (2)
Jan 16	Senior British Clubs League (3)
Jan 17	Cippenham Team 1-Star
Jan 23	Junior British Clubs League (3)
Jan 24	Heathrow League (4)
Jan 30	County Championships Over-60s
Jan 31	Cadet British Clubs League (3)
Feb 7	Maidenhead Closed Championships
Feb 27	Junior British Clubs League (4)
Feb 28	Berkshire Inter-Town
Mar 6	County Championships Veterans
Mar 7	Reading Closed Championships
Mar 14	Cadet British Clubs League (4)
Mar 21	Heathrow League (5)
Apr 3/4	Senior British Clubs League (4)
May 3(BH)	Cippenham Under-13/17 1-Star

Cippenham Women and Girls 1-star

Saturday 28 November 2026



Cippenham Table Tennis Club

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