



CIPPENHAM NEWS

Official Newsletter of Cippenham Table Tennis Club : January 2023 : No. 237

Festive cheer as awards presented



Christmas was celebrated at Cippenham on the Tuesday before the big day with a "Festive Evening". Carrying on from last year, when the annual awards presentations were delayed because of Covid, the presentations were again incorporated into a Christmas event, a sort of party for members and their families that also included a friendly hardbat competition for those who simply can't stop playing just because it's Christmas.

The event was so well supported and thoroughly enjoyed by all that it is now likely to become our main annual get-together. There were mulled wine, mince pies and plenty of other tasty stuff to eat. There were games and quizzes also and the whole evening was set-up and organised by Martin Adams, to whom we extend our grateful thanks.

The first event of the evening was the presentation of our annual awards. For very many years this has been a highlight of the year with our junior and senior players of the year honoured and the prestigious award for outstanding contribution made to our most valued volunteer of the year. Club Chairman Ken Phillips presided over the presentations and also highlighted some members'



achievements. He surprised many by announcing that the Club had a new England number one and invited Sai Prasanna Kumar to take a step forward to receive his acclaim. Eight-years-old Sai is number one in the under-9 category and is a player of immense promise.

The first presentation was for the Junior Players of the Year, won jointly by Mia Lakhani and William Saint. Both players have made great strides during the past year or so and Mia crowned her year by finishing second in the Cadet Girls' Singles event at the recent Cippenham Junior 4-Star Open. The Senior Player of the Year award went to Robert Hansell who had an incredible run of eighteen successive wins for the Cippenham first team in the Senior British League last season. This was the third time that Robert had won this award. The highlight is always the presentation of the Karen Mitchell Outstanding Contribution Award. In presenting this award to Jyothi Puttaswamy, Ken described her as the best volunteer the Club had had for the past decade or more. Jyothi helps out on many occasions, assisting her son in his Duty Officer job, and has been a tremendous help with the catering at weekend events. She is also Sai's mother!



Of course, we could not let the evening go by without a little table tennis. A staggering number of forty-one players took to the tables for a friendly hardbat competition. The club supplied twenty-two identical bats and so the players were organised into eleven groups (two bats per table!!). The eleven group winners then progressed into a knock-out phase. Eventually the semi-final stage was reached with Shae Thakker, Maciej Dlugozima, Michal Garski and Amos Guirguis remaining involved. Shae beat Maciej in the final but the result, on such an evening, mattered little!



Hardbat finalists: Maciej Dlugozima & Shae Thakker

Seven out of Eight as Shae stars



Cippenham's two teams in the Senior British League enjoyed an excellent second weekend, recording seven wins out of eight matches between them. The first team won all four matches to climb up to second place in National Division B-4 while the second team won three times and that elevated them to third position in Division C-5. Star of the show for Cippenham was 19-years old Shae Thakker, playing in the number three position in the first team, who won all his matches this weekend and has lost only once in fifteen individual matches all season.

The first team's most difficult encounter of the weekend came in the very first match on Saturday morning. Neither team captain Martin Adams nor Steve Munson were able to add to Cippenham's scorecard and so it was left to the ever-dependable Rob Hansell, currently ranked seventy-five in England, and Shae Thakker to win four singles matches between them which, when combined with a doubles victory by Robert and Martin, gave Cippenham a very welcome 5-4 scoreline. This win leapfrogged Cippenham over their opponents who now sit in third position in the league.

The afternoon match was much more straight-forward. Birmingham TTA arrived with only three players and so gifted Cippenham two sets. It made little difference as Cippenham romped to a 8-1 win with only Martin suffering a close loss in what was a dead rubber. Robert was taken to 3-1 by Chun Wai Sheung but Shae and Steve won their only set with ease.

For a while on Sunday morning it looked as if the bubble might have burst as Martin lost the opening set to Ed Slot and Robert was beaten by Benjamin Greve. Cippenham were suddenly 2-0 down to Portsea but Steve and Shae responded admirably to restore parity. Shae was especially dominant as he decimated Jared Hon 11-1. 11-4. 11-2. Robert and Martin duly won the doubles to put Cippenham ahead for the first time before both won their next singles matches. From the uncomfortable position of 2-0 down, Cippenham had recovered to lead 5-3 and in doing so ensured maximum points. Shae completed his brace to put Cippenham further ahead before Steve lost to Hon to make the final score 6-3.

The Cippenham first team's great weekend finished with a flourish with a 9-0 thrashing of Fusion 4, their London-

based opponents only able to win four ends throughout the entire match.

The Cippenham second team also benefited from a short team in their opening match when Fareham-based Generation 2 arrived with only three players. Cippenham eventually prevailed 6-3 but two of those three losses were by the narrow margin of 11-9 in the deciding game. William Saint was named player of the match for his two victories, the opening set against Keiran Wells which got Cippenham off to a perfect start and his later five-game win over David Woodacre. Jamie Woodford and Jaiden Caldeira were Cippenham's other winners.

The Saturday afternoon match was important as it ultimately decided who would finish the weekend in third place and who would be fourth. Newton Abbot provided the opposition and Cippenham's hopes had all but vanished when the team from Devon went 3-0 up. Rachael Iles was the first to put Cippenham on the scoresheet, beating Wim Faassen and then it was the turn of William Saint and Jamie Woodford to turn on the style. First they combined to win a close doubles match, then William won an equally close singles against Mike Hugh. Jamie put Cippenham ahead for the first time after beating Naomi Jackson but Rachael lost to the hugely experienced Kevin Nicholls. It came down to a final showdown and Jaiden Caldeira completed a fine team performance, in which each of the Cippenham players had contributed a singles win apiece, by beating Faassen to give Cippenham the points in a 5-4 victory.

That 5-4 scoreline was repeated on Saturday morning in another closely fought match, the opponents being Haywards Heath. This time it was Jaiden's turn to take the player of the match award with two impressive wins against Steve Ive and Richard Cosens. William gave Cippenham the early lead, beating Matt Caddy over five games, coming back from 2-0 down, Jamie also beat Cosens and Jaiden and William combined to win the doubles. Anna Piercey had replaced Rachael for the Sunday matches but was not able to add to Cippenham's score.

The one and only disappointing result arrived in the final match against Foresters third team. William gave Cippenham an early lead against Tim Surrey and Jamie easily beat Dave Steel. William and Jamie also combined to win the



Senior British League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
National Division B4							
Somerset Sabres	8	7	0	1	61	11	14
Cippenham 1	8	7	0	1	50	22	14
Foresters 1	8	6	0	2	49	23	12
WCBTT	8	4	0	4	34	38	8
Fusion 4	8	3	0	5	25	47	6
Portsea	8	2	0	6	27	45	4
Westfield	8	2	0	6	19	53	4
Birmingham TTA 1	8	1	0	7	23	49	2
National Division C5							
Cardiff CCTTC	8	8	0	0	61	11	16
Foresters 3	8	7	0	1	45	27	14
Cippenham 2	8	5	0	3	38	34	10
Newton Abbot TTC	8	4	0	4	45	27	8
Kingfisher 2	8	3	0	5	34	38	6
Horsham Spinners 3	8	3	0	5	24	48	6
Haywards Heath	8	2	0	6	22	50	4
Generation 2	8	0	0	8	19	53	0

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Cippenham 1				
Martin Gray	2	4	4	100
Shae Thakker	8	15	14	93
Robert Hansell	8	16	12	75
Steve Munson	6	11	5	45
Martin Adams	8	16	7	44
Cippenham 2				
Jaiden Caldeira	8	15	9	60
William Saint	8	16	9	56
Jamie Woodford	8	16	9	56
Rachael Iles	4	7	3	43
Anna Piercey	4	8	2	25

Results:

Cippenham 1	Cippenham 2
5-4 Foresters 1	6-3 Generation 2
8-1 Birmingham TTA 1	5-4 Newton Abbot TTC
6-3 Portsea	5-4 Haywards Heath
9-0 Fusion 4	3-6 Foresters 3

doubles but Foresters ran out deserved winners 6-3.

Junior Open titles spread east to west

The eighth running of the prestigious Cippenham Junior 4-Star Open Championships took place at the start of December and the honours were well dispersed. The four main events were won by players from four different counties stretching from Suffolk in the east to Devon in the west. This was a two-day tournament with cadet (under-15) events on the Saturday and junior (under-19) events on the Sunday.

Play got underway early on Saturday morning with the Cadet Boys' Singles. The preliminary round was played across twenty-four groups with the winners and runners-up in each group going forward into the main championship event and the others progressing into a consolation event. This format was followed for all four events across the two days.

Defending champion Isaac Kingham, from Suffolk, ranked second in England was the top seed and took his position at the top of the draw. Kingham had little trouble during his progress through the rounds and reached the final having dropped only a solitary end, that to fourth seed Jacper Piwowar in the semi-final. Earlier victims of Kingham had included Parsia Ahsani, Will Hopkins and Harry Randall. The bottom half of the draw also followed the seeding plan, that is until the semi-final in which third seed Leo Nguyen defeated second seed Max Radiven. For Nguyen the pathway was relatively easy but Radiven had been made the fight hard in the last sixteen round, coming back from two games to one down against Hugo Nguyen. The other beaten quarter-finalists were Adam Alibhai, Aarif Li and Danal Inchausti.

Saturday's play was rounded off by the Cadet Girls' Singles. Top seed Sienna Jetha rode serenely through the rounds until she met third seed Eva Eccles in the semi-final. Jetha won the first two games easily but Eccles hit back to square the match 2-2 only for Jetha to clinch her place in the final, winning at deuce in the fifth game. The local interest was all engaged in the bottom half of the draw where Cippenham's unseeded Mia Lakhani made it all the way to the final. Mia was easily defeated by Jetha in that final but that did nothing to deflect from the impressive form she had shown through the rounds. After winning her group, Mia ended the progress of Mauli Shaw in the first knockout round and then beat the second seed Jonabel Tagiobao in the quarter-

final and fourth seed Darcey Taylor in the semi-final.

It was the turn of the older junior players on Sunday although many of the better cadets stayed on for the second day. None of the top six England-ranked junior boys were present and so it was Larry Trumpauskas, ranked seven, that took the top seeded place. With a bunch of players ranked just behind Trumpauskas the event was always likely to be a closely fought battle, and so it proved. Trumpauskas moved through the rounds until he met fourth seed Joseph Hunter in the semi-final. This proved to be the end of the road for the Kent player as Hunter won their encounter 3-1. This was not Hunter's closest match as twice before he had been taken to a fifth and deciding game, firstly by Samuel Cooper in the last sixteen and then by Rhys Hetherton in the quarters.

Isaac Kingham, winner of the cadet event the previous day, made it a tournament to remember by progressing to the junior final despite being seeded only twelfth. Kingham repeated his success from the previous day against Leo Nguyen in the last sixteen round, this time in three easy games, then beat tenth seed Harri Docherty in the quarter-final and Kacper Piiwowar in the semi-final. Piwowar had earlier eliminated third seed Ollie Cornish. Kacper's brother Jakub Piwowar, the number two seed, had fallen victim to Docherty in the last sixteen.

The final thus became a contest between Hunter and Kingham. A lengthy five-game battle ensued before Hunter prevailed in the final game to deny Kingham the double.

The weekend finished with the Junior Girls' Singles event in which all the top four England-ranked players took part. As befitting an event of this quality, spectators were treated to many close and exciting matches. The top four seeds all progressed without too much trouble from their preliminary round groups and three of them made it to their allotted positions in the semi-finals. The exception was fourth seed Maliha Baig who fell to England number nine Millie Rogove in the quarter-final.



Mia Lakhani

Rogove had won a close battle with Saskia Key one round earlier and had actually been defeated in the group stage by Cippenham's Mia Lakhani, ranked twenty places below her and adding to Mia's impressive performance from the previous day. Of special interest to the host club was a fantastic match between Cippenham's two brightest prospects in which Mia defeated Rachael Iles over five games in the second round. Mia then became a victim of Baldwin one round later but not before taking a game off the England number one.

The semi-finals saw Baldwin beat third seed Scarlett Anders while Rogove went two games to one up against second seed Anaya Patel but lost out in the fifth game. The final was another titanic struggle, delaying everyone who wished to watch the England World Cup football match, and was eventually won by Baldwin over Patel 8-11, 8-11, 11-5, 16-14, 12-10.

The tournament was organised by Cippenham club chairman Ken Phillips and refereed by newly qualified International Referee Steve Smith. The Club also places on record its grateful thanks to Steve Piercey who acted as Entries Secretary and to the army of qualified umpires and other volunteers who officiated and in many other ways helped each day.

Cippenham Junior 4-Star Open Results

Event	Winner	Runner-up
JBS	Joseph Hunter (Mi)	Isaac Kingham (Sk)
JGS	Mari Baldwin (Dv)	Anaya Patel (Bk)
CBS	Isaac Kingham (Sk)	Leo Nguyen (Dv)
CGS	Sienna Jetha (He)	Mia Lakhani (Mi)
JBC	Aarif Li (Wa)	Teagan Khazal (Mi)
JGC	Parmis Ahsani (Mi)	Isabella Turner-Samuels (Mi)
CBC	Ilyes Djeraoui (Mi)	Rishaan Sawant (Bk)
CGC	Lily Walters (WAL)	Eleanor Turner-Samuels (Mi)

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

Jan 7	Reading League Handicap Competition
Jan 8	National Cadet League (3)
Jan 14	Senior British League (3)
Jan 21	National Junior League (3)
Jan 29	Berkshire Inter-Town
Feb 19	Cippenham Team 1-Star Open
Feb 25	National Junior League (4)
Feb 26	Cippenham Women & Girls 1-Star Open
Mar 5	Reading Closed Championships
Mar 11	Maidenhead Closed Championships
Mar 12	National Cadet League (4)
Mar 18	Southern Region Cadet Qualifiers
Mar 19	Cippenham 5x2 Senior/Veterans' 1-Star
Apr 1/2	Senior British League (5)

Weekday Timetable

Mon	18:00	Beginners' Coaching Group
	19:45	Advanced Coaching Group
Tues	19:15	Maidenhead League matches
	19:30	Practice tables
Weds	19:30	Elite Coaching Group
Thurs	19:15	Maidenhead League matches
	19:30	Practice tables

Fees Season 2022-23

	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
Maidenhead League Registration	£18.00	£9.00
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 (Thursday) (per session)	£6.00	£3.00
Coaching Fees (Monday) (per term)		£25.00
Coaching Fees (Wednesday) (per term)		£35.00



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



<http://twitter.com/cippenhamttc>



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

Published by Cippenham Table Tennis Club, 1 January 2023
Edited by Graham Trimming, Rosemount, Juniper Lane, Wooburn Green,
Bucks, HP10 0DE
All photographs © Cippenham TTC, except if/where noted

Cippenham Team 1-Star Open

Sunday 19 February 2023

Teams of two— preliminary group followed by progressive knock-out

Entries close 5 February

Cippenham Women & Girls' 1-Star Open

Sunday 26 February 2023

Under-21 and Over-21 Singles Open Singles

All events: groups plus knock-out
Entries close 12 February

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