



CIPPENHAM NEWS

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Another hugely successful Junior 4-Star

The sixth running of the Cippenham Junior 4-Star Open in December proved to be another extremely successful event with 220 entries keeping nine tables very busy for two days. Entries Secretary Ken Phillips and Referee Steve Smith are to be congratulated on their expert arrangements as are the team of busy umpires and other volunteer helpers.

Cadet Boys' Singles

The weekend commenced with the Cadet Boys' Singles, an event won by Berkshire's Felix Thomas who retained the title he won at the last such event in May. However, Thomis was pushed all the way, firstly in the quarter-final when he faced a 2-1 deficit against Octavian Aparaschiev and then, even more so, in the semi-final in which he lost the first two games to Nathaniel Saunders. By contrast, the final was more straightforward as Joseph Hunter was despatched 3-1.

Sixth seed Hunter made it all the way to the final despite being displaced in his preliminary round group after losing to Ty Dennis-Thompson. After a comfortable win against Cippenham's William Saint in the first round proper, Hunter then eliminated fifth seed Todd Stanmore in the second round and Yiannis Kazantzidis, both by the narrow margin of deuce in the fifth. In his quarter-final Hunter faced second seed James Hamblett and then reach the final with a 3-0 victory over third seed Oliver Maric-Murray. Quite an adventurous run!

Nathaniel Saunders' run to the semi-final was also accomplished the hard way. He got out of his group in only second place, having lost to Kazantzidis but then proceeded to eliminate fourth seed Bertie Kelly in round two followed by Francesco Bonato and Jack Roberts.

Cadet Girls' Singles

The Cadet Girls' Singles event followed the counterpart boys' event on Saturday afternoon. The winner was sixth seed Tianer Yu, a recent addition to the national scene. Yu was largely untroubled throughout and dropped only a



Above: Tianer Yu

Left: Felix Thomis

solitary game during her route to the title. In the final Yu was opposed by Abbie Hurley in a repeat of the match played earlier in the preliminary round group. Sixth seed Hurley then beat top seed Scarlett Anders in round two and this was followed by wins against Sienna Jetha and third seed Anna Green.

Yu's path to the final came through the vacant second seed position and included a win against fourth seed Lauren Loosemore and then, in the semi-final, Rebecca Savage, another player to reach the final stages of the competition despite only finishing second in her group.

There was a match-up in Group 7 between two members of the Cippenham team in the Junior British League. Local girl Anna Piercey, however, lost out to Hannah Silcock from Jersey. Hannah then beat another girl who trains at Cippenham, Jyothi Ghanta, in round two while Anna had found Abbie Hurley too strong in the previous round. Cippenham's other contestant, Rachael Iles, progressed through the group stage but lost in round two to Isabelle Lacorte.

Junior Boys' Singles

It was the turn of the older boys on Sunday in the Junior Boys' Singles. Like in the cadet girls' event the day before, the final was contested by two players who had opposed each other in the preliminary round group. However, this time, the outcome was different in each case. It was top seed Ethan

Walsh, ranked number one in England, who prevailed in the final against Oliver Maric-Murray. That was not the case earlier when the diminutive Maric-Murray had shocked his higher ranked opponent, winning deuce in the fifth amidst huge applause from the strong gathering of spectators. As a result of this, Maric-Murray took his place at the top of the draw while the displaced top seed, Walsh, had to manoeuvre his way through the bottom half, which included a match-up between the top two seeds in the quarter-final. Unlucky for second seed Amirul Hussain.

Other seeds also tasted defeat in their groups but all made it through to the competition proper nevertheless. Fourth seed Oliver Cornish lost to Joseph Hunter, but both players still eventually reached the quarter-finals, and seventh seed Mahmood Kelani lost to Nathaniel Saunders. Cippenham's Pranav Gudipati beat fifteenth seed Bertie Kelly but then lost in round two to Oliver Cornish after having been 2-1 up. Another seed who fell early on was third seed Sam Chesterman who lost to Jake Grayson 12-10 in the fifth game of their second round match.

Felix Thomis, buoyed by his success in the cadet event the day before, enjoyed another good run on Sunday, reaching the semi-final, and it took the eventual winner, Ethan Walsh, to stop him.

continued overleaf >>>

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Junior 4-Star Open cont'd



Charlotte Bardsley



Ethan Walsh

Cippenham's Shae Thakker, on the eve of his departure to represent the GB para team in Costa Rica, had a disappointing day, finished second in his group and being eliminated by Samuel McIvor in round one.

Junior Girls' Singles

As with the boys on the morning, it was the top ranked played in England who finished up with the winner's trophy but Charlotte Bardsley did not have it all her own way. In the semi-final she faced 8-10 deficit in the fifth game against the left-hander Mille Rogove but kept her nerve to win an entertaining battle. Bardsley also beat cadet winner Tianer Yu in the quarter-final but this was more straight-forward 3-0. This was Bardsley's third title at these championships, having also won this event in 2017 and the cadet event in 2016.

With the second seeded player absent, Rebecca Savage came through the vacant position but her run was ended in the semi-final by Mari Baldwin.

Cippenham Junior 4-Star Open Results

Event	Winner	Runner-up
JBS	Ethan Walsh (He)	Oliver Maric-Murray (Sy)
JGS	Charlotte Bardsley (St)	Mari Baldwin (Dv)
CBS	Felix Thomis (Bk)	Joseph Hunter (Mi)
CGS	Tianer Yu (Mi)	Abbie Hurley (K)
JBC	Octavian Aparaschieve (Mi)	Rhys Hstherston (WAL)
JGC	Megan Jones (Sp)	Abbie Hurley (K)
CBC	Gregory Fray (Li)	Harri Docherty (WAL)
CGC	Kathryn Silcock (JEY)	Mabel Shute (E)

Third Festive Grand Prix success for Shae



Shae Thakker appears to be making the Festive Grand Prix his own. Shae beat off a field of 21 other competitors to win the event for a third time, having previously won in both 2016 and 2018.

With such a high number of players, the event was split into two halves, effectively making six groups in the preliminary round stage. Each half then progressed until all positions one to eleven were established and then each played their corresponding place holder from the other half.

Playing standards were more varied than usual as there were many more younger players taking part but there was still the usual spread of established seniors at the top of the draw. The seeds in Section A were Shae Thakker, Michal Garski and Keith Hall while the top positions in Section B were taken by Maciej Dlugozima, Ludo Montiel and Harry Coles.

Only one of the seeded players failed to win his group and that was Keith, beaten comfortably by up and coming youngster Jaiden Caldeira. All the other seeds won all their group matches 3-0 and progressed into a top group against each other.

Para star Shae, recently returned from representing GB in Costa Rica where he won a bronze medal in Men's Class 10 Singles, was again untroubled and beat both Michal and Jaiden 3-0. Michal beat Jaiden to secure the runners-up spot.

The top group in Section B, however, was a different matter, with the three players beating one another. Maciej was declared winner of the group as he had beaten Harry 3-0 and lost to Ludo 3-1 while Harry beat Ludo 3-0 for second position.

The final stage was a match-up between the respective positions in the two sections. Shae and Maciej opposed each other for first and second places while Michal saw off the challenge from Harry to secure third place.

Finishing positions:

1. Shae Thakker
2. Maciej Dlugozima
3. Michal Garski
4. Harry Coles
5. Jaiden Caldeira
6. Ludo Montiel
7. Jamie Woodford
8. David Saint

National Cadet League

League Tables:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Division 1							
Kingfisher A	5	5	0	0	36	9	36
Cippenham A	5	4	0	1	25	20	25
Kingfisher B	5	3	0	2	22	23	22
Chiltern A	5	2	0	3	21	24	21
Ashford A	5	1	0	4	18	27	18
Hillingdon A	5	0	0	5	13	32	13
Division 2							
Bourne End A	5	5	0	0	31	14	31
Cippenham B	5	4	0	1	31	14	31
Chiltern B	5	3	0	2	27	18	27
Dacorum	5	2	0	3	27	18	27
Cippenham C	5	1	0	4	18	27	18
Hillingdon B	5	0	0	5	1	44	1
Division 4							
Chiltern D	5	5	0	0	31	14	31
Kingfisher D	5	4	0	1	29	16	29
Chiltern E	5	2	0	3	27	18	27
Cippenham D	5	3	0	2	21	24	21
Chiltern F	5	1	0	4	19	26	19
Hillingdon C	5	0	0	5	8	37	8

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Cippenham A				
William Saint	5	15	13	87
Rudii Richards	2	6	5	83
Edward Meacock	5	15	5	33
Tom Brown	3	9	2	22
Cippenham B				
Nick Carter	5	15	14	93
Mia Lakhani	5	15	10	67
George Driscoll	2	6	4	67
Isam Sousseing	3	9	3	33
Cippenham C				
George Driscoll	3	9	6	67
Arnav Tyagi	4	12	6	50
Ankush Srivas	4	12	5	42
Kwame Sousseing	4	12	1	8
Cippenham D				
Finlay Carter	5	15	8	53
Louis Alexander	3	9	4	44
Thomas Zoltanicki	3	9	4	44
Mateusz Skowera	4	12	5	42

Under-strength Cippenham slip down the table

An under-strength Cippenham team slipped away from the leading positions in the Senior British League and now occupy fourth position in National Division B-4 following the second weekend's matches. With Rob Hansell away and Martin Gray becoming unavailable on the Wednesday before, it was a patched up Cippenham team that took to the tables. Ricky Hardcastle and Maciej Dlugozima, two members of the Cippenham Trojans team that lead the way in the Maidenhead League this season, were hurriedly signed up and shared the number four position in the team.

Cippenham started the weekend well with victory in the first match but then suffered defeats in each of the remaining three. Team captain Martin Adams was in superlative form throughout, winning seven of his eight individual singles matches and sharing doubles success with Shae Thakker three times out of four. However, backup came in the form of just two singles wins each from Steve Munson and Shae and nothing at all from the fourth position, although this was not really a surprise.

The highlight of the weekend came early on with a 5-4 victory over bottom team Brighton 2. Martin got Cippenham off to the perfect start against Brandon Bennett but Steve found the Brighton captain and coach Pedro Santos too hot to handle. Shae restored Cippenham's lead with an easy win over Teresa Bennett and Ricky should have extended that lead. However, after winning the first two games against Jodie Morris, and leading 9-7 in the third and then 5-1 in the fifth game the young Brighton player fought back to win 11-9 in the decider. By the time Martin had played a doubles and his second singles, Cippenham had opened up a two-set advantage and led 4-2. Shae seemed to be well on his way to securing the much required win when he won the first two games against Brandon Bennett but, like Ricky before him, that was a case of flattering to deceive and it was left to Steve to secure the team win against Morris.

The match on Saturday afternoon was a tough encounter against Haywards Heath who now lead the division after the weekend. Martin was once again in majestic form, winning all his three matches including the doubles alongside Shae. Martin's match against the opponents' top player, Amila Thilakaratna, was a classic with the Cippenham player recovering from two games



The Cippenham team for the weekend: (l-r) Ricky Hardcastle; Steve Munson; Martin Adams; Shae Thakker; Maciej Dlugozima

down to win in five, including an extraordinary fourth game that finished 18-16. Cippenham's chance of victory, albeit a slim one, probably disappeared when Shae lost 14-12 in the fifth game against Harry Yip, a match that could have gone either way and the final result was a 7-2 loss.

Waterside, a club from Southampton, were Cippenham's opponents on Sunday morning. Martin tasted defeat for the only time in the weekend, in singles to Wojciech Placek and in doubles, with Shae, to Placek and Wiktor Dzwonkowski. He beat Dzwonkowski in their singles encounter but Cippenham's only further success, in a 7-2 defeat, came when Steve beat William Poulter deuce in the fifth. Shae was a little unlucky to lose out to Brian Hayes over five games while Ricky won the first game in both his matches but ultimately lost them both 3-1.

The final match of the weekend was probably the best spectacle, even though it ended with Cippenham losing 4-5 to Portishead, a team from Somerset. Martin again won his three events with help in the doubles from Shae but it was a close run thing against Joe Ratajczak, Martin winning 11-8 in the fifth game. Shae gave Cippenham hope with a 12-10 fifth game win against Josh Gallen but the tables were turned when faced with James Rule. With Cippenham leading 4-3, it was the Portishead player who finally ruled the day winning by an identical margin in the decider. Maciej was faced with the prospect of securing both points for his

team if he could beat Gallen but, try as he did, this was a step too far.



Senior British League

League Table:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
National Division B-4							
Haywards Heath 1	8	7	0	1	41	31	14
Joola Plymouth 1	8	6	0	2	45	27	12
Waterside 1	8	6	0	2	43	29	12
Cippenham	8	4	0	4	36	36	8
Foresters 2	8	3	0	5	38	34	6
Portishead 1	8	3	0	5	32	40	6
Brighton TTC 2	8	2	0	6	26	46	4
Horsham Spinners 1	8	1	0	7	27	45	2

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Martin Adams	8	16	13	81
Robert Hansell	4	8	6	75
Steve Munson	8	16	8	50
Shae Thakker	8	16	5	31
Ricky Hardcastle	2	4	0	0
Maciej Dlugozima	2	4	0	0

Results:

5-4 Brighton TTC 2
3-6 Haywards Heath 1
2-7 Waterside 1
4-5 Portishead 1

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Key Club Contacts

Chairman, Head Coach & Welfare Officer
Ken Phillips : 01628 636664

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Graham Trimming : 01628 529609

Deputy Chairman, Bookings Officer & Maidenhead League Captain
Elena Tant: 01628 824851

Events Officer
Julia Piercey: 01628 628623

Weekday Timetable

Mon	19:15	Advanced Coaching Group
Tues	19:15	Local league matches
	19:30	Practice tables
Weds	19:30	Elite Coaching Group
Thurs	17:15	Beginners' coaching
	19:15	Local league matches
	19:30	Practice tables

Fees Season 2019-20

	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
Annual Membership (after 30/11 per month)	£1.80	£0.90
Family Membership (after 30/11 per month)	£3.00	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
Local League Match Fees	£4.00	£2.00
Coaching Fees (Thursday) (per session)	**£6.00	**£3.00
Coaching Fees (Monday) (per term)		£35.00
* plus £1.50 (75p) for non-members		
** plus 50p (25p) for non-members		



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BUTTERFLY
Liam Pitchford - England's No. 1.
Liam Pitchford uses a Butterfly Viscaria blade with Tenergy 05 rubber on both sides.

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Weekend Diary

Jan 11	National Junior League (3)
Jan 18	County Championships Veterans' Div 2B
Jan 19	Berkshire Inter-Town
Jan 25	Cippenham Team 2-Star Open
Jan 26	National Cadet League (3)
Feb 8/9	Maidenhead Closed Championships
Feb 15	Senior British League National Div B4 (3)
Feb 16	Cippenham 5x2 Senior/Veterans' 1-Star Open
Feb 29	County Championships Veterans' Division 2B
Mar 1	Reading Junior Closed Championships
Mar 7	National Junior League (4)
Mar 8	Reading Senior Closed Championships
Mar 15	National Cadet League (4)
Mar 28/9	National Cadet Cup
Apr 4/5	Senior British League National Div B4 (4)

Cippenham Table Tennis Club

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