



# CIPPENHAM NEWS

Official Newsletter of Cippenham Table Tennis Club : March 2008 : No. 124

## All relegation threats dismissed in final British League weekend

# All Positions Secured

**C**ippenham's three teams in the British League saved their best performances for the final weekend of matches and all three ended up retaining their positions in their respective divisions.

Cippenham hosted the two First Divisions in which the club's first and second teams played. Division 1 South was an incredibly competitive division throughout the season with results impossible to call. Such was the closeness of the teams in this division that the team starting the weekend in fourth place ended up as champions and the team starting in fifth place ended up eighth and last!

The Cippenham first team started in sixth position, knowing that poor results over the weekend could end in relegation. Saturday morning was a tough assignment. Opponents DHS London Progress II were only mid-table this season but highly dangerous being led by the vastly experienced Cameroon international Marco Essomba. Matches between the two great clubs west of London are always eagerly contested and this was no exception. It ended in a 4-4 draw that Cippenham accepted as a point won rather than dropped with neither Mark Butler nor Martin Adams being able to get the better of Essomba. Both won their other matches while Lee Dredge and Rob Lemon also picked up one each in a great team effort.

Generation 2 had started the weekend in last place but had also picked up a useful point in the morning with a 4-4



**The Cippenham first team that finished fifth in Division 1 South (l-r) Rob Lemon; Lee Dredge; Martin Adams; Mark Butler**

draw against York Gardens. It was tight at the bottom with only one point separating the last four teams. The afternoon match between Cippenham and Generation was viewed as critical. A pulsating match ensued with five of the eight sets requiring a fifth and deciding game. Martin Adams' celebration at beating Adam Proszko 14-12 in the fifth to square the match at 1-1 was an indication of the tenseness of the occasion. Martin's emotions are not normally so visible. However, the Cippenham number one was unable to stem the flow from an inspired Wesley Bush-Harris and Cippenham slipped to a 5-3 defeat and the worrying prospect of a potential winner-takes-all match against Byng Hall the following morning.

Byng Hall had a disappointing Saturday and, fielding a weaker team had slipped to the foot of the table. Sunday

was different, they came with a much stronger team determined to fight it out to avoid relegation. The equation was simple: the loser of the morning match between Byng Hall and Cippenham would probably go down. Cippenham were faster out of the blocks and, in a twinkle of an eye were 3-0 up as Martin thrashed Mark Romano, Mark was hugely impressive in defeating the defensive skills of Mark Brown and Lee got the measure of Will Power. There was a falter as only Martin won in the next four sets but Rob came to the rescue to defeat Power 3-0 and bring both points to Cippenham in a 5-3 victory. Relegation had been avoided.

Brighton had won their first six matches of the campaign and had hung on to top spot ever since. In the final match of the season they just

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## Small Entry for G2G

The Cippenham Group to Group 2-Star Open Championship attached only a small entry of just over thirty players. Nevertheless, a good tournament ensued and players received good value by a format that eliminates losers only after they have already played in two groups each of four players, giving everyone at least six matches.

The final was an all-Surrey affair with Darren Pumford getting the better of Alain Choo Choy in four games after dropping the first. Cippenham's Phil Clarkson was the most successful local and he took the first game off Pumford in the semi-final while Choo Choy's victim at the same stage was Adam Trela.

The event marked Steve Smith's debut as a tournament organizer at Cippenham and credit is due to him and referee Mick Strobe for a well run event. However, two years of small entries, surprising because the concept gives greater value to participants than our conventional tournaments, means that this event is likely to be dropped from next season's calendar.

**Championship:**  
Darren Pumford (Sy) bt Alain Choo Choy (Sy) - 9,5,5,11

**Consolation:**  
Maurice Isaacs (Mi) bt Dean Rose (K) -7,2,10,8

## British League *(continued from page 1)*

needed to beat Cippenham for the title. Cippenham had other ideas. The immense pressure of the relegation threat had been lifted and the Cippenham players produced a display of flair, resolve and commitment that left their south coast opponents all at sea. It seemed the match had hardly started and Cippenham raced to a 6-0 lead and Brighton's dream had disappeared. The eventual score was 7-1 and that put Cippenham in fifth place and handed the title of the division to the south London-based Fusion.

The Cippenham third team, playing at Southall, also fought a successful fight against relegation from Division 3 South. Bottom at the start of the weekend, five points out of a possible eight meant a rise of one place to seventh. An epic final match, that finished a full hour later than all the others in the hall, nearly produced an even better result. Eventually, Cippenham succumbed 5-3 to York Gardens II in that final match but four of the five sets lost by Cippenham required a fifth and deciding game. A draw would have denied York Gardens the divisional title.

Prior to that Cippenham had enjoyed a good run of results with 5-3 wins over OLOP Impact II and Hastings and a 4-4 draw with Horsham III. Gemma Chapman won five of her eight matches, Steve Smith four and Paul Baker three. Eddie Mitchell played one day and won three out of four while Phil Clarkson played the other and won two.

The Cippenham second team did not have any relegation worries from Division 1 South and Midlands following the expulsion of the Oxford Fireplace Centre team. This was just as well as the team operated with two reserves all weekend. However, that did not stop them from a great 5-3 win over Urban Progress II. Matthew Tucker came in to the team and scored a brace while Danny Baxter led the team well with two of his own. It was left to Graham Trimming to secure the maximum points with a last ditch win in the final set of the match. Eddie Mitchell marked his debut in Division 1 with the solitary win in a 7-1 defeat to runners-up Westbury while Danny and Mark Jackson both scored in the 6-2 defeat against Bedford Modern.

## Final Tables

### League Tables:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Division 1 South</b>							
Fusion I	14	8	2	4	69	43	18
Brighton I	14	8	1	5	56	56	17
DML Woolwell I	14	7	2	5	58	54	16
London Progress II	14	5	5	4	62	50	15
Cippenham I	14	4	5	5	55	57	13
Generation 2 I	14	3	6	5	53	59	12
York Gardens I	14	4	4	6	51	61	12
<b>Division 1 South &amp; Midlands</b>							
OLOP IMPACT I	12	10	2	0	72	24	22
Westfield I	12	8	2	2	66	30	18
London Progress III	12	7	1	4	63	33	15
Carrara Polska I	12	6	1	5	52	44	13
Urban Progress II	12	4	0	8	35	61	8
Bedford Modern I	12	2	1	9	27	69	5
Cippenham II	12	1	1	10	21	75	3
Oxford Fireplace Centre II expelled							
<b>Division 3 South</b>							
York Gardens II	14	12	1	1	80	32	25
TTK Greenhouse II	14	12	0	2	79	33	24
SEH-Britannia Ipswich I	14	8	1	5	63	49	17
OLOP IMPACT II	14	4	4	6	56	56	12
Hastings	14	5	2	7	46	66	12
Horsham III	14	3	3	8	39	73	9
Cippenham II	14	3	2	9	48	64	8
Ellenborough II	14	2	1	11	37	75	5

### Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
<b>Cippenham I</b>				
Martin Adams	14	28	21	75
Mark Butler	14	28	13	46
Lee Dredge	10	20	9	45
Rob Lemon	14	27	11	41
Paul Baker	2	4	0	0
Gemma Chapman	2	4	0	0
<b>Cippenham II</b>				
Matthew Tucker	2	4	2	50
Eddie Mitchell	1	2	1	50
Chris Hansell	4	8	3	38
Danny Baxter	7	14	5	36
David Hayes	6	12	4	33
Steve Munson	8	16	5	31
Mark Jackson	13	26	6	23
Graham Trimming	3	6	1	17
Steve Buck	6	12	0	0
Phil Clarkson	2	4	0	0
<b>Cippenham III</b>				
Eddie Mitchell	6	11	6	55
Gemma Chapman	6	12	6	50
Phil Clarkson	6	12	5	42
Paul Baker	8	16	6	38
Paul Elliott	10	19	7	37
Jonathan Evans	6	12	4	33
Steve Smith	14	26	8	31

### Results:

<b>Cippenham I</b>	<b>Cippenham III</b>
4-4 London Progress II	5-3 OLOP IMPACT II
3-5 Generation 2 I	4-4 Horsham II
5-3 Byng Hall I	5-3 Hastings
7-1 Brighton I	3-5 York Gardens I
<b>Cippenham III</b>	
1-7 Westfield	
5-3 Urban Progress II	
2-6 Bedford Modern I	

## Boys are Runners-up

For the second year in succession the Cippenham boys' team finished runners-up in the Junior British League Division 2A completed at Wolverhampton last month. The girls' team finished fourth in Division 1. Both teams doubled their points tally from the first weekend, held in October, and retained their former positions.

The boys had two wins, both by 5-1, two draws and a defeat only to champions Bridge the Gorge who retained their unblemished record throughout the season. Andrew Linz scored maximums in both the victories while Edward Mitchell scored a brace against the bottom team Crusaders, and Ruihao Zhang did likewise against Uxbridge (Burton).

Perhaps a draw against third placed Halton was all that was really needed to secure Cippenham second place. It would seem as if this was in the players' minds as they led 3-0 only to be pegged back to 3-3. A topsy-turvy match in which four of the six individual matches required a fifth game to decide them. Against Byng Hall, Cippenham went 1-0 up and then slumped to 1-3 down before gaining the point with another 3-3 draw. Both drawn matches were real team affairs with each of the Cippenham boys winning once and losing once in each match.

The girls' best performance came against third-placed St. Andrews. Cippenham upset the form book with a scintillating 5-1 victory. Rachel Pilgrim and Rachel Farquhar won twice each while Catherine Hayes got the all-important fourth and winning set with a great victory over the much higher ranked Megan Sparrey.

The girls also beat bottom team Waterside B 4-2 but lost 5-1 to division winners Ballina and 4-2 to both Waterside A and Redland Bats.



Top players: Ruihao Zhang and Rachel Farquhar

### Final Tables

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Boys' Division 2A</b>							
Bridge the Gorge	10	10	0	0	46	14	20
Cippenham	10	4	4	2	35	25	12
Halton	10	2	5	3	28	32	9
Uxbridge	10	3	2	5	26	34	8
Byng Hall	10	1	5	4	25	35	7
Crusaders A	10	1	2	7	20	40	4
<b>Girls' Division 1</b>							
Ballina	10	9	1	0	45	15	19
Waterside A	10	6	2	2	38	22	14
St. Andrews A	10	4	2	4	31	29	10
Cippenham	10	3	2	5	27	33	8
Redland Bats	10	2	3	5	22	38	7
Waterside B	10	1	0	9	17	43	2
<b>Players' Averages:</b>							
	M	P	W	Av			
<b>Boys</b>							
Ruihao Zhang	10	20	14	70			
Andrew Linz	10	20	12	60			
Eddie Mitchell	10	20	9	45			
<b>Girls</b>							
Rachel Farquhar	10	20	14	70			
Rachel Pilgrim	10	20	8	40			
Catherine Hayes	10	19	4	21			
<b>Results:</b>							
<b>Boys</b>				<b>Girls</b>			
5-1 Crusaders A				5-1 St. Andrews A			
5-1 Uxbridge				4-2 Waterside B			
3-3 Halton				2-4 Redland Bats			
3-3 Byng Hall				2-4 Waterside A			
2-4 Bridge the Gorge				1-5 Ballina			

## Paul's Grand Prix



Paul Chandler

The Club's weekly Tuesday evening Grand Prix event is going from strength to strength. With the competitive season in full flow the Club's league players are busy playing their league matches but attendances for the Grand Prix have not diminished. The event has reverted to its original concept of an event for the less established players and those new to the Club. During the year and a half of its life, a staggering 138 different players have taken part.

The latest winner of Grand Prix 12 is Paul Chandler. Paul has been one of the most regular participants in the last year and has become one of the most enthusiastic players at the Club. He managed a top five placing in each of the six weeks and it was this consistency that proved to be too much for others aspiring of the title. Paul's best finish was second and he managed that on two occasions.

Jack McCandless won two of the three events he entered and finished in second place while Dave Bradbury only entered two but won one of those to finish in third place. The other weekly winners were Tony Andrews, Ian Baker and Alan Farral.

### Did you know?

There have been ten different winners of the Grand Prix—only Peter Gajdus and Steve Smith have won it twice.

An incredible 141 different players have taken part in it so far in just a year and a half.

## Slough Title Race Hots Up—Outlaws Still Top

The race for the Slough League title is as close this season as it has ever been. Following Cippenham Outlaws' 7-3 win over third-placed Burnham Nomads it looks like a two-horse race between Outlaws and Chalfont Argonauts. Argonauts are seven points behind with a match in hand—and that is against bottom team Burnham Pumas. However, Argonauts still have to face Nomads but the title will probably be decided when Outlaws and Argonauts meet in the final fixture.

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## Weekend Diary March/April

### March

Sat 1	Workshops: Emergency Life Support; Safeguarding and Protecting Children
Sun 2	Cippenham Veterans' 2-Star Open
Sat 8	Reading Closed Championships
Sun 9	Reading Closed Championships
Sat 15	County Championships
Sun 16	County Championships
Sat 29	National Junior League (4)

### April

Sun 6	Ability training course
Sun 13	Cippenham Cadet & U13 2-Star Open
Sun 20	Umpires' training course and assessment



## Season's Calendar

### Future Events at Cippenham

May 10/11	Southern Region junior training
May 17/18	British League Div 1 Promotion Play-offs
May 24/25	English National Junior Masters
Jun 7/8	Southern Region junior training
Jun 14/15	Cippenham Young Players' Summer Fest.
Jun 29	Referees' Course
Jul 6	Cippenham Veterans' Summer 2* Open

### Events away from Cippenham

Mar 1/2	Women's British League (1) (Bristol)
Jun 21/22	Women's British League (2) (Doncaster)

## Weekday Diary

<b>Mon</b>	7:15	Advanced Coaching
<b>Tues</b>	7:30	Practice Tables
	7:40	Grand Prix
<b>Wed</b>	7:30	Squad Training
<b>Thurs</b>	5:15	Beginners' Coaching
	7:15	Slough League matches
	7:30	Practice Tables

## National Junior League Tables

	P	W	D	L	Pts		P	W	D	L	Pts
<b>Boys' Division 2</b>						<b>Girls' Division 2</b>					
Chiltern-CHS C	5	4	0	1	31	Cippenham B	13	7	2	4	47
Child Okeford	5	4	0	1	31	Peniel D	13	7	0	6	43
Cippenham A	5	4	0	1	31	Ellenborough	13	5	0	8	42
Chalfonr A	5	2	0	3	17	Howard TTC	13	3	1	9	30
Kidlington	5	1	0	4	13	<b>Best performances to date:</b>					
Chiltern-CHS D	5	3	0	5	12		P	W	Av		
<b>Boys' Division 3</b>						Angela Oetiker	17	15	88		
Cippenham B	5	5	0	0	34	Alex Polding	21	18	86		
Chiltern-CHS G	5	2	0	3	24	Stephanie Mitchell	29	22	76		
Cippenham C	5	2	0	3	23	David Akehurst	27	19	70		
Chiltern-CHS E	5	2	0	3	20	William Tint	27	17	63		
Chiltern-CHS F	5	2	0	3	18	George Weller	30	18	60		
Chalfont B	5	2	0	3	16	Anthony Gardner	30	16	53		
						Ollie Valdez	21	11	52		
						James Mellish	27	14	52		
						Duncan Calvert	27	14	52		

## Cippenham Table Tennis Club Fees Season 2007-08

	Full	Conc'n
Annual Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£15.00	£7.50
Family Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£25.00	n/a
Annual Membership (after 30/11 per month)	£1.50	£0.75
Family Membership (after 30/11 per month)	£2.50	n/a
Slough League Registration	£15.00	£7.50
National Junior League registration	n/a	£12.00
Practice Fees	*£3.50	*£1.75
Slough League Match Fees	£3.50	£1.75
Coaching Fees (per session)	**£5.00	**£2.50
Coaching Fees (per term - 1st group)		£30.00
Coaching Fees (per term - 2nd group)		£20.00

\* plus £1.50 (75p) for non-members  
\*\* plus 50p (25p) for non-members

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