

NORTHUMBERLAND TABLE TENNIS NEWS

February 2008

Northumbria League

League tables are enclosed with this newsletter together with a list of postponed or missing results. Under regulation 10.2 all matches up to and including week 12 should have been played and the results should be with the league secretary. Home clubs are reminded that if they agree to a postponement they must offer two dates to the visiting club, one of which must be accepted. The home club must inform the league secretary of the new date within 14 days of the original date of the fixture. Rearranged fixtures shall be played no later than 28 days after the original date. Failure to comply results in the match being awarded 10-0 to the away team and the home team incurring a fine.

Northumberland Tournaments

The Northumberland Junior Closed takes place on Friday evening, 15th February at the Sporting Club of Cramlington when the Juniors will play for the Norman Moore Memorial Cup and the Cadets for the Harry Dignan Cup.

The Northumberland Closed will be held at the Sporting Club of Cramlington on Sunday 24th February. Entries close on 19th February. This year there is a free doubles event where players from the designated top group will be drawn at random to play with a player from the bottom group, provided that they have entered the doubles when submitting their entry form and are present at 9.15am on the day of the tournament.

Newcastle City Council have again agreed to sponsor next seasons Newcastle Grand Prix by providing Eldon Leisure free of charge for the event to be held on 11th and 12th October 2008.

Handicap Cup

The third round draw has already been circulated by Alan Hedley and every effort should be made to play these matches during the week commencing 11th February, 2008.

County Results

The first round of matches in the County Championships Division 1A saw Northumberland beat Lancashire 6-4, draw 5-5 with Cleveland but lose to Notts (3-7), South Yorkshire (2-8) and Yorkshire (4-6). Eddie Smith led the way with seven wins out of ten whilst Andrew Wilkinson and Dave Godbold took five sets each. Caron Guthrie won three of her women's singles sets.

Cramlington Tournament

Cramlington TTC held their annual Junior and Veterans tournament in January with juniors from other clubs also being invited to take part.

The Junior Singles was won by Jamie Dent of Oxhill, the cadets by Ryan Richardson, the under 13s by Ellis Cooper and the under 11s by Niall Morris of Sunderland.

In the Veterans section winners were Barry Richardson (over 40s) Mike Dunn (Both over 50s and over 60s) and Steve Ralph (Handicap)

Sunderland

Some of the players in the Northumbria League also play in the Sunderland League and it is pleasing to note that the Barella brothers, Anthony and Graeme, represent the Sunderland League in the Carter Cup and have won their way through to the final pool.

Sunderland entered the British League this season and their team consisting of Kevin Wilson, Keith Weatherby, Philip Dixon and the Barella brothers are currently top of Division 4 North, one point ahead of Pudsey having won nine out of ten matches played. The final four matches will be played at Hull over the weekend of 16/17th February when they play Pudsey as well as third placed Barnt Green, St. Mary's Hull, and bottom of the table, Isle of Man.

John Ainley

John who, until recently, was a prominent member and coach at Alnwick has moved to Leeds. Unfortunately he is now having to have an operation for a benign brain tumour. We wish him well.

Neil McMaster

It is great to see our former County star back in action after a gap of many years. Neil is now playing for NELSC in the Premier Division and already looks to be regaining his old form.

Eddie Smith

Eddie was runner-up to Abdul Wuarola of Surrey in the recent Veterans Masters tournament held in Hereford.

Websites

A reminder that the Northumbria League tables and players records are updated on the Northumberland website (www.northumberlandtabletennis.org) and on the Cramlington TTC website (www.cramlingontabletennis.info)