Chelmsford & District Table Tennis League: Buxton hat-trick eases Liberal relegation worries

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Two timely results by Liberal have eased their relegation worries in division two of the Chelmsford & District Table Tennis League. An Adam Buxton clean–sweep allied to two wins for both Peter Hayden and Hector Rogers enabled them to beat Chelmsford A 7–3. Buxton started the ball rolling by getting the better of Mike Johnston 3–2 (12–14, 11–8, 11–13, 7–11, 11–7) in the first game. Liberal also defeated Galleywood B 7–3. Hector Rogers, Steve Pennell and Adam Buxton all won twice although none of their players could get the better of James Hicks. Hicks scored a fine hat–trick by beating Steve Pennell 3–2 (11–8, 7–11, 10–12, 11–9, 11–9) then Adam Buxton 3–0 (11–6, 11–7, 11–8) and he rounded it off by defeating Hector Rogers 3–0 (11–9, 13–11, 12–10). Chelmsford A also tasted defeat against Elmtree Excalibur B. Lee McHugh won his three singles for the Elmtree side whilst reserve Ryan Gooday picked up two wins for the Chelmsford team. Rawreth & Hullbridge B dropped back to third place although they have two games in hand on second–placed OCs B. They only had two players against Elmtree Excalibur C although Paul Churn picked up a hat–trick of wins to ensure that they drew 5–5. Churn had to pull out all the stops to get the better of Linda Attridge 3–2 (4–11, 11–9, 6–11, 12–10, 12–10). With a record of 29 wins out of 45 – 64 % Churn has been this side's most successful player.

In the first division Bocking B took a step closer to the title by beating Bocking A 7-3. Even being a player short didn't hinder them that much as David Cole and Rik James won all their games. Both Cole (29 wins out of 31 – 93 %) and James (38 wins out of 41 – 92 %) have been outstanding this Season.

In division three the two leading sides both lost. There was a shock defeat for second-placed Hatfield Peverel B who lost 7-3 to Danbury G. Matthew Brown won his three singles for the Danbury side whilst Mo Hardy won twice. Hardy recorded the win of the week. He trailed Dave Fiddeman 10-3 in the decider but clawed his way back to win 3-2 (11-6, 9-11, 1-11, 11-8, 13-11). Chelmsford B led by the ever-improving Ryan Gooday defeated the leaders OCs C 6-4 – the first reverse for the Old Chelmsfordians team this campaign. Gooday scored a hat-trick of wins by beating Nat Ravlic 3-1 (11-2, 11-6, 7-11, 12-10) and then Daniel Berry in five ends (11-5, 5-11, 12-14, 11-8, 11-7) and he completed an excellent evening's work by getting the better of Frank Hodge 3-2 (4-11, 11-5, 11-8, 7-11, 11-5). Maldon C made no mistake against OCs D and they ran out 9-1 winners. Brian Riedling and Dawn Baldry both scored hat-tricks. Tom Elder won twice and he beat Mick Hayes by a last-gasp 3-2 (9-11, 11-5, 8-11, 11-4, 11-9) margin.

In division five Chelmsford F were too strong for OCs G and ran out 10-0 winners. Richard Baxter, Richard Upson and Mike Pitt were all undefeated.

Second-placed Black Notley A (Patrick Bugg and James Brooks) beat Chelmsford G 3-2 in the CLICK League. Harry Matthews won both of his singles for the Chelmsford side. Patrick Bugg defeated Peter Davenport 3-1 (12-10, 10-12, 11-8, 11-9) in the closest singles encounter of the night.

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