

YHL lead way after close first weekend in WBL

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YHL lead the way but none of the Premier Division teams were unbeaten at the first weekend of the Women's British League at University of Nottingham.

The Plymouth club won four out of five matches to set the pace at the top, but Halton and Burton Uxbridge are not far behind after a set of fixtures which included a high number of draws.

YHL were top from the start as they defeated Halton 4-2 in the first match, with Yolanda King notching a double. The other two matches ended in 3-3 draws between XLNT Draycott and Knighton Park, and Fusion and Burton Uxbridge.

When Halton overcame Fusion in their second match, it meant every team already had a least one point on the board – and that was the start of an unbeaten four-match run for Halton as they finished in second place with three wins and a draw.

Burton Uxbridge are another point back on six, having won two and drawn two, with Draycott fourth having notched their only victory, perhaps surprisingly, against YHL by a 4-2 margin in round four.

Fusion are fifth having drawn three out of their five matches, with Knighton Park in sixth on two points, made up from two drawn fixtures.

Individually, Burton's Charlotte Bardsley had the only 100% record with 10 wins from 10, followed by Lois Peake (Fusion) and King on nine each.

Every other division features at least one unbeaten side after the first weekend, including XLNT Draycott's second string, who lead Division One by three points after five victories.

The only other 100% team were MK Vixens in Division Four, although six other teams were undefeated – <u>click here</u> to view the league tables.

Joining Bardsley with a 100% individual record from 10 matches were: Emily Bolton (Formby, Division One), Zahna Hall (York Gardens Angels, Division Two) and Alice Hazell (MK Vixens, Division Four).



Player of the Weekend Emily Haskell with Table Tennis England Chairman Sandra Deaton (picture by Melvyn Lovegrove)

Team of the Weekend and Player of the Weekend, as voted by the umpires, went to Sycamore and Emily Haskell (Byng Hall B) respectively.

The second weekend is on February 4 and 5 at the University of Huddersfield.

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