

British League Round 1 – South & West

Author: Paul Stimpson

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Division Two South & West

With B&S Group withdrawing the teams and Organisers have been in contact and common sense has prevailed. It has been agreed that the teams due to play B&S Group on the single day's play in Okehampton can rearrange their matches rather than make the long journey for one match.

Club Cornwall with three victories are the early leaders and they looked good value for their money as they beat Horsham I (6-2), Woolwell II (8-0) and Cippenham III (6-2). The form of England no. 45 Darren Reed was no surprise and he stormed through his six singles, winning five of them three-straight. Woolwell's Mike Hugh provided his stiffest test and Reed had to fight back from 2-0 down to triumph 8-11, 10-12, 11-8, 11-5, 11-7. Reed was outstanding against Horsham, racing to quick-fire wins over Andy Walker (11-4, 11-5, 11-2) and Peter Bartram (11-7, 11-1, 11-9). The form of improving England no. 195 Matthew Trevorow was a revelation and he also bagged all six singles. Trevorow hit top form against Woolwell beating Mike Short 11-7, 11-7, 12-10 and Mike Hugh 14-16, 11-8, 4-11, 11-5, 11-6. The other Club Cornwall team members Jeremy Williams and Alistair Smith both won four singles out of six. Jeremy Williams had two prolonged battles against Cippenham III, beating Paul Baker 10-12, 11-4, 11-6, 10-12, 11-9 but missing out against Tim O'Mahoney 8-11, 14-12, 12-10, 7-11, 8-11. Alistair Smith was outstanding against Woolwell and he beat Kevin Buddell (11-7, 11-5, 11-3) and Mike Short (11-8, 6-11, 11-6, 11-5).

Bournemouth Sports who received a double promotion, courtesy of their runaway win in Division four South last Season tasted defeat for the first time when they missed out 5-3 against Horsham I. In truth Bournemouth cannot claim that they were hard done by, as they won all three five-enders. England no. four Junior girl Tressa Armitage scored a magnificent 11-8, 17-19, 5-11, 11-6, 12-10 win over Peter Bartram and defender Matthew Haines an equally hard-fought 10-12, 11-8, 3-11, 12-10, 14-12 victory over Stephane Bonafous. The luckless Bonafous also missed out over five ends against Stephen Foster 7-11, 9-11, 11-4, 11-8, 5-11. England no. two Cadet Boy Helshan Weerasinghe was the star of the Horsham side and he won twice. Good wins as well – 11-8, 11-8, 11-6 against Nathan Bingham and 5-11, 11-7, 11-9, 11-8 against Stephen Foster.

Bournemouth Sports were more impressive against York Gardens and ran out 6-2 winners. Nathan Bingham, Tressa Armitage and Stephen Foster all remained undefeated. Tressa Armitage played her part with two excellent victories. She beat Chris Martin convincingly 11-7, 11-5, 11-6 to give her team a 1-0 lead and she secured her team's victory by getting the better of Simon Dilkes 7-11, 11-7, 11-9, 11-7. Nathan Bingham had to pull out all the stops to beat Martin Hewett 11-9, 8-11, 7-11, 11-7, 13-11.

Woolwell II came out on top against York Gardens II 5-3, winning the last two games to secure victory. Mike Hugh gave them a 4-3 lead by getting the better of Simon Dilkes 11-9, 11-9, 11-5 and the very experienced Mike Short secured the victory, by beating Chris Marr by a nail-biting 11-8, 10-12, 9-11, 11-8, 15-13 margin. Harry Cutler was the best of the Woolwell players. He scored two excellent wins, beating Martin Hewett 11-9, 4-11, 11-8, 10-12, 11-7 as well as Chris Martin 11-3, 12-10, 7-11, 11-7.

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