



Urban top British League following Ormeau triumph

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Urban became the outright leaders of Premier British League with a superb 6-2 win at Ormeau.

The two sides topped the league table after two rounds following unbeaten starts, with this match handing either side the opportunity to set the pace at the top.

Urban were the side to do so as they registered six straight sets to take the points.

Doubles from Japanese talent Satoshi Aida and Daniel Schaffer proved to be the difference as the duo continued their impressive starts to the season.

It started well for the Northern Irish side, backed by their partisan contingent, as Brazilian Vitor Ishiy defeated Szilard Gyorgy.

However, the middle of the match belonged to the visitors. Aida cruised past McCreery before Alim Hirji and Schaffer picked up 3-1 victories over Ashley Robinson and Owen Cathcart respectively.

Aida caught the eye again with a 3-0 win over Ishiy to secure a second consecutive maximum, before Gyorgy defeated Robinson to claim the win.

The Hungarian, Schaffer, then defeated McCreery 3-1, before Cathcart notched a consolation with a 3-0 win over Hirji.

That defeat has seen Ormeau drop to fourth, with Ormesby and Drumchapel leapfrogging them in the table.

Ormesby recorded a resounding 8-0 victory over Fusion with Viktor Brodd continuing his unbeaten start to the season with 3-0 wins over Emran Hussain and Lorestan Trumpauskas.

Debutant Adam Harrison also recorded straight end victories over Clive Carthy and Benjamin Hee, while Daniel Reed and Darius Knight won both of their sets 3-1.

As for Drumchapel, they continued their unbeaten start to the season with a 7-1 win at home to BATTs.

David McBeath was the star as he picked up 3-0 victories over BATTs' top-rated players Mathan Simon and Remi Betelu, and he was ably assisted by Yannick Vostes and the returning Craig Howieson, who won two each.

Yaser Razouk picked up an impressive win over Ethan Walsh on his debut, with BATTs' solitary set coming through Steve Beerling, who defeated Razouk 3-1.

Meanwhile, North Ayrshire picked up their first win of the season against Cardiff City TTC 5-3.

The Scottish side launched an epic comeback to defeat their Welsh counterparts, recovering from a 2-0 and 3-2 deficit to take the match courtesy of three nailbiting five-set victories.

Canadian Antoine Berdanet and Marcus Pettersson had put Cardiff in control through 3-0 wins over Richard Main and Sean Doherty respectively.

Chris Main and Colin Dalglish hit back with 3-1 wins over Mikka O'Connor and Dean Cundy, only for Berdanet to put Cardiff ahead again as he dispatched of Doherty.

But North Ayrshire weren't to be denied.

Richard Main brought the match level as he held his nerve to defeat O'Connor, despite surrendering a two-game lead.

Dalglish then put them ahead as he came from 2-1 down to defeat Pettersson in two incredibly close ends.

That left Chris Main with the chance to be the hero, and he took that moment, just, defeating Cundy in five having established a 2-0 lead.

The League table can be seen here:

https://tabletennis365.com/britishleague/Tables/Seniors_2017-18/Premier_Division

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