

Bristol Civil Service



Table Tennis Club

Bristol Civil Service
Table Tennis Club
Newsletter

Issue 18

July 2018

The future of the CSSC and the Table Tennis Club

Dear Table Tennis Club Member

Welcome to this edition of the Table Tennis Club newsletter.

You must know by now that, due to the efforts of your committee and the CSSC committee and Chairman, our club and table tennis venue has been saved for next season. A big thank you to everyone who went to the CSSC AGM in Birmingham. It amazed me to see the effect which we had. Well done to all concerned.

Also, a big thank you to everyone for sending emails to handsoffour-club@bristolcssc.co.uk. If you haven't already done so it's not too late. THIS IS REALLY IMPORTANT in our efforts to keep our table tennis venue open beyond April 30th 2019. It would also help greatly if you could ask everyone you meet when you are playing table tennis to do the same. The more emails in protest, the better.

I would like to confirm that, although our season at CSSC was under threat, again thanks to some hard work by your committee, we had already lined up a choice of five venues which would have kept our table tennis club together and able to continue in the Bristol league.

To play for the CSSC next season, if you have not already done so, you need to let John Bedwell know as soon as possible at johnbedwell@sky.com.

Finally, good luck for the new season. Although I cannot claim to be using the following advice personally, in the words of Aubrey Simons, our famous former England player: "PRACTICE. PRACTICE. PRACTICE. PRACTICE. PRACTICE. And then PRACTICE".

May all the nets and edges be yours. Have a good one. *Terry Toghill* Chairman

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Membership for the 2018-2019 season

John Bedwell has taken over from Chris Adamek as Membership Secretary, while Chris continues in his role as Club Secretary, after several years of juggling these two major roles – many thanks to Chris for his sterling work over the years!

This is a reminder that we need your membership forms by 14th July, along with your responses to the following questions:

1. Do you want to play for Civil Service next season?
2. Would you like to remain in your existing team?
3. If not what is your preference, e.g. play higher up or lower down?
4. Any other factors or requests you would like to be taken into account?

Please contact John at johnbedwell@sky.com as soon as possible if you hope to play for the club next season.

RETURNS THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO: JOHN BEDWELL, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, BY POST OR EMAIL TO: johnbedwell@sky.com

BRISTOL CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM 2018-2019

1. Full name & title: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Tel. No.: Home _____ Mobile _____
Email address: _____

2. Either:
a. I wish to renew my membership and enclose the required fee
Or:
b. I wish to apply for new membership of the Civil Service Table Tennis Club and enclose the required fee

Fee: £27 (£13.50 below) to include £14.50 BDTA league registration. £30 (£5.50 below) if you do not wish to play in the league.

3. Do you wish to play in one of our League teams in the Bristol & District TT League?
Yes No

4. If yes, and you have previously played in a League, whether in Bristol or elsewhere, please indicate the League, Club and the level/division that you played in:
League: _____
Club: _____
Level/Division: _____

5. All players representing the Club in any official competitions must wear a Club shirt. If you are wearing a Club shirt, please indicate the size of the Club shirt that you need (they can be tried for size at the Club Room on Sunday evenings):
Small Medium Large Xlarge XXL XXXL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Chairman: Terry Toghill Tel: 0117 924 0474 Email: ttoghill@bristolcssc.co.uk
Secretary: Chris Adamek Tel: 0117 924 0488 Email: cadamek@bristolcssc.co.uk
Treasurer: Mark Enslin Tel: 0117 924 0487 Email: menstin@bristolcssc.co.uk
Club Officers:
Chairman: Terry Toghill Tel: 0117 924 0474 Email: ttoghill@bristolcssc.co.uk
Secretary: Chris Adamek Tel: 0117 924 0488 Email: cadamek@bristolcssc.co.uk
Treasurer: Mark Enslin Tel: 0117 924 0487 Email: menstin@bristolcssc.co.uk

Hands off our club!

The battle to save the club continues, led most ably by Tony Nelson, chairman of the Bristol CSSC area, his brother Peter Nelson, and the committee, which includes several members of the Table Tennis club. Having obtained the stay of execution which allows the next season to be played out in its entirety, our task now is to produce a rock-solid business plan to prove the viability of the club over the next three years and beyond. If you have any suggestions on areas that need improvement, opportunities that could be grasped and ideas to maximize the potential of the club to increase membership and revenue, please let us know at handsoffourclub@bristolcssc.co.uk.

Thank you!

Charlotte

Bristol Hard Bat competition 24th March 2018

Twenty-four players enjoyed a fantastic day of competition for the John Mycroft Boucher main trophy and the James Hamilton plate trophy, superbly organised as ever by John Ruderham. The main trophy was won by Dave Reeves in a very exciting and hard-fought final against Dan Ives, with Raymond Hall pipping Nathan Proud to the plate.

It was good to see the Civil Service club represented.



Team reports for the 2016–2017 season

Premier Division **Saracens** finished 9th out of 14 teams**Division 1** **Warriors**

#	Team	P	W	D	L	SF	SA	Points
10	CS Warriors	24	7	2	15	100	140	100
11	Page Headlines	24	7	1	16	91	149	91
12	Portishead Steamers	24	2	1	21	60	180	60
13	Almonds D	24	0	1	23	48	191	48

Name	Played
Pradeesh Mappa	49
Mark Kinlocke (Capt)	43
Aleksandar Avramov	41
Matthew Carrant	29
Joseph Sheppard	15
Leos Le	9
Chris Adamek	8

Warriors finished a comfortable 10th this season although at times things were a little uncertain due to the unavailability of players for some matches. However, a big advantage of having a big club is the ability to call on players from other teams to fill gaps. Leos Le and Chris Adamek both stepped in and played magnificently, showing that they could hold their own in the 1st division when required.

Our Avon junior star player, Joe Sheppard, played in the 1st half of the season where he earned a very good 74% average. However, due to exam pressures he had to curtail his week night TT. Luckily, a new player joined mid-season, Mathew Carrant, who proved very capable. His 86% average in 1st division and his 50% after 6 games in the Premier division shows how fortunate we were to have someone of his quality in the team.

A big thank you to Pradeesh, Aleks, Matt, Joe, Leos and Chris.

Extra big thanks to Pradeesh who turned out even under some trying personal circumstances.

We look forward to a great 2018–19 season.

Mark Kinlocke (captain)

Division 2 **Vikings**

The standard in Division 2 was higher last season than previously; this meant that we struggled, especially because we lost one of our players until after Christmas with a shoulder injury. We were bottom of the division at Christmas having played 9 matches and losing all 9. During the second half of the season we actually managed to win a few games but not enough to save ourselves from being relegated.

My thanks to the players who helped us out and helped us complete our matches. Hopefully, we will have a better season next time.

Terry Toghill (captain)

Division 2 **Spartans**

A much improved year for Spartans, finishing 4th and just 11 points off automatic promotion to Div 1 in contrast to last year when we finished 3rd from bottom. It was looking even better half way through the season when we were holding 2nd place for several weeks and were dreaming of the lofty heights of Div 1. Sadly not to be, and I would like to thank and congratulate my team mates Leos Le, the crafty Czech assassin, and Jon Sellers, the poker-faced grinder, who both performed extremely well. Leos finished on 86% and second in the div 2 averages and Jon finishes on 25% in his first full season of competitive TT ever. At one stage he was flirting with 50% which would have given him a free night out at my expense but I think the pressure of getting one over on his Captain proved too much for him in the end. Still I was happy with a successful season (and a free night out on Jon) and looking forward to even better things from him next year.

Chris Adamek (captain)

Team reports continued**Division 3 Saxons**

This was our fourth season playing together and our most successful to date. We managed to sneak into third place – equal on points with HCC (Dennis Coombes et al) but we scored more wins! The high point was our performance against BAWA Olympus, the league winners, where we scored a win and a draw. Not only that, we also finished in time to get a beer after every match!
Cheers!

Jim McLean (captain)

Division 3 Buccaneers

It's been a season of consolidation for the Buccaneers and I'm happy to say we've steadied the ship and managed to avoid a relegation sea dog fight. Ralph has held the tiller with a steady hand as our most consistent performer. His staunch defence has resisted the fiercest of enemies across the Bristol Channel. Tom has provided some stunning victories over the marquee players of division three and has done it all with a gammy shoulder sustained in battle. Richard 'the enigma' Rees has continued to provide his heady mix of physics-defying forehand weaponry coupled with some over-exuberant shots which could have left him sleeping with the fishes. I have managed to emerge from the bowels of the team to just about keep my head above water and occasionally reach table tennis zen only for it to dissolve away again against a hundred-and-five-year-old with a peg leg and hook for a hand. But for now survival in the treacherous seas of the Bristol table tennis scene is what we have set our course on and we are doing pretty well!

Rob Dixon (captain)

Division 3 Partizans

Hi. I am so pleased we have at least one more season as C/S .Our team fought hard to stay above the bottom two which we did. So we live to fight another day .Thanks to all my players.

Colin Dowding (captain)

Division 4 Trojans

Well, after our swift and unexpected rise through the lower ranks, the CS Trojans took their place in Division 4 with one goal in mind.....Stay up!! Our three team regulars, including Paul Mackareth, Martin Turner and myself were joined by Jon Bowers who'd had previous experience of playing at this level. We soon realised we had our work cut out, but any points are valuable, so we didn't look at whether we'd win or lose, and we didn't know who the strong teams were, but, as we all know, points mean prizes! So we entered each match with a positive attitude, a sprinkling of (slightly misplaced) optimism, and then finished the night with a healthy dose of down-to-earth reality! We had to call on a few other Civil Service players to make up our numbers, especially when my work took me away from Bristol. So special thanks to Duncan Jones, Jon Nommeots-Nomm and Sirirat Harunrat. We started the season well, then hit a bit of slump before Christmas, before finding our level and holding our own for the rest of the season. I'd say we all improved our match play, met some great guys from the other teams, had some really intense but enjoyable matches, and most importantly of all, had fun doing it!

I am stepping down from my role as Captain next season, and handing that honour to Paul, who I know will steer the team to even greater heights, maybe even the relative comfort of mid-table.

Good luck Trojans, it's been a pleasure.

John Scorey (captain)

Thank you very much to all those who have contributed to this newsletter. I am always very grateful for ideas for articles and offers to write them! If you have any photos of club members in action, do send them to me for the next newsletter.
Charlotte: charlottejanetaylor@tiscali.co.uk / 07976 922636

Team reports continued

Division 5 **Barbarians finished 6th out of 11 teams****Division 6** **Commandos***Commandos Beta Male Fairytale*

Once upon a time there was a table tennis team that had been languishing in the depths of division 6 for as long as anyone could remember. Stevus, Deanus and Duncus were seemingly trapped in a cycle of so close yet so far. It



seemed like this would go on for all eternity and the team would never move up to their Shangri-la; division 5. It was becoming a crisis so 'Chrisus the all-powerful believer' sent a message far and wide to see if a saviour could be found. Then the miracle began. Jon the Nomminator was found wandering the wilderness on his pushbike and answered the Chrisus call. It was like a new beginning. Training began and the team found a new belief that they thought was gone. Results got better, morale was high and an air of invincibility was created. The Nomminator drove everyone to hit the heights and thenchampions of division 6!!! The trophy was theirs and everyone who knew and played the team was amazed that they finally

escaped as they had given up hope as well. Will the fairytale continue and will the Nomminator stay to go for the impossible... division 4?!

Duncan Jones (captain)

Division 6 **Gladiators**

The Gladiators had a couple of team changes over the season, with Becky Burton and Jeff Griffin leaving to go on to other things. We were lucky enough to recruit two very talented young players – Will Wickens, a first year student at UWE, already a legend for his dazzling forehand topspin, and Manu Leach, an elegant player who fitted his matches around his revision for his GCSE exams. We finished a respectable 5th out of the eleven teams in the division. Will and Manu will deservedly be playing in higher divisions in the new season, after such a flying start, so we will have some more team changes for 2018–2019 and hope to consolidate and improve. I will be working on my topspin in the meantime!

Charlotte Taylor (captain)

Division 6 **Cadets (Juniors)**

Cadets update is that they will be taking time off after being relegated from division 6 (although they beat the Commandos on the way down). Two players are off at university away from Bristol and two are not wanting to play next season. I know they will be back when they are older as they have had a fantastic run in the Junior and Senior league and they have always loved playing which will never leave them.

Duncan Jones (non-playing captain)



Team reports continued

Division 7 Pirates

A record breaking year for Ken

Ken Simmons broke the league record by competing in his 68th consecutive season in the Bristol and District Table Tennis league, not only that but at the age of 89 he finished the season as the top division 7 player with an average of 100%.

Ken, who was recovering from a broken leg and was awaiting knee replacement surgery (successfully completed in January), was part of the Pirates squad as coach and mentor, turning up to every match to give advice and support to every player. But when he was called upon to play in December he strode up to the table to show everyone that his ability, coupled with years of experience, is worth its weight in gold as he blew away the opposition... well done Ken, and roll on next season – with a brand new knee the opposition should be afraid... very afraid!

The Pirates had a decent season finishing 6th, but only 2 points adrift of 4th place, with debutant Andrew Ng proving to be the star of the show (after Ken) with a fantastic average of 89% from the 70 games that he played. With Ron Money, Garry Ford and Pete Harrington all weighing in with averages over 50% we proved a difficult team to beat and at times more than a match for the opposition, with only a lack of consistency preventing us achieving a top three place.

With the Civil Service Club granted a 12 month reprieve, the Pirates are looking forward to next season when they will haul up the anchor, hoist up the Jolly Roger and set sail to plunder points aplenty from any hapless team that they meet on their journey. With peg-leg Ken back on board we see only fair winds ahead.

Pete Harrington (captain)

Celebrating the table tennis career thus far of Ken Simmons – long may it continue!



In January, Ken and his friends in the lunchtime table tennis group celebrated his 68 consecutive years in the league and his 89th birthday.

Congratulations, Ken and we wish you many more years of table tennis!



Civil Service Table Tennis members in action



Many thanks to our roving cameraman, Mark Kinlocke, who took these action shots at the Bristol Closed in May and the Bristol 1 Star Veterans' tournament in June.

Table tennis club committee

President Ken Simmonds	Chairman Terry Toghill
Deputy Chairman; Coaching and Competitions Mark Kinlocke	Secretary Chris Adamek
Treasurer Mark Kinlocke	Membership Secretary John Bedwell
Welfare Officer Tim Harris	Publicity Officer Charlotte Taylor

Overview of the 2017–2018 season

CS Team	Division	Final position	Number of teams in division
Saracens	Premier	9	14
Warriors	1	10	13
Spartans	2	4	13
Vikings	2	13	13
Saxons	3	3	12
Buccaneers	3	8	12
Partizans	3	10	12
Trojans	4	10	13
Barbarians	5	6	11
Commandos	6	1	11
Gladiators	6	5	11
Cadets	6	11	13
Pirates	7	6	14

More information?

If you have any questions about any aspect of table tennis at the Bristol Civil Service Table Tennis Club – membership, coaching, costs, how to get involved in a team, what happens at club night on a Sunday – please get in touch with Chris Adamek at chris_adamek@hotmail.com

Summer League Teams 2018

We have three teams playing across the divisions in the Summer League this year:

Civil Service A

Duncan Jones (C)
Steve Kingscott
Dean Wilson
Jon Nomm

Civil Service B

Chris Adamek (C)
Dean Barmby
John Bedwell
Jon Sellers
Tony Cooper

Civil Service C

Charlotte Taylor (C)
Paul Mackareth
Martin Turner
Ron Money
Colin Dowding

In the summer league, teams field 3 players per match; all players have a handicap calculated according to the division they play in, and their performance in that division. This year the handicaps range from 7 to 33. Each match consists of two games up to 21. The summer league is often slightly more relaxed than the winter league though matches are still hard fought.

