

NEWS FROM BATTS... AND LOOKING AHEAD!

If table tennis is your sport you will find something of interest at BATTS. Read on to see our latest news and what is coming up soon....

International Matches: Spanish Domination

We were delighted that BATTS was chosen to host a three-way women's international match between England, Spain and Belgium on 18th/19th May. An appreciative audience came to watch this qualification event for the European Team Championships. The young England team failed to qualify but it was a great experience for them and hopefully the experience will help them to raise their game in future. The Spanish team were outstanding, winning both their matches comfortably. We look forward to the



time when one of our BATTS players will be a member of the England team! Thanks to Neil and all the five members who volunteered to support Table Tennis England in running the weekend, and to Mike Loveder and Paul Nicol for the photos. Here are Mike's photos of the England team in action: Tin Tin Ho, Maria Tsaptsinos, Denise Payet and Charlotte Bardsley. Click [HERE](#) to see a full match report.



Ethan Walsh Wins National Junior Title

A magnificent performance by Ethan Walsh at the National Junior Championships held at Nottingham on 11th and 12th May saw him collect the Boys Singles title on his 17th birthday and also the mixed doubles, playing with Charlotte Bardsley. Ethan had returned to BATTS for some intensive practice with Jimmy Walsh and Mike O'Driscoll to help in his preparation for the event. Click [HERE](#) for full details of the National Junior Championships. The photo (next page) shows Ethan in action at Nottingham. Our younger players may be encouraged to see the second photo taken at BATTS eleven years earlier when Ethan was just starting out on his 10,000 hours of practice.



Ethan in action!

BATTs Open Singles: Still Time To Register

Our hugely popular Open Singles League has just started a new series with more than 100 players registered. The current series runs through to the end of October, with matches played on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons - not every week but you can choose on up to seven occasions. BATTs Open Singles is for everyone: all standards, all ages and you don't have to be a member of BATTs. At the end of the series we shall award cash prizes (likely prize fund will be £1,000) and everyone stands a chance of winning. This could be ideal if you don't want your table tennis to go stale over the summer! Our next sessions are on 7th/8th June and on 5th/6th July. Click [HERE](#) for more details.

BATTs Under 13 Super Series

We were pleased to have yet another full entry at our latest tournament on Sunday 5th May. Easily our strongest entry at this age group in recent years and it was especially encouraging to see our own youngsters battling against some of the best in the country. The tournament format is very popular, guaranteeing at least 6 matches for every competitor, but this time we made a small change to our normal format, finishing with three knockout draws instead of two, and spreading the £230 prize fund across 8 players. The experiment was successful and we shall be using that for future tournaments. Another future development is that our Under 13 tournaments will be moving up from 1 to 2 Star status. The number one seed Joe Hunter was in great form, winning Band 1. His victim in the closely-fought final was the number two seed James Hamblett. Guy Attew, from Ipswich, won Band 2, overcoming Tommy Lyons in the final. In Band 3 the winner was Aryan Sharma from London beating our own Jeremy Davies. Jeremy, who only turned 11 a few weeks ago, is an excellent prospect for the future. Thanks to Andy Webb for another set of great photos. These action shots of the finalists, along with the rest of Andy's photos, can be found on his website [HERE](#).



Joe Hunter



James Hamblett



Guy Attew



Tommy Lyons



Aryan Sharma



Jeremy Davies

We have two more tournaments coming up soon. On Sunday 7th July, a Cadet Two Star and on Sunday 21st July a Junior Two Star. If you know players who would like to enter please remind them to get their applications in early because our tournaments are always full by the official closing

dates. For more information see our website [HERE](#).

We have four further tournament dates approved, and the details will be posted on our tournament page as soon as possible.

British League Round Up: An Unfinished Marathon

Our six British League teams have had a marathon season, and it's not over yet! In the Premier Division our top team narrowly failed to reach a position of safety at the end of the scheduled matches, and now face the prospect of a possible play-off against one of the promotion contenders from the Championship Division. At the time of writing, we have no news about when or where the play-off match will happen, or even if it will be required.

All our teams battled hard during the season and had mixed results. In the Championship our squad of seven finished 5th in the table. Steve Beerling, Tony Halling, Ethan Walsh and Jack Bennett all achieved a win rate of 50% or more. Our third team, playing in B3, finished 6th and Jack Stockdale was the most successful player in our squad of eight, winning 63% of his matches. Our fourth team entered in the next tier and had an even larger squad: ten players appeared for the team, but BATTs IV finished at the foot of the table despite winning two matches towards the end of the season.

BATTs also had two boys' teams in the Junior British League, and all our players performed well, finishing with averages of 45 - 55%. Both teams ended the season in fifth place in their divisions. The whole squad deserves great credit for their persistence and effort during the long season.



Special congratulations to Ethan Walsh, Fin Cameron-Prior, Joe Walker and Sam Chesterman who between them played almost 200 singles, representing BATTs at both senior and junior level: a truly outstanding effort from these young players. I would also like to congratulate Neil Brierley who again took on the main organising role for all teams, working tirelessly to make sure we had enough players to fulfil the punishing schedule of matches.

Looking ahead, it would be great if we could have a ladies and/or girls team in the British League again. As far as the Premiership is concerned, please watch out for news of the potential play-off match- we may need supporters out in force!

National Ranking - Climbing The Ladder

We have a new generation of younger players following hot on the heels of our experienced juniors (see above), and when the May ranking lists were published we were delighted to see five BATTs players in the top 60 of the national Under 13 list. That is a first for BATTs!

Congratulations to Isabelle Lacorte, Ralph Pattison, Kamari Jagdeo-Bailey, James Donald and Sam Taylor for their achievements so far, and we look forward to more from this hard-working bunch.



But if those five are not resting on their laurels neither are we! Yet another keen cohort of players are busy notching up their 10,000 hours and we are always keen to find more.

The key to success is to combine two elements: training and competing. As far as training is concerned, we can provide plenty of table time at BATTs. Not so straightforward is the other element. While we do run some competitions and tournaments at BATTs it is essential, if a player is looking to progress nationally, to enter tournaments elsewhere. This takes a degree of commitment on the part of parents/ carers because travel is involved.

Thanks to an initiative from Daren Donald and Rob Pattison (parents of James and Ralph) we now have a simple method that could help other parents/carers to keep informed about tournaments happening in other locations. This opens up various possibilities, not just for exchanging information about the competitions but also lift sharing. It's all based on a WhatsApp group and if you are the parent/carer of one of our players you can join the group very easily by sending your mobile number to Daren Donald at 07740 784021. Once you are in the group Daren will send you a link to a handy calendar of tournaments, and you will be included in exchanging conversations about possible tournaments to attend.

Doubles Is No Trouble For Declan

Thanks to the brilliant computer skills of Declan Garner we have developed another highly innovative informal competition platform. Totally paperless, it allows us to run tournaments where the only requirement is players who want to participate in a fast-moving competition. It works equally well for singles and doubles, as we found out recently when we ran a Drawn Doubles involving 40 players who managed to play 166 matches in under two hours. Declan, who is seen more regularly coaching our beginners and intermediate players, also set up a large screen to enable players in the tournament to follow progress live.



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Saturday 27th April 2019 BATTs Paired Doubles - Prize Giving				
	NAME	Games Won	Games Played	% to nearest %
A	Victor Ramirez & Louis Rolland	2	8	25
B	Cristian B & Charlie Jeffryes	8	9	89
C	Kim Cheung & Kenneth Man	4	8	50
D	Colin Barham & Charlie Davies	0	11	0
E	Nick Siddall & Ethan Smith	6	8	75
F	Faith Frankel & Josh Smith	4	8	50
G	Rai Liiv & KC Man	3	9	33
H	Cesar Ramirez & Andrew Webb	3	9	33
I	Michael Roberts & Cathy Parsons	1	8	13
J	David Cammish & Tom Holloway	4	8	50

Leaderboard (highest percentage of wins at the top)			
NAME	Games Won	Games Played	% to nearest %
Cristian B & Charlie Jeffryes	8	9	89
Alex Tate & Peter Mayo	8	9	89
Nick Siddall & Ethan Smith	6	8	75
Hervé Rolland & Ali Graham	6	8	75
Alan Burnett & Jet Ezra	5	7	71
Joachin Mapes & Mario Ioakim	6	9	67
Toby Petch & Nieman Prince	5	8	63
Alan Bull & Peter Alexander	4	7	57
Xander Petch & Bruce Richards	5	9	56
Gary Read & Jeremy Davies	5	9	56
Kim Cheung & Kenneth Man	4	8	50

Harlow League: BATTs Sakis Supreme

The BATTs Sakis were the most successful of our seven teams in the Harlow League, finishing top of the Premier Division. Leading the Sakis' charge was the indestructible Peter Radford who was unbeaten throughout the season. Not far behind Peter were Django Fung (93%) and Kuan Lim (83%). Two other

BATTs teams finished in second position in their divisions: the Howler Monkeys were runners up in Division 1B, and the Silverbacks runners up in Division 2.