

Introduction

We would like to open this latest newsletter by wishing all RTTC club members a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. The New Year will be that bit more special for us at the Club since we will be welcomed back with a new floor at the club. We plenty to tell you about so settle back with your feet up and enjoy a good read. By the way if anyone wishes to contribute to the Newsletter or give any feedback whatsoever on the contents then don't hold back speak to either Alan Burgess or John Andrews or send in an e-mail.

Proud RTTC

We're doing well in the Colchester League once again this year, under the banner of H2O Rowhedge. We are currently holding the top two positions in Division One and three out of the top four. In Division Two, we are nicely poised in second place and with a strong push in the second half of the season, division one beckons for the youth and experience D team. The F team in Division 3 are finding the going tough at the moment, but we still have faith in them and are certain that their performance will pick up in the new year. We are extremely chuffed with our young side in division four, comprising in no particular order, Mark Smith, Harry Totham, Thomas Lewis, Andrew Harvey, Grant Donaldson and Tom Stedman, with a few others in the wings just waiting for their chance. In their very first season in the League they are more than holding their own and doing themselves and the Club Proud. Well done to them all.

Team Captains

Whilst we are on the subject of the League and Team performance we would just like to take a moment and say a big thank you to all the H2O Rowhedge Team Captains. You are doing a vital job. Thank you for arranging your teams each week, keeping the opponents supplied with refreshments at home matches, amongst other things.

A-Team Alan Burgess
C-Team David Moss
E-Team Peter Giles
G-Team Darryl Lott

B-Team Mike Andrews
D-Team Phil Ward
F-Team Boris Lau
H-Team Alan Burgess

We also have a polite request from Team Captains to help the home matches go as smoothly as possible.

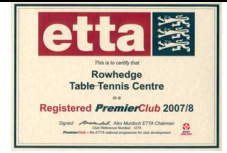
- Please arrive early enough to assist in the set-up of tables and surrounds. With the fold and roll tables we use it does not take long.
- Please remember to lock the table tops into position. This is the red metal strap under the table edge, at one end only.
- Check the match list displayed on the notice in the lobby to confirm the number of tables required. Normally all four are put up to allow for two match and two practice tables.
- Please be involved in clearing up at the end of an evening, don't leave all the work to the last team or teams playing. Stay and help. This request extends to washing and drying of the cups provided for refreshments.

Sponsors

Thanks are also due to our Sponsors H2O Kitchens & Bathrooms. Their support is greatly appreciated. So if you are in the market for a new Kitchen or Bathroom give them a visit. See their advert in the Colchester League handbook for more details.

Premier Club - Club Mark

Almost from the moment RTTC was formed we have had Premier Club status. It demonstrates that we are able to do that bit more for Table Tennis in the Colchester and we are very proud that we have been



able to maintain that status with the English Table Tennis Association. We are now looking to achieve Club Mark Status. This will mean among other things that a new avenue for funding would become available to the club. We have pulled together some information already but what we are looking for is someone to help the Club pull all this data together. Support would be available from the ETTA Regional Officer, Greg Yarnell, together with John Andrews and Alan Burgess. So we are looking for a volunteer. It could be a player or parent associated with the club. We don't mind, full training given!! So please give it some thought to helping the club achieve the next level.

Volunteers

Currently the Club operates with a Committee of three, John Andrews, Alan Burgess and David Moss. Of course we do not forget the support of the Team Captains. However we would like to strengthen the Committee with one or two new faces. There are a variety of roles available. Between the three of us, we try to cover them as far as possible but as you would expect one or two things are over-looked from time to time. So if you fancy joining the Committee, just speak to Alan, John or David.

New Shirts

Some of you will have seen the very smart new shirts which are now available for the princely sum of £5. They are subsidised by the club. If you wish to purchase a second shirt they will be at the full price of £20. Hmm, two shirts for £25 is not bad value. Think about it.

Tracksuit tops

We are also looking to supply Tracksuit tops. They will be a similar colour scheme to the club shirts. Samples will be available very soon, keep an eye out for the models at the club. We expect them to be around £40 each.

Individual Membership

You may not be aware of this, but with you payment to the Club and then via the fees paid to the Colchester League, you are all members of the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA). The actual amount is £4.28 per player based on a nominal team of four. So if your team comprises three players the amount works out lightly more, whereas a team of eight would be playing proportionately less. The ETTA wants to introduce Individual Membership, which would mean all players paying the ETTA directly for membership. There is a document on the Colchester League web site which provides some questions and answers on the subject. We recommend that you read it. There is a great deal of debate amongst the administrators of the sport of Table Tennis however it does also need the feedback from players.

Web Sites

Colchester:-

www.colchestertabletennis.org.uk/

Essex:-

www.essextabletennis.org.uk/

England:-

www.englishtabletennis.org.uk/

E-mail

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