

Surrey Press Report 2022-23

Aaron McKibbin won **Bronze** at the **World Para Table Tennis Championships** in Andalusia, Spain, in the Men's Class 8 Singles.

Surrey based **Paul Drinkhall** made it all the way to the **quarter-finals** of the **World Championships Men's Doubles** event with partner Liam Pitchford. Paul was also the last English person standing in the Singles event where he reached the last 32 losing to China's World No.5 Liang Jingkun.

Commonwealth Champions Paul Drinkhall and Liam Pitchford reached the heady heights of **No. 7** as a pair in the **world rankings**.

Aaron McKibbin and his Men's Doubles partner Ashley Facey took **Silver** in the Men's Class 18 event at the Lignano Masters Para Open in **Italy**. Aaron combined with Mixed Doubles partner Fliss Pickard took **Bronze** in the Mixed Class 14 event. Aaron also reached the quarter-finals of the Singles event.

Aaron McKibbin combined with Martin Perry to take **Gold** in the Men's class 14 Doubles at the **Greek Para Open** in Argostoli. Aaron McKibbin won a Bronze medal at the ITTF Slovenian Para Open in Lasko in the Men's Class 8 event.

Paul Drinkhall played for England in the European Qualifiers in the win against Serbia and in the European Team Championships Stage One return leg win over Serbia and the loss against France.

Paul Drinkhall made it into the main draw of the **WTT Contender Nova Gorica, Slovenia**, beating Steffen Mengel of Germany. In the main draw Paul lost 3-2 and 14-12 in the fifth to Can Akkuzu of France. Paul was beaten in the semi-finals of the WTT Feeder Dusseldorf event by Belgium's Martin Allegro. On his way to the semi-finals Drinkhall beat Youssef Abdel-Aziz of Egypt and Jules Rolland of France.

At the WTT Contender event in Durban Paul Drinkhall paired with Tom Jarvis went out of the Men's Doubles at the semi-final stage. The English pair were beaten in three close games (11-8, 15-13, 11-7) by top seeds Xu Haidong & Xu Yingbin of China. Paul Drinkhall went out of the WTT Star Contender Bangkok Men's Singles in his first match. However he did make it to the last 16 of the Doubles partnering Liam Pitchford and they lost 3-1 to Xue Fei & Xu Yingbin of China.

Paul Drinkhall went out of the Men's Doubles at the Singapore Smash partnering Liam Pitchford where they lost in the last 16 to Jakub Dyjas of Poland and Belgium's Cedric Nuytinck.

At the **Home Counties Veterans Table Tennis Championships** in the Isle of Man, **Tony Needham** won **Gold** for Wales in the over 70's Doubles partnering Paul Collins. In the over 70's team event he won **Silver** alongside Paul Collins and Dennis Bromage. The over 70's Singles saw Tony win **Silver**.

Evelyn Pace went out in the group stage of the under-17 and under-19 Girls Singles at the WTT Youth Contender Antalya in **Turkey**.

At the Mulhouse International Youth Open in **France**, **Oscar Nikolli** came eighth in the under-13's event. Oscar Nikolli has been selected for the England Futures squad.

Robert Pelc won a fistful of medals at the **British Universities & Colleges Sport** table tennis individual Championships, including **Gold** in the Men's Doubles with Shayan Siraj, **Silver** in the Mixed Doubles with Denise Payet and **Bronze** in the Men's Singles.

At the **National Table Tennis Championships** Surrey had a good showing and was involved in all three days of the English National Championships. **Nahom Asgedom** won a **Bronze** medal in the Men's under-21 event. Both Nahom Asgedom and Krish Chotai topped their groups in the Men's under-21 event. Krish lost at the quarter-final stage to Joseph Hunter.

In the Mixed Doubles Shaquille Webb-Dixon reached the last 16 with doubles partner Mya Sultan. Evelyn Pace reached the last 16 of the Women's Doubles with her doubles partner Bethany Ellis.

Paul Drinkhall won the **Men's Doubles** with Liam Pitchford. Nahom Asgedom and his doubles partner Toby Ellis knocked out a couple of seeded pairs before losing in the semi-final to Tom Jarvis and David McBeath. Robert Pelc and his Doubles partner Gabriel Achampong lost in the quarter-finals to Drinkhall and Pitchford. Shaquille Webb-Dixon and Joesph Langhem-Ferreira lost in the quarter-finals to Tom Jarvis and David McBeath.

In the Men's Singles Shaquille Webb-Dixon won his group. Shaquille was beaten by Liam Pitchford in the round of the last 16. Darius Knight lost in the quarter-finals to Paul Drinkhall and Drinkhall lost in the semi-finals to Tom Jarvis. Therefore **Paul Drinkhall** won a **Bronze** medal.

Former Surrey player **Danielle Kelly** won a **Bronze** medal at the under-21 Women's Welsh National Championships losing 3-2 in the semi-final. Danielle won a **Silver** medal in the Women's Doubles partnering Lara Whitton. Danielle also won a **Bronze** medal in the Women's Singles.

In the Bulgarian National Championships Surrey based Radoslav Kamberov reached the quarter-finals of the Men's Singles.

In the Senior British League Premier Cup, **Fusion** won the **Bronze** medal beating Drumchapel Glasgow 4-3 with **Shaquille Webb-Dixon** and **Robert Pelc** in the team.

Michelle McGovern won the **Veterans Southern Masters** over 50's Women's Doubles event partnering Carrie Cope. The **Midlands Masters** over 50's Women's Doubles winners were **Diane McLellan** and Rachel Smith. Diane McLellan along with her doubles partner Rachel Smith were runners-up at the veterans Western Masters in the over 50's Women's Doubles.

In the Senior British League Premier Division Joseph Langham-Ferreira playing for Brighton beat Ormesby 4-3. In the Senior British League Premier Division Fusion fielded an all Surrey team of Shaquille Webb-Dixon, Robert Pelc and Richard Pelc. They narrowly lost 4-3 to Ormeau. Joseph Langham -Ferreira played for Brighton TTC in the Senior British League as Brighton beat BATTs 6-1. In the Senior British Premier Fusion beat Batts 4-3 with both

Shaquille Webb-Dixon and Robert Pelc playing for Fusion. Shaquille Webb-Dixon played for Fusion in the British Premier League as they lost 4-3 to Urban TTC and Joseph Langham-Ferreira played for Brighton as they lost 6-1 to Ormeau.

In the Welsh rankings **Danielle Kelly** was **No.1** in the under-21 rankings and in the Irish rankings **Alexander Gillen** was **Senior Men's No.1**.

Aaron McKibbin won the Standing Doubles titles with Billy Shilton at **the British Para Table Tennis Championships**.

At the **veterans Super 60's team** Competition, **Tony Needham's** team Dorset plus One were Men's Division 3 winners. At the North Western Masters Tony Needham won the over 70's Mens Singles title and the over 70's Mens Doubles partnering Graham Outrim

Surrey based Radoslav Kamberov lost in the final of the London Grand Prix Men's Singles to Toby Ellis 3-2 (11-8, 5-11, 5-11, 11-5, 11-8). Francesco Bonato was Runner-up in Band 4.

At the **Butterfly Schools Team Championships**, Wallington High School for Girls won **Bronze** in the under-19 Girls event. Wallington Grammar School also won **Bronze** in the under-19 Boys event. Putney High School won **Silver** in the Girls under-13 event.

The Individual Schools Finals saw **Krish Chotai** take **Bronze** in the under-16 Boys event.

Krish Chotai got through the group stage at the Junior National Championships by beating Adam Dennison (17-15,9-11,12-10,9-11,11-9). In the under-17 event Krish reached the quarter-finals having topped his group.

In the Junior Girls British League South Croydon TTC came second in Division 3. The top Surrey player in the Junior Girls British League was Caron Charles on 84.6%. Krish Chotai was Surrey's top performer in the Boys Junior British League on 90% in Division 1 playing for Greenhouse 1. The top Surrey team was South Croydon TTC 1 who finished 5th in Division 1.

Michelle McGovern was Surrey's top player in the Veteran Women's British League playing for Topspin Fusion in the Premier Division. Adam Laws in the Veteran Men's British League was Surrey's top player playing for Central in the Premier Division. Graham Spicer 1 came fourth in Division 2 group 1.

Surrey's Junior 2nd Team playing in Division 1B beat Wiltshire 1 7-3, beat Cambridgeshire 1 7-3, beat Sussex 2 10-0, beat Suffolk 1 7-3 but lost to Middlesex 1, to become Runner-up in the Division. The team consisted of Jacob Archer, Francesco Bonato, Max Flint, George Stanev, Olivia Mak and Macy Ng.

A young Senior 2nd team represented Surrey in the County Championships Division 1B playing against mostly veteran's teams. They beat Buckinghamshire 1 6-4, drew with Berkshire 1 5-5, drew with Sussex 2 5-5, lost to Essex 1, lost Middlesex 2, lost to Suffolk 1 and lost to Norfolk 1. As you can see our 2nd team was mostly playing other County's 1st teams. The team consisted of Richard Pelc, Henry Maric-Murray, David McKensie, Olivia Mak and Isabelle Joubely.

The **Jack Petchey London Schools Table Tennis Finals** saw Putney High School win the under-13 girls competition. The winning squad: Isabella Turner-Samuels, Skye Laing, Martha Ground, Dai-An Nguyen and Yasmin Tunali-Flynn. Tiffin Girls came fourth.

In the under-16 Boys category Whitgift School won the Silver medal. **Wallington County Grammar School** won **Gold** in the under-19 boys event. Winning squad: Chid Egbeama, Jacob Archer, Ojasvii and Akal Dosanjh. **Wallington High School for Girls** were awarded the under-19 girls **Gold** medal.

At the **Jack Petchey Foundation Schools Table Tennis Individual Finals** Angad Saggi of Nishkam School won a **Bronze** in the under -13 Boy's event. In the Girl's under-13 event **Kelly Ng** of Wallington High School took **Gold** with **Eunice Lam** of Overton Grange winning the **Silver** and **Isabella Turner -Samuels** of Putney High the **Bronze**. **Anishka Kumar** won a **Bronze** Medal in the under-16 Girl's event.

Chidumebi Egbeama of **Wallington Grammar** did not lose a game all tournament as he won **Gold** in the under-19 Boy's event. His schoolmate **Akal Dosanjh** took a **Bronze** in the same event. Yuvathi Kumar of Wallington High and **Eleanor Turner-Samuels** of Putney High both won **Bronze** medals in the under-19 Girl's event.

London were **Champions** in the under-13 Boys event at the Inter-Regional Championships with **Oscar Nikolli** in the team. **Eunice Lam** was Runner-up in the under-13 Girls Individual event.

The **Surrey Closed 2022** saw **Aldora Li** swept all before her to win the Under 21 Women's Singles title with Olivia Mak as Runner-up. In the Under 21 Men's Singles **Krish Chotai** beat Ollie Maric-Murray. **Olivia Mak** won the Women's Singles titles with Emily Cheung as Runner-up.

In the Men's Singles semi-final saw Darius Knight beat Adam Laws in a match where Adam hit some great shots to lose 11-5, 11-8 12-10. In the other semi-final Krish took the second set off Radoslav to lose 3-1. The final was simply the best match that the Surrey Closed has seen in a very long time being between two Internationals that of Darius Knight and **Radoslav Kamberov**. In the fifth set Darius called a time out at 5-8 down. Next they were level at 8-8 following this it was 9 all then Radoslav took the next two points to win 13-11, 9-11, 6-11, 11-3, 11-9.

The final of the Open Doubles saw father and son **Goran Maric** and **Ollie Maric-Murray** beat Radoslav Kamberov and Vitaly Savenkov. **Carmen Vajdi** won the over 40's Women's round robin event and Diane McLellan was Runner-up. The final of the over 60's Men's Singles saw **Steve Davis** beat Michael Silver and Steve yet again retained his title. **Carmen Vajdi** also won the over 60's Women's Singles event. Annie Higham was Runner-up.

Adam Laws pulled out the night before and therefore the over 40's Men's Singles title was wide open. The semi-finals saw Jin Luo beat Daniel Heo and Chris Pullinger beat Michael Loveder. In the final **Jin Luo** beat Chris Pullinger 3-0. In the over 40's Open Doubles, doubles specialist **Goran Maric** partnered **Pawel Meryn** to beat Antioco Collu and Jeremy Wu in the final.

In the Boys under-19 Surrey Closed **Ollie Maric-Murray** beat his older brother Henry in a spectacular final to become Surrey under 19 Champion winning 3-1 (11-9, 12-10, 4-11, 19-17). The Girls under -19 Surrey Champion is **Aldora Liu** who beat Olivia Mak 3-1 (10-12, 13-11 11-9, 12-10).

In the **Surrey closed under-13's Boys** tournament congratulations go to **Callem Pace** who beat Noah Byrne-Smith 3-0 (11-9, 11-9, 15-13) in a pulsating match which had good fast counter hitting rallies. Congratulations also go to **Eunice Lam** who beat Chui Ha Wong 3-0 in the Girls under -13's event to become Surrey Champion. The Surrey under-11 development tournament saw eight under-11's play-off in two groups and then play offs. **Sean Lee** won the competition beating Hugo Johnson in the final 11-9, 14-12.

In the Croydon League Sparta A won the Division 1 title and Rory Scott of Ballards. The Guildford League saw Merrow A win the Premier Division and Adam Laws of Godalming A topped the averages on 95% after 63 matches played. In the Haslemere League Petersfield A won Division 1 and Stuart Vincent of Haslemere A finished on 100%. The Reigate and Redhill League saw Godstone 2 win the Premier Division with Rory Scott of St. Philips on 100%. In the Sutton League St. Pauls won Division 1 with their player Shaquille Webb-Dixon on 100%. In the Thames Valley League Graham Spicer 5 won Division 1 and Vadzim Antonau of Graham Spicer 2 finished on 100%. The Wandsworth League saw St. Paul 's A win Division 1 with their player Laikram Persaud top of the averages on 100%.

Yuvathi Kumar featured in a **Table Tennis England video** about why schools table tennis is so important.

Another wonderful day was had in aid of **Ukrainian refugees** at Graham Spicer's in New Malden on Saturday 24th September, which raised over £1400. Thanks goes to all the entrants and people who donated. Bribar donated some of the prizes as well as theart.co.uk who also donated all the food on the day. **Jarek Chrzanowski** won the tournament with Tim Waller Runner-up. Special thanks goes to Pawel Meryn for organising the event, Kumiko Williams for running the tournament, many other helpers and the Graham Spicer Institute for providing the venue.