



SURREY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION (STTA)

www.surreytt.co.uk

INTER - LEAGUE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP REVIVAL

A BIG, BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT PLAYED ON THE DAY AND TO THOSE WHO CAME ALONG TO WATCH AND SUPPORT THEIR TEAMS, IN WHAT WAS POSSIBLY THE GREATEST EVENT ON EARTH! A FURTHER THANK YOU GOES TO MARGOT AND JANE FOR ALL THEIR EFFORTS.



After many chase ups and reminders we succeeded in enrolling 5 out of 7 of our leagues into the days events: Croydon, Guildford, Haslemere, Sutton and Wandsworth were all successful in entering reaching our initial goal of 8 teams in the all new 2019 Inter-League revival.

The day started early with Haslemere League knocking on the doors of the Graham Spicer Institute - New Maldon to gain some valuable table time ahead of the competition arriving. Haslemere were rocking a brand new TTLegend black and yellow league strip and certainly would have won the best turned out team award, if we had one

The days events ran smoothly throughout under the experienced stewardship of our very own Jane Barella - Event Organiser.



And they are off!

Laughter and good humour was in abundance throughout the day with everyone reporting that they had enjoyed the whole of the days proceedings and were looking forward to a rematch next season. Obviously the winning team appeared to enjoy it a little more at the end. There was never a dull moment with well organised play running continuously throughout the day with some entrants looking a little jaded towards the end, sleep well.

Thankfully the anticipated problems with crowd control did not fully materialise with only two issues requiring our experienced referee Margot Fraser's involvement.

Refreshments and light-bites were provided throughout the day to help make this a very special revival. A mixture of crystal awards, sparkling wine and Bribar vouchers were available for prizes for all the winners and runners up.

It was great to see so many familiar faces come together to compete against other leagues in a friendly and competitive day.

The future is bright with

**TEAM
STTA**



Committee Members: **Mike Kercher** - President, **Mike Loveder** - Chairman, **Tony Laws** - Vice Chairman and Interleague Organiser, **Margot Fraser** - National Councillor and Umpires' Secretary, **Phil Snelson** - County Captain, **Kathy Pelc** - General Secretary, **Chris Andrews** - Press Officer, **Jane Barella** - Coaching Secretary and Welfare Officer, **Stephen Kelly** - Treasurer



What on earth happened!

After registration, the draw took place and the eight teams were divided into two groups with two seeds in each group, play commenced promptly at 10.00am with each team playing 3 matches in their groups. Every team performed well and the match results once again didn't reflect how closely many matches were fought. All matches were played in superb spirits with excellent sporting etiquette and lots of fun was the order of the day.

There were tough matches in the groups with Wandsworth 2 v Sutton 2 where 3 of the 5 games went to 5 sets and the remaining two being won in 4 sets that's how close it was. Michelle McGovern (Sutton) won a key match against Doug Taucher (Wandsworth) in 5 sets playing a very tactical game.

Sutton 1 beat Croydon 1, 3-2 which saw a superb doubles match won by Croydon 3-2. Leaving it for Quan Zhou (Sutton) to win his two crucial singles matches to achieve success.

The same group saw Wandsworth 1 v Croydon in a tightly fought match with the score being 2-2 going in to the final game, when Steve Fagan beat Simon Fisher 12-10 in the fifth which resulted in Wandsworth beating Croydon 3-2 and then going through to the semis as winner of their group.

Haslemere played some very tough matches contributing much to the day with Patrick Garlick and Stuart Vincent winning an excellent doubles match 8 in 5th against Sutton's Dean Rose and Michelle McGovern. Patrick Garlick had a great match against Michelle McGovern losing narrowly 9-11 in 5th.

So the semis were lined up with Guildford and Wandsworth 1 remaining unbeaten in their groups going through as winners, and Sutton 1 and 2 going through as runner up in each of their groups.

Wandsworth 1 v Sutton 2 saw Wandsworth win 3-1 and there were some exciting matches played. Michelle McGovern (Sutton) winning a cleverly played match 8 in 5th against Laikram Persaud.

The other semi saw Guildford beat Sutton 1, 3-0. The score didn't reflect the close match with John Robinson beating Jeremy Wu in 5 sets. Adam Laws was once again on fire beating Quan Zhou in 4 sets with 3 sets going all the way to deuce.

The final saw unbeaten Guildford and Wandsworth 1 teams challenging to be champions of the elite Surrey Inter League 2019.

Adam beat a fighting Cain Fagan putting Guildford 1-0 up and then Steve Fagan led John Robinson in the first 2 sets later going down 9-11, 10-12, 8-11 in a classic, fast match.

Guildford led Wandsworth 2-0 going into the doubles match. Superb rallies saw Guildford winning the doubles match 9-11, 12-10, 12-10, 12-10 and coming through winners 3-0 as Overall Champions of the 2019 Surrey Inter League.



Guildford League - Out-right Winners (Left to Right) John Robinson, (Margot Fraser STTA Event Referee) Adam Laws



Wandsworth League - Worthy Runners Up (Left to Right) Laikram Persaud, Steve Fagan, Cain Fagan

Please Note: Our Surrey Senior Closed is being held at Guildford Table Tennis Association on Sunday 5th May for details please see our website.