

Surrey Press Report 2016-17 (Chris Andrews)

At the **Paralympics** in Rio Brazil **Aaron McKibbin** won a **Bronze medal** in the Men's Team Class 6-8. The PTT World Team Championships saw Aaron McKibbin come seventh along with teammate Billy Shilton.

Aaron McKibbin picked up a **Silver Medal** at the **Slovenia Open** in the Men's Class 8 event.

In an all family affair **Paul** and **Jo Drinkhall** storm to the **National Mixed Doubles title**, winning the Mixed Double title for a now fifth time on their return to Competition for the first time since the Glasgow 2014. The Commonwealth Games Gold medallists produced some dazzling displays. The Drinkhalls beat England teammates and three times Mixed Doubles reigning National Champions Sam Walker and Tin-Tin Ho 3-0 (12-10, 14-12, 11-6) in the final in Nottingham in Jo's first event since the birth of her second child. As well as this **Jo Drinkhall reached the final** of the **Women's Doubles** with Kelly Sibley losing to Tin-Tin Ho and Maria Tsaptsinos the reigning Women's Doubles National Champions. All in all Jo Drinkhall had a great tournament and she didn't even enter the Women's Singles. **Aaron McKibbin** won the Men's Para Singles Class 6-8 **beating Will Bayley**, Billy Shilton and David Wetherill.

Whitgift School (Croydon) were **crowned champions** of the **English Schools' Table Tennis Association team finals under-19's event** and they are coached by Goran Maric. They won their matches 8-0, 8-0 and 5-3. In the under-11's boys Barnes Primary (Richmond) came third. Ernest Bevin College (Tooting Bec) were second in the under-16's boys event and fourth in the under-13's boys event.

Robert Pelc went on a **trial** for the **Table Tennis England Youth Development Squad**.

Ollie Maric-Murray is now **ranked number 1** in the country at the under-10's level.

Darius Knight won the **Crawley Grand Prix** main event, Fei-Fei Pei won the Women's Band 3 event. Darius Knight won the **Blackpool Grand Prix** Men's Open event. At the Bath Grand Prix Shaquille Webb-Dixon was Runner-up in the Men's under-21's event. At the Nottingham Grand Prix Darius Knight was runner-up in the Men's Singles event. Shaquille Webb-Dixon won the Men's Band 2 event in the process beating the winner of the veterans title.

At the **English Schools Table Tennis Association individual finals** in the Girls under-16's **Federica Bonato won Bronze**. On her way she beat higher ranked players than her in Alice Dillon (ranked 24 in the Junior Girls) and Sophie Barlow (ranked 9 in the Junior Girls) whereas Federica is ranked 43. **Ollie Maric-Murray** also **won bronze** in the Boys under-11's event losing to the No.1 seed and eventual Champion Conor Green.

The Jack Petchey London Schools Table Tennis Team Finals saw Whitgift School come 2nd in the under-19's Boys on countback. Ernest Bevin College won the under-16's Boys title and were runners-up in the under-13 Boys event. In the under-13's Wallington Boys lost in the semi-finals having already beaten the final winners. Barnes Primary won both the under-11 Boys and the under-11 Girls titles. In the Singles Jamie Nordin had a great win beating

England No.7 Junior James Smith to win the under-16's event and both Robert Pelc and Samuel Pang went out in the semi-finals.

The **British Paralympic table tennis championships** in Grantham saw **Lochlan O'Higgins** win the **Junior Wheelchair event** and the **Wheelchair Open B**.

The **Surrey Cadet 1st** team played **magnificently** well to stay in the **Cadet Premier Division**. The team consisted of Robert Pelc, Mikael Toosy, Jon-Val Chung, Charlie Cunningham, Danielle Kelly and Yuvathi Vijay Kumar and **Danielle Kelly won 78%** of her matches. With an **average age of just 12 the Cadet 2nd team came 5th in Division 1** which is just below the Premier League. The Surrey Junior team had 2 wins (9-1), that was with 2 cadet players and three others making their junior debuts. **Surrey Juniors** came an **unexpected third in Division 1B** and did excellent with a very young team of Jamie Nordin, Robert Pelc, Asa Gauntlett, Damien Gray, Isobelle Joubely and Frederica Bonato.

Surrey Seniors were runner-up in Division 1. They did very well to push Devon so close. Surrey Veterans 1 saw three out of three excellent wins from Michelle McGovern playing in place of the injured Sally Cimiotti, including a win over Michelle Reeves England number 10. Surrey 1 Veterans survive in Division 1A with a win against Kent. Surrey Veterans II stay in Division 2B and with new players having to be drafted in, both Surrey Veterans III and IV were relegated.

The top three players at Surrey's Cadet and Junior trials were as follows:

Junior boys 1. Jamie Nordin, 2. Robert Pelc 3. Alex Guertin

Junior Girls 1. Federica Bonato, 2. Isabelle Joubely, 3. Medha Verma

Cadet Boys 1. Robert Pelc, 2. Ollie Maric-Murray, 3. Charlie Cunningham

Cadet Girls 1. Federica Bonato 2. Arianna Di Giammarino 3. Yuvathi Vijaya.

Robert Pelc won the Cadet Boys Band 1 event at the Blackpool 4 star Junior Open.

Yuvathi Vijay Kumar won the under -13 Girls title at the Jack Petchey South London Schools Finals. **Mikael Toosy** won the under -13 Boys title. As winners Yuvathi Vijay Kumar, Mikael Toosy and **Jamie Nordin** represented their Schools. The Jack Petchey finals featured under 13 Boys **Mikael Toosy, Krishna Nagarajan, Matthew Pang** and **Elliot Nomafo**, under 16 Boys **Jamie Nordin, Samuel Pang** and **Robert Pelc** under 19 Boys **Liam Grant, Leon Griffiths** and **Kushal Patel**. **Ollie Maric-Murray** under 11's and **Henry Maric-Murray** under-13 had a bye to the finals as there was no Surrey Schools Competition.

In the **Senior British League top of the table clash Darius Knight** secured a 4-4 draw for his team Ormesby against Drumchapel Glasgow. With his team 4-3 down Darius won the last match (9-11, 11-3, 11-8, 11-4). In the British league Darius was the top Surrey player finishing on 91% in the Premier League. Godalming Simplylet were the top Surrey team coming 4th in the National A-2 Division. In the Veterans British League Graham Spicer came third in Division 3B. York Gardens Angels were top of the Women's British League Division 2. Graham Spicer came second in Division 4.

In the National Cadet League in their area Graham Spicer came 2nd and Guildford came 4th. Alejandro Ito-Aramendia of South Croydon was top of the averages at the National Cadet League at Horsham Division 1 with 9 wins out of 10 where Graham Spicer A came third.

Ollie Maric-Murray won two events at the Burgess Hill 2 star winning both the under-11 and under-12 events. Francesco Bonato won the under-12 consolation event. At the Horsham Spinners 2 star event **Ollie Maric-Murray won gold** in the under-12 event. **Damien Gray won Gold** in the under -18's. Nahom Goitam won the under-18's consolation event at the Horsham Spinners 2 star event.

The **London Academy 2 star** saw **Federica Bonato win both the girls under -15 and under -18 events**. **Ollie Maric-Murray won the under-11's event** and Francesco Bonato won the under-11's consolation. Jon-Vai Chung beat Alejandro Ito-Aramendia in the under-18's consolation event.

In the **Cippenham five by two 1 star Open** the final was an all Surrey affair with **Chris Bush** beating Federico Viterbo.

At the **South East Regional Qualifiers Robert Pelc** was the **winner** of the **Cadet Boys** event beating Jon-Vai Chung in the final. **Ollie Maric-Murray won the under-13 Boys event**. **Emily Cheung** qualified in the Girls under-11 event. In the South East Junior event **Jamie Nordin** beat Asa Gauntlett in the final.

It was a fantastic day for table tennis at the Surrey Closed Tournament and the first time the tournament had been held in over a decade. **Steve Davis** won the **over-40's Men's** final against Steve Fagan having lost to Steve Fagan in the group stage. **Sally Cimiotti won the over-40's Women's event**. **Carmen Vadji** beat Kim Johnson in the **over 60's Women's** final. **Ajay Shah** was Champion of the **Men's over-60's event** with Robert Barr as runner-up. **Lute Durham** won the **under-21's Women's** final against Ellie Frost. The **under-21's Men's** saw the battle of the Pelc's in which the younger brother Robert beat the older brother Richard. In the Final **Robert Pelc** beat Damien Gray. **Michelle McGovern** beat Sally Cimiotti in the final of the **Women's Senior event**. The Men's Senior event was won by Federico Viterbo. Federico put out Andreas Pusch, Adam Laws and in the final Robert Pelc in a five set thriller. On the way to the final Robert Pelc beat Daniel Heo and Michael Silver.

In the Croydon Table Tennis League Sparta A won Division 1 with their player Andre Dyce on 85%. Burymead B won the Guildford Premier Division even though they were level on points with Godalming A. Chris Bush of Burymead B was top of the charts with 96%. In the Haslemere and District Table Tennis League, College Hill 1 won Division 1. Dave Steel of Fernhurst & Midhurst finished on 100% after 12 games played. Godstone 1 won the Reigate and Redhill Premier League. Rory Scott finished on 100% after 15 games played. Crusaders A won Division 1 of the Sutton & District Table Tennis League. Mickel Miller was top of the averages with 100% after having played 39 games. Graham Spicer 1 won the Thames Valley League Division 1. Daniel Heo was top of the averages on 87%. York Gardens A won the Wandsworth & District Table Tennis League with Andy Sanders top of the averages with 100% after 30 games played.

We are looking for someone to revamp the Surrey Table Tennis Association website and run it afterwards.