

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

1st February 2008

Tonbridge has moved to the top of Division Three, after beating Canterbury D 8-2, and another fine 9-1 win over Maidstone C. A late result to come in that I could not include in my last report showed that Tonbridge gained a 6-4 win over Folkestone B. The Folkestone all-woman team, new-comers to the league, put on a fine performance against the experienced Tonbridge side with Alison Yarnley beating Tonbridge's Peter Duke in straight games in the first match of the afternoon. Her combination bat continued to present a lot of problems and she gained a fine win over Alan Gorman, winning 12-10, 11-7, 11-4. She also used her forehand smash to great effect, beating Tonbridge's captain Malcolm Cole in the last singles of the afternoon. Alison won the first game 11-5, but Malcolm levelled at one game all after a nail-biting second game 21-19. (The longest game in the league this season). Although Alison lost the third leg 5-11, she was able to regain the initiative to win the final two games 11-7, 11-5. Sue Bispham took the fourth point for Folkestone, also beating Malcolm Cole in five close games 11-4, 10-12, 11-5, 8-11, 11-9. However, Peter Duke, Alan Gorman, and Malcolm Cole proved too strong for Folkestone's Wendy Newsham. Peter Duke's fine attacking game was too much for Sue Bispham and the Tonbridge team ended as deserved winners.

The Folkestone ladies team was again involved in the closest match seen in the Kent League this season, with no fewer than six out of the ten matches ending in the fifth game. Although Wendy Newsham lost her three matches she really was the star player for Folkestone, with all her matches going to the fifth game. She was extremely unlucky to lose to Canterbury's Paul Davies. After just losing the first game 10-12, and levelling at two games all, she just succumbed in a marathon fifth game 16-18. Sue Bispham managed a fine win over the experienced Frank Carlucci 11-5, 9-11, 11-3, 8-11 11-7, while Alison Yarnley also beat Carlucci in four games 11-13, 11-5, 11-7, 11-3. However, Canterbury's Ray Britton's defence proved much too good, winning his three matches, but again was taken all the way by Folkestone's Wendy Newsham before finally winning 9-11, 11-2, 5-11, 11-3, 11-7.

Results: Maidstone C 6, Folkestone B 4; Bromley C 8, Ashford C 2; Canterbury D 6, Folkestone B 4; Canterbury C 7, Maidstone C 3; Bromley C 5, Tonbridge 5; Ashford C 7, Canterbury D 3; Tonbridge 6, Folkestone B 4; Tonbridge 9, Maidstone C 1; Tonbridge 8, Canterbury D 2; Canterbury C 7, Folkestone B 3; Maidstone C 9, Ashford C 1; Canterbury C 6, Canterbury D 4.

KENT LEAGUE VETS DIVISION THREE 1ST FEBRUARY 2008 POSITIONS & AVERAGES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1. Tonbridge	4	3	1	0	28	12	28
2. Canterbury C	3	3	0	0	20	10	20
3. Maidstone C	4	2	0	2	19	21	19
4. Canterbury D	4	1	0	3	15	25	15
5. Folkestone B	4	0	0	4	15	25	15
6. Bromley C	2	1	1	0	13	7	13
7. Ashford C	3	1	0	2	10	20	10

LEADING AVERAGES QUALIFICATION 2 MATCHES PLAYED

		P	W	%
Ray Britton	Canterbury C	9	9	100
Mark Heaton	Tonbridge	6	6	100
Brian Peaper	Maidstone C	9	8	89
Paul Davies	Canterbury C	6	5	83
Mick Barwick	Canterbury D	12	9	75
Geoff Curtis	Tonbridge	9	6	67
Peter Duke	Tonbridge	6	4	67
Richard MacKenzie	Bromley C	6	4	67
Alison Yarnley	Folkestone B	12	7	58
Colin Keating	Bromley C	6	3	50