

## 2008/9 Season Weeks 1 - 7

*To players old and new, welcome to the new season. For the benefit of any one new to the League, and also as a reminder to regular readers, you should know that anything in the match reports not appearing between square brackets was written by someone who had been at the match – so you'll know where to start looking if you disagree with it! Anything in square brackets will either be my comments based on a reading of the score card – minus a report – some weeks later, or, just occasionally where I've felt it necessary, a clarification/expansion of an existing report.*

*Have a good season,*

*Vernon Hyde  
General Secretary*

### Match Reports – Division One

#### **Hollingworth A 10 v 0 George Lane**

A good first outing for Hollingworth's new look squad, taking the match against a George Lane team without Pete, Fran or Kevin. The doubles between Paul Whyatt/Chris Guard and Ken Wood/Roger Etchells was by far the closest contest, with Hollingworth taking it in the 5th. Pete Morris was Hollingworth's third player – showing his class – and Harry Barlow brought his hard bat for George Lane.

#### **Hollingworth B 4 v 6 Rosehill B**

Two each for Ken Ward and Dennis Bradshaw, both with wins over Andy Perry and Bob Moores. Ken had to fight very hard for his two victories, both matches going to five games and close finishes. Dennis was in meaner mood! He consistently and successfully pinned Andy down on his backhand side, a tactic which produced for him an 11 – 9, 12 – 10, 11 – 7 win. He beat Bob 11 – 4 in the fourth. None of the home side could cope with Warwick Francis who, in positively demonic mode, beat Dennis 6, 6 & 6. Ken fared somewhat better but still couldn't into a fourth game, losing the third 12 – 14, whilst Vernon went down 6, 4 & 7. Vernon's last chance to contribute a point to the home side's total went astray, albeit narrowly, when he lost 6 – 11 in the fifth to Bob. Dennis and Ken played the doubles but couldn't beat Warwick and Andy.

#### **Rosehill A 7 v 3 Hyde YMCA 'A'**

[Phil Ashworth, Richard Sarre and Ian Stott each won two. Antony Gummersall succumbed to all three; Steve Lyons beat Phil in 5, Ian in 3, but lost to Richard 4 – 11 in the fourth; Matt Weatherby had a 14 – 12 win in the fifth against Richard and lost his other two singles. The doubles went to Rosehill.]

#### **Stanley Square A 4 v 6 Strines A**

An enjoyable night of table tennis to start the season. The away team made the most of a lack of practice by Dave Smart and Gary Owen, but Steve Hilton took three matches, with two going to five. Steve and Dave won the doubles to narrow the winning margin.

[For Stanley Square : Steve Hilton 3, Gary Owen and Dave Smart 0. For Strines : Pete Fowler, Jack Harrington, John Potts – 2 each.]

#### **George Lane 1 v 9 Hollingworth B**

With both Fran Marsden and Peter Jepson unavailable George Lane were always going to struggle in this one-sided affair. However, the match was played in a good spirit and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

[For George Lane : Ken Wood 1, Roger Etchells and George Clawley 0. For Hollingworth : Ken Ward and Dennis Bradshaw – 3 each; Vernon Hyde 2.]

#### **Strines A 4 v 6 Rosehill A**

A very competitive match with Phil Ashworth's victory over Graham Bellis the only one to finish in three games. Pete Fowler and Jack Harrington won two each for the home side, as did Phil and Richard Sarre for the visitors. Graham finished without a victory, but Dave Pegg added to his single win by teaming up with Richard to claim a good victory over Pete and Jack in the doubles.

### **Hyde YMCA 'A' 4 v 6 Hollingworth A**

Excellent, enjoyable match – the highlight of which was a tremendous match between Josh Boulton and Pete Morris which Josh just won in an epic five-game encounter. Josh remained unbeaten on the night. Richard Hinchliffe played well to beat Matt Weatherby. Matt's sole victory was in his match against Chris Guard. Neil Coppard tried hard, but to no avail. The win for the visitors was clinched in the doubles, with Pete and Chris beating Josh and Neil in four.

[For Hyde : Josh Boulton 3, Matt Weatherby 1, Neil Coppard 0. For Hollingworth : Pete Morris and Richard Hinchliffe – 2 each, Chris Guard 1.]

### **Village People 8 v 2 Stanley Square A**

[Nick Bakewell and Ron Mitchell went undefeated, although Nick was taken to five by Glen Chadwick. Steve Hilton and Dave Smart won the visitors' pair of points, each of them beating Steve Buckley 12 – 10 in the fourth.]

### **Hollingworth B 5 v 5 Hyde YMCA 'A'**

Not a good night for Vernon Hyde who was annihilated by Josh Boulton, humbled by Neil Coppard, and propelled inexorably into terminal collapse by Antony Gummersall, managing only a total of eight points in the fourth and fifth games of their match. Fortunately his team mates, Ken Ward, together with new signing Lionel Royle, were made of sterner stuff. Neither of them could beat Josh, but they did the business against Neil and Antony – not without a scare for Lionel however who wobbled somewhat against Antony! Lionel took the match 11 – 6 in the fifth. Ken and Lionel secured the draw by winning the doubles.

### **Hollingworth Nomads 9 v 1 George Lane**

Frannie Marsden destroyed Tim Baker's 100% record for the season (played 0, lost 0!) when he secured George Lane's only singles victory against the reigning champions. The home side eased through all the other games without losing a game, and Dave and Simon brought home the doubles to seal a 9 – 1 win.

### **Rosehill A 6 v 4 Stanley Square A**

[Geoff Ogden won his three singles but only just! Both Glenn Chadwick and Steve Hilton took him to five games, and in both matches he managed to win 11 – 9 in the fifth. Richard Sarre won two for the home side, beating Glen and Ian Dagnall but losing to Steve in the fourth. Ian Stott's single singles victory was against Ian. Steve and Glen took the doubles for the visitors with a fifth-game win against Richard and Geoff.]

### **Hollingworth A 4 v 6 Strines A**

[Pete Morris and Richard Hinchliffe scored the home side's four points. Richard beat Peter Fowler 11 – 9 in the fourth, and Graham Bellis – also in four. Pete beat Jack Harrington 11 – 9 in the fourth, and Graham in straight games. Paul Whyatt, having had no success in the singles, tried his hand at the doubles with Pete Morris but he found no consolation there, Pete Fowler and Jack taking the match in straight games.]

### **Hyde YMCA 'A' 3 v 7 Hollingworth Nomads**

Gary Newton was the star of the show for Nomads, winning all three of his singles and including a 12 – 10, 11 – 9, 12 – 10 victory against the previously unbeaten Josh Boulton. Dave Buckley also contribute 2 for the visitors, beating Matt Weatherby and Neil Coppard. Simon Hardwick lost to Josh and Matt but beat Neil in four. Simon and Gary beat Josh and Matt in the doubles to make the final score 7 – 3. Highlight of the evening was Dave, before his match with junior Josh, being asked not to swear – and obeying perfectly!

### **George Lane 0 v 10 Rosehill B**

The visitors proved much too strong, and although the table tennis was enjoyable the result was never in doubt.

[For George Lane : Fran Marsden, Ken Wood and Roger Etchells. For Rosehill : Jimmy Findlow, Andy Perry and Warwick Francis.]

### **Strines A 6 v 4 Hollingworth B**

Another close match, with Strines A having the edge in the singles, and Hollingworth B winning the doubles. John Potts won the match of winners, beating Lionel Royle, and Graham Bellis won the match of losers,

beating Vernon Hyde. Jack Harrington won against Dennis Bradshaw 13 – 11 in the fifth to make six singles for Strines A. Only two singles, and the doubles, were over three in games!

### **Rosehill A 9 v 1 Village People**

[The visitors had to wait until the very last few balls of the match to secure their single point of the evening. Steve Buckley and Di Twist beat Dave Pegg and Richard Sarre 14 – 12 in the fifth! Steve Buckley came the closest to getting another point for Village People, taking Ian Stott to five but losing 10 – 12 in the final game.]

[For Rosehill : Dave Pegg, Richard Sarre and Ian Stott. For Village People : Steve Buckley, Ronnie Mitchell and Di Twist.]

### **Stanley Square A 6 v 4 Hollingworth A**

Steve [Hilton] and Glen [Chadwick] worked hard for Stanley Square and took three matches each. Dave Smart didn't quite have enough to beat Richard Hinchliffe, losing 9 – 11 in the fifth. Hollingworth also won the doubles in the fifth to make the score a respectable 6 – 4 for Stanley Square. A sweaty Glen Chadwick had to change his shirt at the end – not a pretty sight!!

### **Hollingworth Nomads 7 v 3 Strines A**

A good night of table tennis. Nice to see new players coming into the League.

[For Hollingworth : Dave Buckley & Simon Hardwick – 3 each, Paul Neaves 0; For Strines : Jordan Potts, John Potts and Peter Fowler – 1 each. Dave & Simon beat Jordan & Peter in four.]

### **Hollingworth B 4 v 6 Stanley Square A**

Steve Hilton proved totally unimpressed by the combined skills of Ken Ward, Dennis Bradshaw and Vernon Hyde! He despatched Dennis in straight games, and Ken and Vernon in four. Dennis was forced to seek revenge by proxy – the proxy being Glen Chadwick who lost their match in three. Glen, however, had by then already proved too strong for Ken, smothering his best shots and beating him 11 – 6 in the fourth. He did much the same with Vernon, beating him in the fourth also, with the same scoreline. Each of the home team had managed to beat Dave Smart and so were in a position to get a draw providing Dennis and Vernon could beat Steve and Glen. It took five games to find out that they couldn't!

### **Village People 10 v 0 George Lane**

No evidence of the credit crunch at the YM. Steve 'Tea-Boy' Buckley starred, providing brews and chocolate Hobnobs! The Village People welcomed back old friends, but were less generous when it came to sharing the points. A good evening nevertheless. Di was taken aback by Ken's outfit.

[For Village People : Steve Buckley, Di Twist and Nick Bakewell; For George Lane : Fran Marsden, Ken Wood and D. McPherson.]

### **Rosehill B 7 v 3 Hyde YMCA 'A'**

An excellent game played in good spirits. Neil repeated his earlier win against Ian.

[For Rosehill : Warwick Francis 3, Jimmy Findlow 2, Ian Stott 1; For Hyde : Matthew Weatherby 2, Neil Coppard 1, Antony Gummersall 0.]

### **Hollingworth A 1 v 9 Rosehill A**

Some very good games, which were much closer than the final score suggests. The only Hollingworth success was Richard Hinchliffe over Geoff Ogden, but Chris [Guard] looped well and Paul [Whyatt] hit the ball at one hell of a pace. David Pegg played excellently and steadily and only lost one game all night. Richard Sarre had two five-game wins in his total of three, and Geoff got better as the night went on. A good night's table tennis, and a very good result for Rosehill.

### **Rosehill A 4 v 6 Hollingworth B**

It will be a long time before Geoff lets Lionel forget how he 'whitewashed' him in this vital match!

[For Rosehill : Dave Pegg 2, Geoff Ogden 2, Ian Stott 1; For Hollingworth : Ken Ward 3, Dennis Bradshaw 1, Lionel Royle 0.]

### **Hyde YMCA A 8 v 2 George Lane**

An early finish for a change as seven of the ten matches were decided in straight games. One notable exception was the match between Matt Weatherby and Fran Marsden which saw Fran finally victorious 11 – 2 in the fifth. Fran also won the visitors' other point by beating Neil. Ken and Roger tried hard but didn't win a game. Josh and Neil beat Fran and Roger in four to finish the evening off.

### **Stanley Square A 2 v 8 Hollingworth Nomads**

Nomads crossed the Stalybridge border and returned home with 8 points to aid their quest to retain the title. George Jones led the way with a full house, whilst Stanley Square's points came from wins by Steve Hilton over Dave Buckley and Tim Baker.

### **Strines A 4 v 6 Rosehill B**

Superb performances by Jordan Potts for Strines A, winning all three matches. Jimmy Findlow and Warwick Francis both took the first game off him, but ended up losing in four. Andy Perry went to five, losing the last 3 – 11. Jack Harrington won the other point for the home side, beating Jimmy in three. He went to five with Andy, losing 9 – 11 in the final game. John Potts had no luck, despite winning 11 – 1 against Jimmy and 11 – 4, 11 – 3 against Warwick he finished on the losing end of all his matches. The away side won the doubles to win the match.

### **George Lane 1 v 9 Strines A**

Much, much closer than the score suggests. [comment 1]

Harry played above himself, Ken gave too many points away, and Fran was on the wrong table. A convincing win for the visitors. [comment 2]

[for George Lane : Fran Marsden, Ken Wood, Harry Barlow; for Strines : John and Jordan Potts, Jack Harrington. Fran and Ken took the doubles in straight games against Jordan and Jack.]

### **Hollingworth B 2 v 8 Hollingworth A**

Not the best of nights for the 'B' team, their only points coming from Ken Ward's and Lionel Royle's wins over Chris Guard – in Ken's case, only just! Chris took him to five and lost 8 – 11 in the last. Both Ken and Lionel had close games with Pete Morris, but Pete was very much on form and he beat Ken 11 – 9 in the fourth, and Lionel 11 – 4 in the fifth. Paul Walker, who played at one time for Commercial and was probably the strongest player in the League, is making a very welcome return to Glossop this season. A mite unfortunate for Hollingworth B that his debut match was against them! He's lost none of skill, and was a delight to watch, in a sort of masochistic way! Lionel did very well to take a game off him, nobody else could. Vernon Hyde put in his most creditable performance in the doubles when, with Ken, he went down fighting – losing 10 – 12 in the fourth against Peter and Paul.

### **Village People 8 v 2 Hyde YMCA 'A'**

Village People's very own biker roared away, winning all three of his matches. Despite carrying an extra couple of pounds, Buckster's wealth of experience saw him safely through to victory and on to quaffing several pints in the pub afterwards. Everyone beware! Buckster is back! On a lighter note, Di got battered and bruised from the Gummers' hammer. All good clean fun (excluding all those nets against Neil.)

