

Derbyshire Squash Rackets Association

Press Release - 30 October 2007

Derbyshire Men's Leagues - Round 4 - 25 October 2007

Please see tables on <http://www.derbyshiresquash.co.uk>

Division 1

Hood Park kept the pressure on League leaders Dragons with a solid 4-1 win over surprise strugglers Duffield. Mick Worth's experience was clearly too much for Adam Armiger, 3-0 being the only result. Derbyshire O35 Richard Woodroffe was too strong for the talented Andy Storer and James Hodson wrapped up another 3-0 over Kyle McBride for Hood Park. Jack Blythe squeezed a game from Leon Armston, but Duffield's England O35 Jason Foster was their only winner beating John Freeman 9-4, 9-7, 9-6.

The Manor, Ilkeston are also looking to push for the top spot and helped themselves with a 3-2 win over an on-form Brampton ensuring Dragons and Hood Park are kept on their toes. The Manor's Nigel Millington was beaten by a resurgent Ian Hilton 9-5, 6-9, 9-5, 9-6 and Brampton's Jason Fearn also sneaked through 3-2 against Craig Walsh. Straightforward wins for John Underhill and Steve Smith meant that a decider was set up between Nottinghamshire's Nick Douglas and Derbyshire Captain Brendan Hickerman. In what on paper seemed a close contest was a one side affair as Douglas powered through to a 9-3, 9-5, 9-3 win.

Lumb Farm scored an important 3-2 win in their survival battle over injury sufferers Burton. Burton were looking good with some new signings at the top of their order. However, player unavailability and sadly another serious Achilles injury to Captain Lee Stanbury mean they may now become embroiled in the relegation battle. Lumb farm's Sam Brown and John Beastall each won 3-0, but Burtons' Carl Timms hit back with a late 5th game victory over Marcus Thomas. Burton's Adrian Murphy took a 2-0 lead over Marcus Thomas, but Thomas battled back to record a very valuable 3-2 win to secure the bonus points. Phil Brailsford came back from 2-1 down to recover some points for Burton.

Meanwhile Dragons maintained their dominance beating bottom placed Ashbourne 4-1. 3-0 wins abounded for Joel Hinds, Greg Loach, Karl Murray and Lee Watson. Derbyshire O45 Captain Mike Lambert was also on course for a clean sweep, but was forced to retire with a calf strain when 2-0 up.

Division 3

Queens Park 1 lead at the top of Division 3 was threatened by a sever thrashing at Rolls-Royce 1 . Other than stoic veteran Tony Robinson's 3-0 win over Vic Malysz, Queen's Park really had no answer to Rolls-Royce. Dave Green managed to wrestle a game off Chris Murray, but Fitz Haye, Alastair Parsons and Kevin Britchford were all easy 3-0 winners. Rolls-Royce are now looking favourites and it is seems to be their great team spirit that gives them extra drive.

Duffield 3 fielded a full team and recovered some momentum beating David Lloyd 4-1. Former Duffield player Matt Stone proving too strong for Neil Mitra 3-1 the 4th going Stone's way 9-8. Dragon's 3 are also on a roll beating Burton 4 5-0. However, Draycott are maintaining good form after they beat Hood Park 3 5-0. Hood's no.1 Mark Hoffman had to fight hard against Tom Woolager to score their only point as Hood were otherwise untroubled in their 20-1 points haul.

Division 5

Kimberley won out 3-2 in their local derby against Belper. Richard Tuck, Matt Ross and Steve Tulley won the match for Kimberley and were the main points scorers. Steve Keeling adding another point and narrowly missed out taking Donna Jackson into a 5th. Dragons 5 kept up their Clubs impressive start to the season beating Queens Park 2 4-1. QP's Andy Goodall recovered from the loss of the first game to beat Alan Haggart 3-1. Burton 6 were in good form beating Repton 3 3-2.

Individual Activity

Last weekend's Madrid World open saw Laura Hill's ease through her first round qualifying match, which was a useful warm up as she demolished her opponent, Anna-Carin Forstadius of Sweden, 9-0, 9-0, 9-1. Hill's second round match was a brutal 90 minute battle. 7th seed Louise Crome of New Zealand had suffered at the hands of Hill in Carcassonne last April. However, Crome looked well prepared and a pulverising match ensued. Crome winning the first before Hill got in to her stride to take the second. Hill was looking good in the third, but missed her footing and damaged her left foot. Crome took the third, but Hill bravely fought on to take a ferocious 4th. However, Hill's foot began to seize and the break between the 4th and 5th games took its toll and Crome won the 5th 9-0.

The Master Series relocates to Swindon where Neil Nightingale and John Beastall duel in the O55. Greg Loach gets a good draw in the O45s and has a chance of making the finals.

Kevin White

DSRA Chairman

Kevin@derbyshiresquash.co.uk