

Derbyshire Squash Rackets Association

Press Release - 18 March 2008

For more details about Squash in Derbyshire see: <http://www.derbyshiresquash.co.uk>

Derbyshire Squash AGM 7.30pm 13 May 2008 @ LA Fitness all clubs to send a representative (-5 points if not) & presentation of League Trophies.

Squash in the Olympics? <http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page14992.asp>

Ladies League

Duffield were crowned Ladies Champions 2007/8 as they held their nerve to beat Trent Vale 4-1 in a tricky last round of matches. Runners-up Burton also won 4-1 against Ashbourne and were there right to the end had Duffield not won convincingly. Duffield's winner were Hannah Blythe, Leo Shepperd, Donna Jackson and Anne Mason. Sheila Alcock managed to take a game off Sandra Albinson to ensure Duffield had enough points irrespective of Burton's score.

Burton beat Ashbourne 4-1 despite an upset at 5th string where Sue Smith lost out to an in form Lindsay Smith 1-9 1-9 10-9 4-9. Baljinder Beesia got Burton back on track beating Jayne Mumby in a see-saw match 9-6 4-9 5-9 9-5 9-7. Pauline Pelech and Andrea Cox beat Hilary Herridge and Jane McIntyre by 3 games to 1 and Desley Smith was too strong for Edwina Edwards 9-4 9-1 9-0.

Rolls-Royce finished on a high note beating Bradley House 3-2 despite fielding only 3 players. Tanya Charlton and Kate Carey each won 3-1 and with the match delicately poised at 2-2, Janice Smith and Julia Muzyka battled to a standstill for a team win. Muzyka took the first 8-10 only for Smith to succeed in the next 10-9. Neither player could get more than a point ahead in what looked like a crucial 3rd and it was Smith, looking for RR's only victory of the

season, who had the greater incentive to push through 9-7. The 3rd had taken its toll and Muzyka capitalised with a convincing 2-9. Smith's team mates renewed her determination for the team win and buckled down to some hard rallies forcing Muzyka out of her comfort zone. Gutsy play by Smith gave her the game 9-5 and at last a well deserved match for RR.

| Ladies Division 1 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts. |
|----------------------|----|---|---|---|-----|-----|------|
| <u>Duffield 1</u> | 10 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 152 | 52 | 152 |
| <u>Burton</u> | 10 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 148 | 57 | 148 |
| <u>Trent Vale</u> | 10 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 113 | 99 | 113 |
| <u>Ashbourne</u> | 10 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 103 | 108 | 103 |
| <u>Bradley House</u> | 10 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 58 | 156 | 58 |
| <u>Rolls-Royce</u> | 10 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 51 | 153 | 51 |

Derbyshire Men's Leagues Round 10

Division 2

Duffield 2 extended their lead at the top of Division 2 by 5 points over LA Fitness 2. Duffield were hosts to Burton 3 who were keen to continue their move away from the relegation zone. Jack Blythe and Adam Armiger each allowed a single game to their opponents and which was to be Burton 3's only reward in a tough night for them. Experienced Simon Barnett made Blythe work hard for the first

game and was able to prize the 3rd game, but the victory was always going to the more youthful legs of Blythe. Armiger, like Blythe, has improved significantly this season and will be pushing for 1st team selection next year. Doug Whitfield was able to wrest the 2nd game 10-8 from Armiger, but after that it was one-way traffic. Kyle McBride wrapped up the bonus points for Duffield with an assured win over Chris Morris and James Barry and Mitch Cook polished off a good evening's work for Duffield all winning 3-0. Cook talent is at last being matched by a little fitness, but again a lack of pre-season training means that the Duffield player only comes good at the end of the season.

LA Fitness 2 looked to be cruising to a 5-0 whitewash against home side **Burton 2** as Ian McKinnon, Paul Howell and Steve Hossent thrashed their opponents each 3-0. However, skipper Tom Comb recovered from the loss of the 1st game to Craig Simpson, winning the next two in fine style before the Simpson was able to stem the tide in the 4th reaching game ball. Comb used home advantage on the hot **Burton** courts to good effect and was able to draw level and then convert his first match point. Adrian Murphy also exploited home advantage and with his deceptive shots was able to hold and hit into the gaps left by Lee Watson. Once Murphy had taken the 1st game 10-9 there was only going to be one winner, as he took the next two 9-6 9-1.

With 3 matches to play **Lumb Farm 2** are going to have their work cut out to catch **Burton 3** and after their display against **Hood Park 2** relegation looks more likely. A late withdrawal meant the **Lumb Farm** had to concede 5th string, and with Ray Patrick, Nigel Storer and Simon Hurst in fine form each dispatching their opponents 3-0, **Hood Park 2** were 4-0 up in double quick time. Barry Marshall looked like he was going to save **Lumb Farm's** blushes as he powered through the first 2 games 9-2 9-5, but

Paul Sumpter found a better line and length in the 3rd to pressurise Marshall and as his error count grew the match turned Sumpter's way. Marshall briefly led in the 5th, but the match was always in the bag for the **Hood Park** man as he collected the last 3 games 4-9 0-9 5-9. **Hood Park 2** are now 15 points adrift of **LA Fitness 2** and may have to count on **LA Fitness** losing one of their last 3 matches.

Repton have made good progress up the table in the 2nd half of the season, but look like they have left it too late to catch **LA Fitness**, who lead them by 38 points. Nonetheless they recorded another solid win this time over home side **The Manor 2**. **Repton's** John Kirtland seemed to win the first two games too easily, relaxing in the 3rd to let Andy Rouston take the 3rd and from there Kirtland just couldn't get back in the match. All credit to Rouston as he won out 0-9 1-9 9-5 9-0 9-2. **The Manor's** Don Davis had a chance to take a 2-1 lead over Simon Evans, but the **Repton** man had lost the 2nd tie-break game and was determined not to repeat that. Evans gaining a 3-9 10-9 8-10 4-9 win to level the match score. Adrian Oldbury did well to recover from losing the 3rd game to love to go on to win 10-9 6-9 9-0 2-9 2-9. 3-0 wins from Simon Price and Ben Smith gave **Repton** a valuable 19 points and without a miracle consign **The Manor 2** to Division 3 next season.

Division 4

LA Fitness 4 extended their lead over **Duffield 4** to 31 points and are 50 points clear of **Sandiacre** meaning they are almost certain to be promoted. **LA Fitness's** opponents were **Burton 5**, who were dispatched 4-1. Sam Marsden was **Burton's** sole winner beating Martin Edwards 3-1. Garth Birtles led the way for **LA Fitness** with an emphatic 9-2 9-1 9-1 win against Carl Smith who was never allowed to settle.

Duffield 4 were thankful to the persistence of Simon Law and Tony Gregory who each won their matches 3-2 and allowed Duffield to beat home side Brampton Manor. Gregory had taken a commanding 2-0 lead over Carl Reading and held a match ball in the 3rd, but the Brampton man wasn't finished wrestling the 3rd from Gregory's grip 10-9, winning the 4th 9-4. Gregory reverted to his delicate lob and drop game which proved too accurate for Reading.

Sandiacre were at full strength again and made Repton 2 suffer a 4-1 loss. Ian Rodgers just edged out Stu Lee in a tightly fought match in which both players had several match points, their final score being 9-4 2-9 7-9 9-7 10-8.

| Division 2 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts. |
|---------------------|----|----|----|---|-----|-----|------|
| <u>Duffield 2</u> | 11 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 196 | 63 | 196 |
| <u>LA Fitness 2</u> | 11 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 180 | 83 | 180 |
| <u>Hood Park 2</u> | 11 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 165 | 100 | 165 |
| <u>Repton 1</u> | 11 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 142 | 116 | 142 |
| <u>Burton 2</u> | 11 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 118 | 151 | 118 |
| <u>Burton 3</u> | 11 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 105 | 173 | 105 |
| <u>Lumb Farm 2</u> | 11 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 89 | 175 | 89 |
| <u>The Manor 2</u> | 11 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 61 | 195 | 61 |

| Division 4 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts. |
|-----------------------|----|----|---|---|-----|-----|------|
| <u>LA Fitness) 4</u> | 11 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 198 | 42 | 198 |
| <u>Duffield 4</u> | 11 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 167 | 98 | 167 |
| <u>Sandiacre</u> | 11 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 148 | 114 | 148 |
| <u>Rolls-Royce 2</u> | 11 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 125 | 136 | 125 |
| <u>Repton 2</u> | 10 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 109 | 126 | 109 |
| <u>Brampton M'r 2</u> | 11 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 115 | 152 | 115 |
| <u>Burton 5</u> | 11 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 83 | 176 | 83 |
| <u>Hood Park 4</u> | 10 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 67 | 167 | 67 |

Racketball

The Manor 1 look well set to take the inaugural Racketball League Title. Duffield 1 are in pursuit and each team have 5 matches left offering a maximum of 80 points.

The Manor 1 took on their 2nd team and all looked well for the 1sts as James Healey, Craig Walsh and Nigel Millington each won 3-0. Greg Kingston won both the 2nd and 3rd games 15-14 to take a 2-1 lead over Jason Walsh, but Walsh's younger legs saw him through 15-13 in the 5th.

LA Fitness took a step away from the foot of the table beating David Lloyd on a points count back. In the 4-a-side format, when the match is 2-2 the number of games won is the deciding factor for the bonus points, but in this match a count back to the number of individual points then comes into play. LA Fitness won by just one rally. Duffield 1 were given few scares by their 2nd team although Andy Fairhurst was more than happy to win the 4th game 17-16 against Perry McKellan.

| Division 1 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts. |
|-----------------------|----|---|---|---|-----|-----|------|
| <u>The Manor 1</u> | 9 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 133 | 34 | 133 |
| <u>Duffield 1</u> | 9 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 109 | 64 | 109 |
| <u>David Lloyd</u> | 11 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 102 | 103 | 102 |
| <u>The Manor 2</u> | 10 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 87 | 108 | 87 |
| <u>Brampton Manor</u> | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 59 | 39 | 59 |
| <u>The Manor 3</u> | 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 42 | 72 | 42 |
| <u>LA Fitness 1</u> | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 41 | 49 | 41 |
| <u>Duffield 2</u> | 9 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 29 | 133 | 29 |

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