

# Derbyshire Squash Rackets Association

Press Release - 25 March 2008

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

**County Knock-Out Cup - semi-finals and finals at LA Fitness on 11/12 April.**

**Laura Hill appears in an article of the 'Derbyshire Magazine', April edition.**

Hill (WR45) restarts her international tour when she travels to Montreal to play in the \$26,700 Atwater Cup. Hill's first round opponent is Australia's Kasey Brown (WR15) who is seeded No.3 in the tournament. Hill will also be appearing in Dublin in the Irish Open at the end of April and will defend her title in the Carcassonne Open in May.

## Derbyshire Men's Leagues Round 13

### Division 1

**LA Fitness crowned champions.** A weakened LA Fitness were still too good beating **Brampton Manor** 4-1 away from home. Mike Lambert and Lee Watson each won 3-0 against Adrian Davies and Steve Barker respectively to give LA Fitness all the points they needed to take the title. Karl Murray overcame the loss of the 1<sup>st</sup> game to Ian Hilton to yield the bonus points for LA Fitness. Greg Loach was happy to squeeze through the 3<sup>rd</sup> game 10-8 against the steady and accurate play of Jason Fearn. Brendan Hickerman got one rubber back for Brampton in an all-runners affair with Ryan Loska. LA Fitness have thoroughly deserved the title being totally dominant, beating close rivals Hood Park both home and away. They have only dropped 21 points in the entire season and conceded a meagre 52 games while winning 174 out of a maximum 195.

**Duffield** were given an early opportunity to avenge their defeat by **Lumb Farm** in the County Knock-out Cup of just a week before. First on court was fast improving youngster Chris Burn who was playing highly experienced John Beastall. The pair shared the first two games 2-9 9-2 and matched each other point for point to 6-6 in the third. Beastall then reeled off three winners after moving Burn out of position to reach game ball. Burn showed real pace, retrieving several improbable balls before a lucky dead-nick gave him a chance to peg Beastall back. Burn pressured Beastall by going short and counter attacking loose retrievals, first pulling level at 8-8 and then taking the game 10-8 with another fine drop shot. Burn looked to capitalise on the turn around in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and quickly leapt to a 6-3 lead, but Beastall always a fighter began to find a good length and once he'd got Burn at the back stepped in to put the volley away. Beastall finished the 4<sup>th</sup> with a delicate backhand volley, too short for Burn 9-6. The momentum was now with Beastall and he pushed home the

advantage taking a 6-1 lead in the decider. Burn replied though and rallied to 6-3, before Beastall regained control and reached match ball 8-4. At this point Burn seemed to change up a gear, again retrieving some improbable shots, Beastall began to look tired. Burn chipped away a point at a time and each of Beastall's 5 match balls, Burn somehow hung in. Burn himself had 5 match balls before sealing the tightest and toughest of matches with a forehand dropshot. This was a great win for the youngster, and as the tie developed it was effectively the decider between the two teams.

Millie Tomlinson played the enigmatic Tom Gregory who was full of wonderful and inventive shot play, but flawed by lapses in concentration. Tomlinson battled hard as she ever does and did well to capture the 2<sup>nd</sup> game and set the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Felix Frixou was out of sorts and against England O55 Neil Nightingale wasn't able to settle in a 5-9 4-9 2-9 win for Lumb Farm. Adam Armiger's smooth movement around the court was in stark contrast to Marcus Thomas' laboured efforts as the Duffield man levelled the tie with a comprehensive 9-3 9-4 9-3 win. Kevin White looked particularly sharp having recovered from flu with Matthew Whitehead thankful for White relaxing at 6-0 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> to record his only point.

**Hood Park** swept aside **Ashbourne** 5-0 in double quick time with none of the away side winning more than 10 points. James Hodson beat Grant Nicholson without

dropping a point and John Freeman only conceded 3 points to Mike Herridge. The **Manor** beat **Burton** 3-2 in a close tie with each side winning 9 games and have secured 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Division.

### **Division 3**

**Draycott** had already secured a promotion spot in the last round of matches, this week they have won the Division 3 title with one match remaining. Hosts **Queens' Park** were looking at this as their last chance to gain promotion and although they fought hard it was the Division champions elect who came away with the spoils despite each side winning 10 games. Tom May got Queen's off to a good start beating Steve Reeves 3-0, but skipper Martin Bostock hit back with a fine 3-2 victory over Dave Green coming back from 2-0 down. Peter Slowikowski also won 3-2, for Draycott to go 2-1 up. Rob Essex hit back for Queens, beating Martin Rose 3-1, but Steve Warren wrapped up the win for Draycott defeating Charles Noble 3-0.

**LA Fitness 3** did themselves a power of good in the race with Rolls-Royce to the 2<sup>nd</sup> promotion spot as they tore through a weakened Hood Park 3 team.

**Rolls-Royce's** promotion hopes were dealt a blow as visitors Duffield recorded a 3-2 win. It could have been worse for RR as Kevin Britchford survived a match ball in the 3<sup>rd</sup> leaving Richard Grindrod rueing a missed chance of an early shower. Britchford fought his way to an excellent win 5-9 6-9 10-8 9-4 9-6 to put RR on equal terms after John Wright had given

Duffield the lead, beating Ewen Tanner 3-0. Dave Langley gave RR a 2-1 lead, but Phil Bond and Sam Yallop were too strong at the top of the order for RR as Duffield scored a rare away win.

### Division 5

Queens Park romped to a 5-0 victory over Repton 3 and collected 20 points in the process. Andy Riley was briefly held up by George Whitehurst as the Repton no.1 won their only point.

Division 1	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
LA Fitness 1	13	13	0	0	239	52	239
Hood Park 1	13	10	3	0	204	79	204
The Manor 1	13	10	3	0	177	117	177
Brampton Manor 1	13	6	7	0	153	142	153
Duffield 1	13	5	8	0	147	150	147
Burton 1	13	5	8	0	136	172	136
Lumb Farm 1	13	3	10	0	87	209	87
Ashbourne	13	0	13	0	28	245	28

Division 3	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
<u>Draycott</u>	13	12	1	0	218	85	218
<u>LA Fitness 3</u>	13	9	4	0	195	114	195
<u>Rolls-Royce 1</u>	12	8	4	0	168	112	168
<u>Queens Park 1</u>	12	7	5	0	164	129	164
<u>Duffield 3</u>	12	6	6	0	145	137	145
<u>David Lloyd</u>	12	3	9	0	115	177	115
<u>Hood Park 3</u>	12	4	8	0	92	188	92
<u>Burton 4</u>	12	0	12	0	62	217	62

Division 5	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
LA Fitness 5	8	8	0	0	154	22	154
Queens Park 2	10	8	2	0	153	75	153
Kimberley Manor	8	3	5	0	89	101	89
Burton 6	8	3	5	0	81	113	81
Repton 3	9	4	5	0	69	136	69
Belper	9	1	8	0	56	155	56

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