

# Derbyshire Squash Rackets Association

Press Release - 17 September 2008

<http://www.derbyshiresquash.co.uk>

## Derbyshire Squash League

### Men's League

#### Division 1

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Duffield 1	1	1	0	0	18	5	18
LA Fitness 1	1	1	0	0	17	7	17
Lumb Farm 1	1	1	0	0	17	7	17
The Manor 1	1	0	1	0	7	17	7
Burton 1	1	0	1	0	7	17	7
Duffield 2	1	0	1	0	5	18	5
Brampton Manor 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

LA Fitness started their campaign in fine style with a 4-1 victory over The Manor. The Manor has assembled a very strong team with Darren Lewis a last minute addition to their line up at No.1. Despite this ambush LA Fitness showed stood firm from the off. Mike Lambert must have thought Nigel Millington a spent force after taking the first 9-6, but Millington's tough summer training enabled him to take the next 10-8 and then take the third 9-5 to lead 2-1. On the back foot, Lambert rallied hard, found his good length and pulled ahead in the 4<sup>th</sup>. Millington chose to let the 4<sup>th</sup> go and concentrate on the decider. It was a good choice as Millington eased to match point 8-6, both players equally tired, but could not convert his first match point and another went begging at 8-7 with another 'tin'. Lambert capitalised on these errors and slotted away his first match ball. LA were on the back on the road to win.

Karl Murray also looked fit and sharp and after a close 1<sup>st</sup> game went his way 10-9, Craig Walsh

was no match. LA were now 2-0 up. Jonathan Underhill struck back for The Manor with an assured display of shot making against Ryan Loska. Again once the 1<sup>st</sup> was captured 10-8, Underhill's confidence grew and took the next to reasonably comfortably. Greg Loach showed he was ready to reclaim an England O45 spot beating Jason Walsh 3-1. Loach doesn't give too much away and it was only Walsh's speed around court that kept him in the 1<sup>st</sup> game. Once Loach had honed his length game he ran through the 1<sup>st</sup> 9-6, quickly added the second 9-0 and looked set to administer a 3-0 drubbing, but Walsh responded well in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and took the game 10-8. Loach's looked fitter this season than last and it showed, another remorseless 9-0 to see LA to a team win.

And to the clash the spectators were looking forward to ... Joel Hinds (Eng No. 28) against Leicestershire's No. 1 Darren Lewis. Perhaps this was too early in the season for another epic encounter, but Hinds looked keen and in good form whereas Lewis only briefly looked himself - taking the 2<sup>nd</sup> game. Hinds triumphed 9-3, 1-9, 9-2, 9-3.

Duffield 1 top the Division by a single point over LA Fitness, but failed to grab maximum points over their 2<sup>nd</sup> team. This is the first time in 5 seasons that Duffield have topped the table. More is surely to come when Paul Hargrave, currently in training, is fully recovered from injury.

John Slater showed a big improvement from last season beating Laura Hill 2-9, 9-7, 7-9, 3-9 for Duffield 2's only win. Hill's patience wore thin with the non-playing 2<sup>nd</sup> Team captain who again couldn't help himself get involved in and spoil an otherwise intriguing match.

Steve Strange showed that class is indeed permanent in his welcome return to the 1<sup>st</sup> team. Strange was far too quick and accurate for Kyle McBride and powered to an easy victory 9-4, 9-2, 9-1. McBride will need to cut out the vast number of mistakes if he is to step up a level. After a quiet 2007/8 season Andy Storer's enthusiasm has return fending off a late challenge from Adam Armiger at no. 5. Storer was all over Armiger leading 9-4 9-3 and 4-1, but then began to get involved in some long rallies which went in Armiger's favour. Armiger took the 3<sup>rd</sup> 9-7, the fourth went his way also, 9-0 in less than 3 minutes, and was 7-2 up in the decided before Storer went back to square one a dispatch the ball into the 'nick' to take the 5<sup>th</sup> 9-7. Kevin White and new team captain Jason Foster showed their experience taking out Mitch Cook, looking ready for hibernation, and James Barry each 3-0.

Lumb Farm 1 put last season's blues well behind them with an encouraging victory over Burton. John Freeman made all the difference at No.1 even though Tom Gregory and skipper John Beastall were absent.

### Division 3

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
LA Fitness 3	1	1	0	0	20	4	20
Queens Park 1	1	1	0	0	19	7	19
Rolls-Royce 1	1	1	0	0	19	7	19
Duffield 3	1	1	0	0	18	5	18
David Lloyd	1	0	1	0	7	19	7
Hood Park 2	1	0	1	0	7	19	7
Duffield 4	1	0	1	0	5	18	5
Sandiacre Friesland	1	0	1	0	4	20	4

New boys Sandiacre were at home to LA Fitness 3, but the home advantage came to nothing as in a 4-20 whitewash. John Holmes opened LA's account beating John Ockenden 3-1 and Keith Howard made it two with a 3-0 win over Stuart

Lee. Eric Archibald took the first game and had a game point in a crucial second, but Rob Sillett hung on to take it 10-9 and then won the 3<sup>rd</sup> 9-1. Archibald halted the slide winning the 4<sup>th</sup> 9-4, but the effort proved too much as Sillett won the 5<sup>th</sup> 9-5. Garth Birtles won in 3 straight games and Ian Mackinnon held off Jordan Skinner 10-9 in the 4<sup>th</sup> to hit maximum points for LA 3.

Queens Park showed they weren't dwelling on missing promotion last season when they beat Hood Park 2 4-1. Martin Slack took a little time to settle in before comfortably winning 3-0. Richard Wormersley was the only winner for HP 2 beating Tony May 9-7 in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> games. Dave Green squeezed through 9-4 in the 5<sup>th</sup> and Charles Noble saved a match point to beat Pete Wood 10-8 in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Robert Essex was too strong for Kenny Grant 3-0 to give QP1 19 points.

In another all Duffield clash the 3<sup>rd</sup> team were happy to take 18 points to the 4<sup>th</sup> team's 5. Richard Grindrod starred for 4<sup>th</sup> team as he overcame the loss of the 1<sup>st</sup> game to John Wright to take the tie 3-9, 9-0, 9-5, 9-7. England O45 and Duffield stalwart was slow to start against the short game of Tony Gregory to hit back 1-9, 9-5, 6-9, 2-9. Chris Alcock and Neil Mitra both won 3-0 to wrap up the bonus points and team captain Phil Bond beat Qamran Jaqoob 3-1.

Rolls-Royce 1 got their season off to almost the perfect start with a 19-7 point win over David Lloyd 1. Kevin Britchford and Ian Rigby showed the way with two 3-0 wins, but Chris Murray and Cliff Ransom had it much harder, both coming back from 2-0 down to give RR a rather handy 4-0 lead. Lisa McKenna missed out on a match ball in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and then her opponent Fitz Hays powered through the 4<sup>th</sup> and looked good to add to David Lloyd's woes. However, McKenna's great record from last season continued as she took the 5<sup>th</sup> 9-6.

## Division 5

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
LA Fitness 5	1	1	0	0	20	2	20
Burton 4	1	1	0	0	18	8	18
Burton 5	1	1	0	0	16	8	16
Hood Park 4	1	0	1	0	8	16	8
Lumb Farm 3	1	0	1	0	8	18	8
Bradley House	1	0	1	0	2	20	2
Kimberley Manor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Repton 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

LA Fitness 5 beat league newcomers Bradley House 5-0, but at least Bradley recorded their first points. Mark Talbot and Shail Chauham each eked out a game from Alan Haggard and Mark Steadman. Bradley House certainly weren't overwhelmed and are a welcome addition to the leagues.

Burton 4 were stopped by Lumb Farm 3's skipper Aide Elks from recording maximum points in his 9-7, 4-9, 6-9, 2-9 win over Andy Hambleton. Burton 5 are hot on their 4<sup>th</sup> team's heels taking out Hood Park 4. Steve Quigley, Dick Lathbury and Steve Green doing the business for Burton.

**Kevin White**  
DSRA Chairman