

Derbyshire Squash Rackets Association

Press Release - 25 November 2008

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

Derbyshire Squash Men's Leagues Round 5

Division 1

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
<u>Duffield 1</u>	5	5	0	0	90	28	90
<u>LA Fitness 1</u>	4	4	0	0	73	16	73
<u>Lumb Farm 1</u>	5	3	2	0	66	57	66
<u>The Manor 1</u>	5	2	3	0	60	64	60
<u>Burton 1</u>	4	2	2	0	46	46	46
<u>Brampton 1</u>	5	1	4	0	35	75	35
<u>Duffield 2</u>	6	0	6	0	28	112	28

In what proved to be their closest match of the season Men's Division 1 leaders **Duffield 1** held off a strong challenge from **The Manor** to beat them 3-2 and 16-10 in league points. Duffield 1 now go 17 points clear of LA Fitness at the top of the League, who have a game in hand next week. Defending Champions **LA Fitness** beat off a spirited effort from **Lumb Farm** 16-7 and it is all set up for an exciting match between the top two when Duffield host the crucial fixture on 4th December. One of them will lose their 100% record and the initiative going into the Festive break.

Jason Foster and Steve Strange got Duffield off to a good start winning their matches 3-1, but it didn't go all their way as brothers Jason and Craig Walsh put up stubborn resistance each taking the first games. The Manor struck back at the top of the order, Neil Rossin comfortably beat Laura Hill at No. 2 string 9-5 9-5 9-5 and in a very long hard fought match University student Jon Underhill outlasted Kevin White at No. 1 string 9-7 2-9 0-9 9-6 9-5 to draw the match level at 2-2. White had looking in control after the 1st game taking the next two comfortably and lead 4-0, but the effects of the last two Inter-County weekends began to show and with Underhill making far less mistakes the Manor player dramatically reversed the tables. Underhill kept the pressure on to see out the 4th and but for a last effort from White in the 5th saw out the match for a well deserved win.

It was left for the No. 5 strings to battle it out, Duffield's junior star Millie Tomlinson versus veteran campaigner Dave Stones. Stones raced into a 1-0 lead winning the game 9-5, Millie steadied her nerves,

volleying much better and won the next 2 games 9-0 9-4. Stones wasn't done and he secured the 4th game 9-5, with some deft lobs and boasts to take it into a tense decider. It was neck and neck all game to 6-6 when Tomlinson managed to pull away courtesy of a few errors and a couple of nerveless winning to take the game 9-6 and the match 3-2 for Duffield.

In similar fashion Joel Hinds and Greg Loach were in mean form for **LA Fitness** winning their matches 3-0 against **Lumb Farm**'s John Freeman and Mark Thomas. Lumb Farm replied when Matt Whitehead continued his good form defeating Karl Murray 9-5 9-5 10-8 and Sam Brown scored a notable win over Mike Lambert 4-9 7-9 9-3 9-3 9-6 to make the match score 2-2. Tom Gregory, Lumb Farm's recently capped Derbyshire county player started well against LA's Ryan Loska winning the first game 9-3, but Ryan showed his court speed and coolness to take the next 3 games 9-4 9-3 9-4 and secure a crucial win for LA Fitness to keep them in contention for the League Division 1 title.

Brampton Manor hauled themselves off the bottom of the League beating **Duffield 2nd** team 20-2. They also hold a game in hand over Duffield 2 and should pull away further having added Alex Curren at No.2 string. Brendan Hickerman, Alex Curren and Jason Fearn won their matches 3-0 with Adam Armiger and Joe Harvey managing to get a point each for the visitors winning respective games off Charlie Wall and Ian Hilton.

Division 3

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Rolls-Royce 1	6	5	1	0	101	45	101
Duffield 3	6	5	1	0	99	39	99
David Lloyd	6	5	1	0	97	48	97
LA Fitness 3	6	3	3	0	73	70	73
Queens Park 1	6	3	3	0	68	81	68
Sandiacre	6	1	5	0	52	101	52
Hood Park 2	6	1	5	0	49	97	49
Duffield 4	6	1	5	0	42	100	42

Sandiacre got the win they had been desperately searching for and moved off the bottom and above Duffield 4 and Hood Park 2. In fact it was a particularly important win as they beat Hood Park 2 4-1 with a healthy 18-8 points difference. Andy Coring got the ball rolling beating Ray Patrick 3-1 and with Bill Murray holding on to the 4th 10-8 to beat John Brooks, Sandiacre were in the box seats. Eric Archibald secured the win for Sandiacre, again holding off Richard Wormersley 10-8 in the 4th. David Harrison made it 4-0, but Pete Wood got a late consolation win over Jordan Skinner to limit the damage for Hood Park 2.

Duffield 4 had a terrible night at home to David Lloyd, who closed the gap to 2nd placed Duffield 3. Hannah Legg capped a return to action with a victory over the tricky Tony Gregory 9-6 3-9 10-8 2-9 4-9. However, it was easy going for Ben Arnold, Darren Crowshaw, Guy Legg and Matthew Stone all winning 3-0.

At the other end of the table, Duffield 3 fared much better against LA Fitness 3 beating them 3-2. John Holmes weathered the frenetic loss of the 3rd to beat John Wright 9-0 in the 4th. Adrian Watts new found line and length powered him passed Rob Sillett to level for Duffield. Lesley Sturgess made it 2-1 to Duffield with a 3-0 win over Martin Edwards and a similar score line for Chris Alcock gave Duffield the match. LA's Paul Howell eventually out ran Neil Mitra 3-2 at No.1 string.

Rolls-Royce nipped ahead of Duffield 3 at the top when they took maximum points off Queens' Park. Court time ran out for Andy Riley at 2-2 and 6-7 meaning he had to forfeit an exciting end to his battle with Alastair Parsons. Richard Tuck, Chris Murray and Cliff Ransom all won 3-0 and with Fitz Hays seeing off Charles Noble 3-2 it was a good night for RR.

Division 5

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
<u>Burton 4</u>	6	6	0	0	107	36	107
<u>Burton 5</u>	6	4	2	0	79	62	79
<u>LA Fitness 5</u>	6	3	3	0	77	59	77
<u>Hood Park 4</u>	6	3	3	0	75	73	75
<u>Kimberley Manor</u>	6	3	3	0	70	79	70
<u>Lumb Farm 3</u>	6	1	5	0	61	86	61
<u>Bradley House</u>	5	3	2	0	54	66	54
<u>Repton 3</u>	5	0	5	0	28	90	28

Burton 5 move into runners-up spot to their 4th team thanks to a 3-2 win over **LA Fitness 5**. Glyn Bowen, Garath Edwards and Guy Litherland all did the business for Burton 5 3-0, but Adam Stringer and Garry Smith hit back for LA Fitness 5 to keep them just 2 points behind in 3rd.

Burton 4 weighed in with maximum points, defeating **Bradley House 5-0**. Mark Talbot put up great resistance at No.2 to Sam Marsden and Anthony Shaw got a game off Andy Mableton. Despite this thrashing, the young squad have acquitted themselves well and have a chance to move up the table when they take on Repton 3 in their postponed match.

Lumb Farm broke their duck with a 4-1 win against bottom of the table **Repton 3**. Dave Marshall and Aide Elks both won 3-2 for Lumb Farm to give them a very valuable 19 points, Repton's Jeff Smith being their only winner.

Hood Park 4 swapped places with **Kimberley** after beating them 4-1 in a seriously tough encounter. Tony Parker snatched the 4th game 9-8 to beat Steve Keeling 3-1. Alf Becket and Carl Spencer both won 9-5 in the 5th, Kimberley's Matt Ross struck one back also winning 9-5 in the 5th.

Inter-Counties O55 Championship

The Derbyshire O55 team traveled the short journey to Nottingham Squash Club, the 10 court England Squash Performance Centre, to take on Cheshire, Merseyside and hosts Nottingham. Cheshire sported two England O55 hopefuls and were the eventual winners of the weekend. Derbyshire were their first victims despite good performances from the Derbyshire team, but none could gain sufficient advantage to seal a win.

Derbyshire managed to get themselves on their feet on Saturday afternoon beating Merseyside 3-2 with particularly stirring performances came from Neil Nightingale, captain John Beastall and Adrian Shepherd. Duffield duo Stuart Maclean and Harry Winfield fought hard but couldn't add to Derbyshire's points tally.

Derbyshire then had to beat Nottinghamshire 4-1 to finish in the 2nd promotion spot, but were absent No.1 Neil Nightingale and that made things very hard. Skipper John Beastall fought all the way, but went down to John Limb. John Pearson, Alan Haggard, Stuart Maclean and Adrian Shepherd all showed glimpses of promise, but will have to regroup in the

relegation group next February to avoid the drop. A fit Tony Robinson, will help make a difference.



L to R John Pearson Tony Robinson John Beastall
Adrian Shepherd

Kevin White
DSRA Chairman