

Derbyshire Squash Rackets Association

Press Release - 27 January 2009

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

Derbyshire Squash Men's Leagues Round 9

Division 1

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Duffield 1	8	7	1	0	131	46	131
LA Fitness 1	8	7	1	0	131	46	131
Lumb Farm 1	8	5	3	0	99	94	99
The Manor 1	7	4	3	0	93	80	93
Burton 1	8	2	6	0	76	109	76
Brampton Manor 1	7	2	5	0	60	98	60
Duffield 2	8	0	8	0	32	152	32

*Deducted 3 points for ineligible player

Duffield 1 suffered two late withdrawals from their team as Steve Strange and Laura Hill fell victim to stomach bugs. Their opponents **Lumb Farm** were also shorn of their no. 1 and 3 through work commitments. Dave Yallop was a late replacement for Laura Hill, while a rather handy Paul Hargrave stepped in for Steve Strange. Yallop managed to wrest the 2nd game from Derbyshire O55 Champion, John Beastall, before injury prevented any further progress than the 3rd game. Millie Tomlinson proved too great a step up for another Lumb Farm substitute, Barry Marshall, clearly not used to all his best shots being returned with interest. Jason Foster's precise corner-to-corner ball control kept Sam Brown under constant pressure and the 9-0 9-0 9-2 scoreline showed the difference. An identical score was recorded between Paul Hargrave and Marcus Thomas, the magical racket-work of the former European U19 Champion Hargrave was a joy to watch for all those except Thomas. Thomas' two points were well deserved for his persistence and hard running. Kevin White kept the pace high enough to negate Tom Gregory's fluent shot play to win 9-1 9-2 9-2.

Duffield's hopes of their 2nd team denying LA Fitness maximum points were dashed with a 5-0 whitewash and with Duffield 1 fielding an ineligible player last round (losing 3 points); the two sides are now level on points. Duffield will quickly need to stop haemorrhaging points and play their strongest players in the club's 1st team if they are to

realistically challenge LA for the title. LA Fitness were thankful to Karl Murray who first saved several game points in the 2nd eventually winning it and then to come back from 2-1 down to win 3-2 against Adam Armiger, their final score 0-9 10-9 6-9 9-4 9-6. Never one to give up Felix Frixou got a third point for Duffield 2 taking the 3rd game off Mike Lambert. Lambert's powerful wrist and excellent low cut drives ensuring the 4th game and the match. Kyle McBride threatened in the 1st and 3rd, but Greg Loach's experience saw him through. Ryan Loska and Joel Hinds both had convincing 3-0 wins against James Barry and John Slater.

Brampton Manor took themselves well away from Duffield 2 when they beat Burton in a closely contested 3-2 to the home side. Ian Hilton's outfoxed the deceptive play of Adrian Murphy 3-1 to give Brampton an ideal start, but Lee Stanbury hit back for Burton against the rapidly improving Ashley Davies. Perhaps a little less 'practise' for Davies earlier in the day might have improved his chances. Charlie Wall sent a clear message to the Derbyshire O35s team selector with a severe 9-1 9-0 9-0 victory over Tom Comb. Alex Cutts showed what a worthy addition to Brampton's line up he was beating Phil Brailsford 9-5 9-1 9-5 to give Brampton a much needed fillip. Brendan Hickerman's topsy turvey season continued as James Hodson was on top form defeating Hickerman 9-1 9-7 9-5. Burton are now firmly in Brampton's sights.

Division 3

Rolls-Royce top the league by 4 points over Duffield 3 after putting the sword into Duffield's 4th team. Kevin Britchford and Alastair Parsons both won 3-1 to get ball rolling RR's way and once Chris Murray saved 2 match balls against Simon Law, eventually winning 4-9 4-9 9-3 10-8 9-2, it was all RR by 20 points to 4.

Duffield 3 lost only a little ground to RR when Lesley Sturgess' slow start against Hood Park's Richard Wormersley who capitalised with a determined 3-0. Adrian Watts and Chris Alcock were Duffield's engine room with convincing 3-0 wins. Neil Mitre and John Wright topped and tailed Hood Park with 3-1 wins.

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Rolls-Royce 1	9	7	2	0	146	73	146
Duffield 3	9	7	2	0	142	65	142
David Lloyd	9	7	2	0	139	83	139
Queens Park 1	9	6	3	0	126	96	126
LA Fitness 3	9	5	4	0	113	101	113
Sandiacre	9	1	8	0	70	158	70
Duffield 4	9	2	7	0	68	146	68
Hood Park 2	9	1	8	0	67	149	67

Queens Park got some momentum back and distanced themselves from LA Fitness 3 in a 4-1 victory. Initially the tie was balanced as QP's Martin Slack beat Andy Winfield 9-5 in the 5th and then John Holmes replied for LA taking out John Pearson 9-7 in 5th. After that it was all QP with 3-0 wins for Charles Noble, Dave Green and Robert Essex.

Sandiacre Friesland's home advantage came to little as David Lloyd defeated them 5-0. Ben Arnold and Darren Crowshaw each won comfortable 5th games so it was down to Lisa McKenna to keep the crowd on their toes. And that she did holding on to the 5th 10-9 after she and David Harrison had chances. Wins like this could well see 2nd placed David Lloyd in Division 2 next season.

Division 5

Mens Squash Division 5	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Burton 4	9	8	1	0	149	63	149
Hood Park 4	9	6	3	0	132	80	132
LA Fitness 5	9	5	4	0	117	89	117
Burton 5	9	5	4	0	109	106	109
Bradley House	8	4	4	0	89	105	89
Lumb Farm 3	9	2	7	0	87	133	87
Kimberley Manor	8	3	5	0	78	115	78
Repton 3	7	1	6	0	47	117	47

Hood Park 4 pulled further away from **Burton 5** with a 5-0 win over Lumb Farm 3. Jeff Davidson, Jim Lockhart and Paul Bullen each won tough 3-1 victories,

while Carl Spencer and Alf Becket cruised home 3-0. Meanwhile **Repton 3** recorded their first team win of the season, 3-2 against **Burton 5** and away from home. Glyn Bowen gave the home side a good start with a 3-0 win over Will Hibbert, but then Repton's middle order gritted their teeth with John Moore and Jeff Smith both holding out in their 5th games. Skipper Nigel Gill getting the momentum going with a straight sets win over Bruce Jones. Tim Stretton fought like only he can just falling short at 906 in the 5th to Graham Reid.

National Championships 2009

8-15th February, Sportcity, Manchester

Derbyshire will be well represented in the National Championships by England No.28 Joel Hinds in the Men's Open. Kevin White and Jason Foster will be hoping to avoid each other in the O35s event. Foster is looking for a good run to give him sufficient points for his 3rd England O35 cap. Both players are warming up at the North of England Masters tournament 6-8 February at Pontefract. Lesley Sturgess, the 2007 National O45s Champion, will have her sights firmly set on the O50s title. Greg Loach contests in the O45s and a good run will also see him safely through to his 2nd England cap.

Inter-Counties Championships 21-22 February

Derbyshire O35s emphatic 4-1 victory over Durham and Cleveland in the 1st Stage enabled them to top the Division, but a strange ruling by England Squash put D&C through to the Finals Stage as winners and Derbyshire as runners-up. However, in a repeat of last years' semi-finals, Derbyshire take on Middlesex while D&C play home side Kent. D&C may yet regret their artificial promotion having the furthest to travel and playing the home team. Derbyshire have injury questions hanging over Murray Scott and Richard Woodroffe, but the in-form Charlie Wall is more than capable of deputising if necessary.

Individual Performances

WR 48 Laura Hill is back on the WISPA World circuit this month when she travels to Cleveland, US for the \$25,000 Burning River Classic. She is drawn against the Dutch World No. 24 Annelise Naude in the qualifying rounds. Hill returns to then play in the \$12,550 Internationaux Feminin de Creteil 2009, Paris in early February; however, due to work

commitments she is unable to compete in the UK National Championships.

Kevin White
DSRA Chairman