

Derbyshire Squash Rackets Association

Press Release - 24 March 2009

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Derbyshire Squash Men's Leagues Rnd 12

Division 1

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
LA Fitness 1	10	9	1	0	169	54	169
Duffield 1	10	8	2	3	156	70	153
The Manor 1	10	6	4	0	136	110	136
Lumb Farm 1	11	5	6	0	116	149	116
Brampton	10	4	6	0	103	123	103
Burton 1	10	3	7	0	96	135	96
Duffield 2	11	1	10	0	58	193	58

*Deducted 3 points for ineligible player

LA Fitness look set for their third consecutive Derbyshire League Championship when they limped over the line against Lumb Farm 1 and their nearest rivals Duffield 1 crashed to their second loss of the season against The Manor. Duffield still have a mathematical chance, but only if they beat LA Fitness convincingly in the next round of matches.

LA were short staffed without their no.1 Joel Hinds. Paul Howell stepped up to the 1st team in fine style beating Barry Marshall 3-0. Neil Thorpe saved a match ball in the 3rd to then level at 2-2 with Sam Brown, but Brown's mobility held sway in the 5th for a deserved 9-1 9-1 8-10 4-9 9-6 victory. Marcus Thomas was back to full physical shape after an earlier calf injury and was taken to 5 games by Mike Lambert, before edging Lambert out 9-6 in the 5th to put Lumb Farm 2-1 up. Greg Loach soon rectified matters defeating Tom Gregory 3-0. Down to the no1s to sort out the match and it was John Freeman who made the early running with taking the 1st 10-8. Loska, a notoriously slow starter picked up the pace and soon had the 2nd 9-3. The 3rd was crucial and a real tough game ensued with the serve changing hand many times at 7-7. Eventually, Loska snatched it 9-7 and the 4th came soon after early resistance 9-5, giving LA the vital bonus points to almost carry them to the championship title.

Duffield meanwhile had availability nightmares and were absent Steve Strange still suffering from the

Inter-County weekend, Kevin White with whiplash following a rear-end shunt on his way to a Yorkshire league match, Andy Storer and Millie Tomlinson. Dipping into the 2nd team and with their 3rd and 4th teams also playing meant their 2nd team scratched against Brampton Manor.

Kyle McBride recovered from the loss of the 1st to beat Andy Roulston 3-1, but it was downhill all the way from then on as The Manor dominated. James Barry was too inconsistent to trouble Craig Walsh in all but the 3rd game. Mitch Cook had his chances in the 2nd, but Jason Walsh took it to lead 2-0. Cook found some good lengths and low kills to take the 3rd, but Walsh secured the 4th. Neil Rossin's court coverage was too much after the 1st game for Laura Hill and won 3-0 to give the tie to The Manor. Jon Underhill was in excellent form and like lightening around court. Jason Foster was unable to get on terms with Underhill except briefly in the 2nd.

Division 3

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Duffield 3	13	11	2	0	211	87	211
David Lloyd	13	10	3	0	199	119	199
Rolls-Royce 1	12	8	4	0	183	112	183
Queens Park 1	12	8	4	0	170	127	170
LA Fitness 3	12	5	7	0	130	156	130
Hood Park 2	13	4	9	0	129	187	129
Duffield 4	13	3	10	0	103	205	103
Sandiacre	12	1	11	0	84	216	84

Division 3 could provide the most exciting finish in the Derbyshire Leagues as the top 3 all play each other in the last few matches. Duffield 3 are in the box seat, but a loss to Rolls-Royce could see them and David Lloyd go ahead.

Rolls-Royce 1 were just pipped by Queens Park 3-2, giving Queens a mathematical chance of promotion and denting RR's. Martin Slack didn't let a 2 game deficit hold him back as he picked off the last 3

games to beat Ian Rigby and put Queens 1-0 up. Richard Tuck edged out John Pearson 3-2 to level at 1-1. Alastair Parson took RR ahead, but that was equalled by Glen Woodhead's win over Chris Murray 3-1. Left to the No.1s it was Fitz Hays who was looking like taking the bonus points for RR blasting to a 2-0 lead, but Charles Noble steadied his game and made Hays work hard, gradually getting a toe into the match. Keeping his foot on the pedal, Noble ground out a fine 3-2 win 9-0 9-6 3-9 5-9 4-9.

Duffield 3 grabbed a healthy 19 points in their 4-1 victory over LA Fitness 3, Keith Howard scoring a good 3-2 win over Adrian Watts, who has been in good form all season, to avoid the whitewash. Phil Bond, Neil Mitra and Chris Alcock all won reasonably comfortably and with John Holmes retiring through injury against Lesley Sturgess Duffield are well placed for promotion.

Duffield 4 were consigned to relegation, but went down fighting at David Lloyd eventually losing 3-2. With Tony Gregory retiring early in the 1st game, Duffield were always up against it. Hannah Legg played too tightly for Simon Law to put Lloyds' 2-0 up. David Yallop played a gutsy game to oust Guy Legg 10-8 in the 5th game and when James Russell's finishing skills put paid to Ben Arnold in 3 it looked like Duffield 4 might have a life line. However, Darren Crowshaw had other ideas defeating Qamran Yaqoob 3-1.

Hood Park 2 sentenced Sandiacre to relegation although the 5-0 win was anything but easy with 3 of the matches going to 3-2. Hood Park eased their relegation worries with the 20 points collected.

Division 5

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Burton 4	11	10	1	0	183	77	183
LA Fitness 5	13	8	5	0	173	129	173
Hood Park 4	11	8	3	0	169	87	169
Burton 5	13	7	6	0	158	154	158
Lumb Farm 3	13	5	8	0	146	166	146
Kimberley Manor	12	4	8	0	114	177	114
Bradley House	12	4	8	0	113	172	113
Repton 3	13	3	10	0	108	202	108

With 2 games in hand over LA Fitness and Burton 5 and 3 to go Burton 4 and Hood Park 4 look odds on to take the plaudits in Division 5. Repton 3 will have to win big if they are to get off the bottom with both Bradley House and Kimberley Manor having a game in hand on them.

Kevin White

DSRA Chairman