

# Derbyshire Squash Rackets Association

Press Release – 31 March 2009

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

## Derbyshire Squash Men's Leagues Rnd 13

### Division 2

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Repton 1	13	10	3	0	203	122	203
Hood Park 1	13	8	5	0	181	140	181
Lumb Farm 2	13	6	7	0	156	154	156
Burton 2	13	6	7	0	155	158	155
LA Fitness 2	13	6	7	0	152	165	152
Draycott	13	7	6	0	151	160	151
The Manor 2	13	5	8	0	142	182	142
Ashbourne	13	4	9	0	126	185	126

Repton claimed the Division 2 title in some style with a 5-0 drubbing of LA Fitness 2 and Hood Park 1 quickly return to Division 1 as they beat Lumb Farm 2 4-1. This 13<sup>th</sup> round of matches has left just one relegation place uncertain - between Draycott and The Manor 2; Ashbourne however are down.

Repton were made to fight all the way by LA Fitness 2 and the 5-0 score-line does no justice to how close the match was. Ian Mackinnon let a 2-0 lead slip away with Simon Evans taking the 1<sup>st</sup> tie for Repton; and that was how Adrian Oldbury made it 2 for Repton against Paul Howell. Simon Price, Lee Watson and Ben Smith, the latter at last finding some form this season defeating Mike Lambert, all winning 3-1. Great credit goes to a close knit side, but team spirit will only go so far in Division 1 next season and Repton will need to strengthen squad at the top end. LA Fitness remain out of danger of both promotion and relegation.

Burton 2 would have preferred a win to ease all worries of relegation, but the with the lower teams battling it out they should be safe. The Manor 2 threw themselves a lifeline with a fine 3-2 victory away at Burton. Simon Barnett put Burton 1-0 up, but that was cancelled by Andy Roulston's 3-1 over Colin Morris. James Healey took the manor 2-1 up and this time it was Burton drawing level through Greg Watkins' 3-0 win against Andy Hardy. Tom Comb looked the likely winner after taking the 2<sup>nd</sup> 9-3 from

Steve Smith to level, but Smith rallied well mid way through the 3<sup>rd</sup> to take that 9-5 and kept his momentum up in the 4<sup>th</sup> to win that 9-2.

Hood Park 1 took advantage of their crucial home tie against promotion hopefuls Lumb Farm 2 with a 4-1 victory and with it automatic promotion to Division 1. Nigel Storer and Mick Burton each won 3-0 and Simon Hurst did enough to get passed Sid College to give Hood Park an unassailable 3-0 lead. Barry Marshall was in good form beating Paul Sumpter at no.2, but Matt Whitehead couldn't add to that going down 3-0 to Ian Duffy. Hood Park will also need to bolster their team if they are to avoid bouncing straight back down from Division 1.

Ashbourne were without their no.2 James Richardson and it showed as they lost out in this relegation battle to a determined Draycott side. Draycott not only had Ashbourne to beat, but were after a sizeable points haul to overtake The Manor 2. Steve Reeves and Greg Wemys each won 3-0 to give Draycott an excellent start and skipper Martin Bostock gave them the bonus points they sought with a 3-1 win over Neil Cuthbert. Pete Slowakowski wrestled a 3-2 score off Tom Machell to add 3 points which may prove vital come the end of the season reckoning. Mike Herridge's typifying never say die attitude was too much for Martin Rose that went Ashbourne way 3-1. Draycott will need their 9 point advantage as they take on Repton in the final match while The Manor 2 play LA Fitness 2 - another intriguing encounter.

### Division 4

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Brampton Manor 2	13	11	2	0	225	77	225
Burton 3	13	11	2	0	212	96	212
Rolls-Royce 2	13	8	5	0	182	132	182
LA Fitness 4	13	8	5	0	175	142	175
Repton 2	13	6	7	0	148	175	148
Duffield 5	13	3	10	0	106	197	106
Queens Park 2	13	3	10	0	102	204	102
Hood Park 3	13	2	11	0	92	219	92

Runner-away leaders Brampton Manor 2 were pegged back by Burton 3, giving Burton a mathematical chance of winning the Division 4 title. Taking advantage of the absence of Brampton's no.1 Clive Watson and won in 4 games, but it was Dave Elliott's 0-9 10-9 9-5 1-9 4-9 win over Carl Reading which won Burton the match. Gary Holmes cruised through in 4 after the loss of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Jono Lovegrove and Nick Melton each won 3-0 to limit the damage.

LA Fitness 4 lost out in the promotion chase as they crashed out 1-4 to Repton 2. Tim Stretton looked dead and buried as he lost the 3<sup>rd</sup> 10-8 and the 4<sup>th</sup> 9-0, but dug deep into his vast experience to win the 5<sup>th</sup> 9-2, cancelling out Garry Smith's fine 3-0 performance against Jeff Smith. Dave Clibborn put Repton ahead beating Alan Haggard, which meant that Martin Allen's comeback from 2-0 down was worthwhile. John Kirtland put the icing on the cake beating Chris Coe 3-1 for Repton to record their 6<sup>th</sup> victory of the season.

Hood Park 3 remain in a precarious position at the foot of the table after losing to Repton 2 4-1 and allowed both Queens Park and Duffield 5 to edge away. Hood Park will have it all to do in the final round of matches at Duffield if they are to avoid relegation. Carl Spencer was Hood Park's only winner, while Ray Patrick was unable to convert a 2-1 advantage against Steve Howard.

Duffield 5 did the best they could with a below strength side beating relegation rivals Queens' Park 2 in a very closely contested match. Andy Goodall got the host Queens off to a flier beating Nathan Davies 3-0, but Richard Gilbert brought parity with his own 3-0. Derbyshire youngsters James Blythe and Joe Harvey each played exceptionally mature games winning from 2-1 down to give Duffield the match. Tony Robinson showed his seniority defeating Richard Grindrod 3-0 to leave the two teams just 4 points apart. Duffield have the slightly easier final game against bottom team Hood Park 3, Queens play 4<sup>th</sup> from bottom Repton 2. Hood Park 3 are still not out of it and a big win at Duffield might yet save them.

## Ladies League

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Duffield 1	10	10	0	0	163	29	163
Burton	11	9	2	0	154	58	154
Ashbourne	10	6	4	0	123	80	123
Trent Vale	10	5	5	0	105	96	105
Bradley House	10	4	6	0	87	115	87
Rolls-Royce	11	3	8	0	62	153	62
David Lloyd	12	0	12	0	30	193	30

There were no movements in the Ladies League with Duffield, 9 points and a game in hand, almost guaranteed to take the title from Burton. Burton kept up their chase though with an emphatic display against Rolls-Royce with only Alison Harvey taking a game off Sue Smith for the visitors.

Bradley House turned the tables on Ashbourne in a thrilling 3-2 win. Jan Slater rue missed opportunities to take the 2<sup>nd</sup> for a 2-0 lead, but opponent Sheila Gilford then took full advantage of this turning point to take the next 2 games for Bradley House to go 1 up. Pat Chetwyn's 3-0 win was anything but easy, again two games being set and going her way as Bradley made it 2-0. No.4 strings Lorraine Taylor and Lindsey Smith had a real ding-dong battle exchanging hard fought games to take it to a 5<sup>th</sup>. Points were hard to come by and the score edged its way to 8-8, Smith missing out on a match ball only for Taylor to first level and then go through with a pair of deft drop shots 10-8; Bradley seizing the match. Sue Whitehouse nearly made it 4 for Bradley, looking odds on after winning the 4<sup>th</sup> 10-8, but Jane McIntyre held her nerve and didn't allow the game to go to a tie break eventually winning it 9-7. Edwina Edwards pulled another one back for Ashbourne and but for the loss of the 3<sup>rd</sup> looked comfortable throughout against Julia Muzyka.

David Lloyd have battled away all season without a victory, but against Trent Vale they came within one game. A walkover at 5<sup>th</sup> string gave David Lloyd the ideal start and Sarah Tyers quickly made it 2-0 up. Trent replied with through 3-0 wins by Karen Laughton and Sandra Albinson. Down to the no.1s and Kim Durand took a 2-1 lead and was looking good for the vital win, but Alison Weaver began a tremendous

fightback to take the last 2 games denying David Lloyd.

## Racketball

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
The Manor 1	10	10	0	0	152	44	152
Duffield 1	9	5	4	0	93	69	93
David Lloyd	9	5	4	0	91	72	91
Brampton Manor	6	3	3	0	66	50	66
Duffield 2	9	2	7	0	42	120	42
LA Fitness 1	7	0	7	0	15	104	15

The Manor 1 completed a clean sweep of the racketball league claiming 10 out of 10 matches. They finished their season with a 4-0 win over Duffield 2 although Lesley Sturgess took Craig Walsh to a 5<sup>th</sup> game.

Duffield 2 were again in action against LA Fitness 1 and this time they recorded their second win 3-1. Lesley Sturgess, National O45 champion, showed her pedigree with a straight sets win over Vic Malysz. Chris Alcock and Perry McKellen each won 3-1 to wrap up the match; Dave Taylor got one back for LA.

## England Representation News

Derbyshire were represented by two players in the England Junior Teams during the Home Internationals played at the Sutton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club in Dublin. Ashley Davies, from Hallamshire/Brampton Manor, was playing at under 15 level, and Adam Turner, Hallamshire, in the under 13's. England were Champions at under 15 and were runners up at under 13 level. The teams consisted of 3 boys and 2 girls who played one match on Friday night and 2 matches on Saturday.

Ashley was reserve for the U15 team, who played and beat Scotland 5-0, but he played the Scotland No 4, as a warm up, beating him 3-0. On Saturday Ashley was moved up from reserve to receive two full England caps, firstly against Ireland then Wales. Ashley had played the Irish No 1 in Ireland at the Irish Junior Open, and beaten him, so playing at No 3, against the Irish No 3, Cillian Dunne, Ashley cruised to another 3-0 win. England beat Ireland 5-0.

The second Saturday match against Wales was always going to be the crunch tie of the weekend, both Countries on equal points, winner takes all. Ashley

played Welsh No 3 James Thompson, Ashley had a tougher game this time, but managed to win 3-1 to get England on their way to a 4-1 victory and the Home Internationals Championship.

In the U13 event Adam Turner won all 3 of his matches too, but the team were pipped at the post losing 2-3 to Wales, in the last match, having beaten both Scotland and Ireland 5-0.

## Kevin White

DSRA Chairman