

## JUNIOR LEAGUE REPORT (14 December 2008)

### DIVISION ONE

Even though a few players were away on National Cadet League duty, there was still a record fourteen matches completed today in this division, with their places fortunately being filled by players stepping up from the division below. One such player was **Amy Cleaveley** (*see right with team-mate Ryan Moore*), who was also making her first appearance in the Junior League this season, although she was not expecting to represent her Bridgwater club in teams in both Division One and Two on the same day! Amy amazingly ended up playing ten singles matches, plus five doubles, amounting to a total of 35 games, and playing out an incredible 593 points and winning 376 of them, which has to be a Junior League record. She also set the highest game score in all three divisions of the Junior League to date, with a 16-18, 11-5, 11-8 win over **Zach Denton** (Saints). The team which started the day at the head of the division, Knowle & Brislington A (whose two players **Jess Coggins** and **Patrick MacFarlane** were both so far unbeaten) only managed to complete two matches today, winning 5-0 against Nailsea A, but then losing heavily to Bridgwater A, and now find themselves in third spot. Patrick was absent on the day, and so protected his 100% individual average, but Jess surrendered her unbeaten record to **Jack Gillard** (Bridgwater A) (*see left*) 11-9, 6-11, 8-11, who himself went on to win all eight of his individual matches and is now a serious contender for the **Colin Feltham Trophy** for the Best Junior Player of 2008/2009, along with **Patrick MacFarlane** and **Josh Kashdan** (K&B B) who also won all of his games today. Having lost all of her games in this higher division last time around, **Clare Sykes** (Saints) played six matches today, and won five of them, losing only to **Ryan Moore** (Bridgwater B) who also dropped two more games against K&B B, and slipped down the individual averages to a still very creditable 75% percentage. Full Circle A also finally kick-started their season, with some good individual successes at last, including **Chris Arthur's** win over **Jack Vaughan** (K&B B), **Kiron Young's** win over **Ryan Moore** (Bridgwater A), and **Owain Joslin's** win over **Ryan Jemmott** (Nailsea A), the latter of which helped to notch his team's first win of this campaign over Nailsea A, who are now propping up the table. The Nailsea B side did not fare that well either, and failed to pick up any points at all today in their three matches, and have only one point more to their credit overall, but have alarmingly played two matches more than their A team.



### DIVISION TWO

Unfortunately, only seven matches were completed today in this division, due to varying circumstances, with both Civil Service Titans and Thornbury only managing to field one player each, which made life very difficult for the organisers to ensure that those players present were able to play enough games. Many matches were therefore only part-played, and will hopefully be finished next time around. However, in one such match between Cleeve & Claverham B and Titans, **Warren Taylor** (C&C B) (*see right*) did manage to break the 100% individual average of **Philip Thomas** (Titans), although this does not yet show in the results, but it is the C&C A team which now precariously top the division with 14 points, just ahead of Almonds A who have managed to complete the most matches to date. Having lost both their opening matches last time, K&B C this week



managed to complete two more matches, and won them both, thanks to a splendid four match maximum by **Ross McClaren** (K&B C) and three wins out of four from team-mate **Josh Laban** (K&B C). Bridgwater C managed to complete three matches, with some impressive rotation decisions being executed by their coach, **Mike Hurley**, of their three players (**Amy Cleaveley**, **Glenn Daly** and **Elliott Denton**), but suffered two big defeats. Another three-person squad, Almonds A, also managed to play three matches, but only secured one win, and dropped down one place to third. In a couple of individual all-girl battles, **Jacqueline Page** (Almonds A) triumphed over **Jade Cope** (C&C A) 14-12, 11-4, and **Alice Gregory** (K&B D) also beat Jade 11-7, 11-2. The tightest game of the day played in this division resulted in a 8-11, 11-9, 11-9 win for **Ross McClaren** (K&B C) over **Amy Cleaveley** (Bridgwater C), who was then called upon to play a match for his A team up in Division One, and won both of his individual games! Along with **Matt Gillard** (Bridgwater C), **Ross McClaren** (K&B C) is the only other junior in division two on a 100% individual average. Unfortunately, their two respective teams have already played each other twice this season, and they somehow seem to have "avoided" playing each other, so it will be very interesting to see who will finish the season at the top of the individual averages. As regards the teams, however, with some now four or five matches behind after just two rounds, a prediction of the possible final positions in the table remains very difficult.

### DIVISION THREE

Knowle & Brislington E look to be serious contenders for the title at this early stage, as they saw off their nearest rivals, Nailsea C, in a close 3-2 win, with the last three of the five matches being decided in the fifth set. However, in this match, **Marcus Czemerys** (K&B E) lost his 100% average to **Tim Parker** (Nailsea C), who himself surrendered his own perfect record in two other matches - first to **Tim Cherry** (Almonds B) and then to **Matt Bromwich** (Almonds C). With Full Circle B unable to field a team today, there were still plenty of other matches completed, and it is already apparent that there is now a clear split in this division, with any one of the four break-away teams at the top hoping to take the title. The match next time between K&B E and Bridgwater D could be very interesting, with **Elliott Denton** (Bridgwater D) looking to retain his unbeaten average. **Tom Clarke** (Nailsea C), who did not play today, is the only other junior on a maximum percentage, and the Best Boy award could very well be decided between these two. The only all-girl team in all three divisions is C&C C, who are represented by **Katy Groom**, **Hannah Cope** and **Beth Atkinson**. Although still looking for their first team win this season, Hannah did claim the scalps today of **Matt Bromwich** (Almonds C) and **Shane Jenkins** (Almonds B), and even took the so-far unbeaten **Elliott Denton** (Bridgwater C) to three games, after claiming the first set 12-10, and looks a strong candidate for the Best Girl trophy in this division already.

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Please note that the next round of Junior League matches is scheduled for **Sunday 8 February 2009** at 9.00 am at Filton WISE Academy. It is also worth mentioning here, that the annual **Bristol Closed Championships** will take place just one week later at the same venue on **Sunday 15 February**, and is open to all registered senior and junior league players in the B&DTTA. Entries need to be in by **31 January 2009** and, if required, an electronic entry form can be found and downloaded from this website.

Meanwhile, however, the Annual Junior League Christmas Tournament is now set for **Monday 29 December 2008** from 11.00am to 3.00pm at Henbury School. If you still wish to enter, please contact either your own club coaches, or Mike Withyman or Martin Moore directly, whose details can be found on this website.

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