

JUNIOR LEAGUE REPORT (8 February 2009)

DIVISION ONE

Bridgwater A extended their unbeaten run at the top the division today, completing another two 5-0 victories over Full Circle A and Nailsea A, and remarkably have only dropped 4 out of 45 games played this season.

However, Knowle & Brislington A had **Patrick MacFarlane** (*see right*) back on board, and managed to claim four straight wins themselves to put the pressure on the leaders, and are now only seven points behind with a game in hand. With these two teams way out in front, the clash between the two next time around should be very interesting, as previously Patrick was unavailable for play. As regards other individuals, **Josh Kashdan** (K&B B) lost his 100% record today to Patrick (6-11, 2-11), but managed to win all of his other matches today. Meanwhile, **Matt Fligelstone** (Nailsea B) lost three out of his four games today, and dropped from his previous perfect average of 100% down to 63%. Meanwhile, **Clare Sykes** (Saints) was doing her utmost to aid her own team, but with the absence of her partner, **Zach Denton**, and with both team members being unable to play in the next round of matches, the Saints had to unfortunately concede a number of games as walkovers today. You will therefore note that for the first time this season, some of the individual averages will be “odd”, rather than the usual “even” number of games being played.



DIVISION TWO



It was all change it seemed in this division, as the top two teams at the start of play, Cleeve & Claverham A and Almonds A, dropped from first and second place to fourth and fifth respectively, to be replaced by Bridgwater C and Cleeve & Claverham B. Both latter-named teams took all four matches today, but it was **Matt Gillard** (Bridgwater C) who had the greatest success, winning all of his eight matches, and thereby retaining his 100% individual average. As mentioned last time, the only other player in this division now on 100% is **Ross**

McLaren (K&B C), who also won his four matches today. However, the player who found himself embroiled in the two most exciting matches was **James Bessant** (C&C A). Facing the impressive **Matt Gillard**, he first of all set the highest-scoring game on the day, only just losing out 14-16, 5-11, but was then involved in yet another record battle. In his very last game in the match against the newcomers this season in the Junior League, Civil Service Titans, and with the match score all-square at two games all, he faced the ever-improving **Phillip Thomas**. Trading some great shots throughout the very first game, James eventually succumbed to Phillip **17-19**, 11-5, 9-11, which has now beaten the previous highest-scoring game this season set by **Amy Cleaveley** (Bridgwater B) in division one at **18-16**. (*James is shown above on the left in blue, with Phillip on the right in red, immediately after that record-setting game*).

The other new team this season from Thornbury, however, is still trying to find its feet. Although today the team was encouragingly bolstered by a full squad of four players wearing their new team kit (**Joe Constable, James France, Mark Attwood** and **Tommy Daly** – *see right*), they managed to complete a creditable six matches, but unfortunately only picked up three points in total for their efforts, but it is clear that they are improving with every match, and should do well next season.



DIVISION THREE

Nailsea C won all their matches today, but their number one player, **Tim Parker**, lost his 100% individual average to **Jack Cross** (Bridgwater D), who was playing for the first time in the Junior League this season. Meanwhile, the division's leaders, Knowle & Brislington E were whitewashing both Almonds' teams, but then encountered Bridgwater D who were far too strong for them, and they lost their very first match of the season, with **Marcus Czemyers** (K&B E) claiming their only game in the match. With only two points separating Knowle & Brislington E and Nailsea C, and with Bridgwater D not that far behind having played two games less, the title looks set to be decided between these three.

At the foot of the table, however, Full Circle B only managed to field one player, and completed just two score-sheets today, and with nine matches still to be played over the remaining two sessions, completion of those remaining fixtures could prove difficult for them.

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Please note that the next round of Junior League matches is scheduled for **Sunday 15 March February 2009** at 9.00 am at Filton WISE Academy, with the last session taking place just one week later on **Sunday 22 March 2009**. It is also worth reminding those of you who have entered the **Bristol Closed Championships**, that these are taking place at the same venue next **Sunday 15 February 2009**, with doors opening at around 8.30am, with the Junior events provisionally scheduled to commence at 9.00am, followed by the Under 11 and Under 14 events. Good luck to all of you who are participating.

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