

London Pride (Darts World report) April 2018

SENIOR COUNTY

London travelled to near rivals Surrey for their 6th game of the 2017/18 BICC Division One season and got off to a great start, Tammy Mackenzie (19.19) won 3-2 in a tight game against Sarah Emsley (18.79), Jane Biggs (13.81) lost 3-0 to Laura Hewitt (18.79) who hit a 180 and a 103 finish earning her the Surrey lady of the match award, three wins followed for London, Dee Belcher (18.60) won 3-1 against Kirsty Howitt (16.86), Sue Condon (18.11) beat Mandy Pawley (16.10) 3-0 and Su Holt (21.17) won the lady of the match award for London for her fine 3-0 victory over Angela Oliver (17.70), Lynne Biondini (13.03) lost a close game 3-2 against Paula Munro (13.43) to leave the score at 4-2 to the visitors.



Ladies B award winner Su Holt (21.17)

Nick Cocks (26.37) quickly found himself two legs down despite hitting a 180 in each leg he missed doubles to allow his opponent Doug Harwood (24.15) to edge ahead, Nick then produced the leg of the day with a fine 12 dart leg (140, 100, 100 and 161 finish) but then lost the final leg after again missing doubles to lose 3-1, Mathew Wood (25.91) made an impressive debut winning 3-0 against Darren Clark (17.58) and getting the match award for his performance, Lee Clifford (20.26) was out of sorts in his 3-1 loss to John Chalkley (21.69), Tony Hamit (22.10) won 3-0 against Connor Scutt (21.12) and Richard Ryan (20.29) won a close game 3-2 against Ian Chalkley (25.51) taking his chances well for the win, Will Blackwell (23.82) pulled London further ahead with a 3-1 win against Byron Pendry (22.81), Matt Winzar (22.64) came in at short notice and lost 3-1 to Tyler Radlett (21.56), Jason Gallagher (20.12) beat Paul Tudor (20.08) and Michael Power (23.72) lost 3-2 to Surrey award winner Aaron Turner (25.57), Matty Finch (23.89) had a 3-1 win against Daryl Reino (25.24) and Shane Wilson (21.73) beat Matt Carter (19.46) 3-2 and finally Ben Cheeseman (26.71) was unfortunate to lose 3-2 in a tight game against Simon Beagle (24.47) which gave the London men a deserved 7-5 win and left the overnight score 11-7 to the visitors.



Mens B award winner Mathew Wood (25.91)

Leanne Topper (20.34) had a tough game against Gina Casey (21.53) and came out a 3-2 winner to take the match award, Shaz Deboo-Costello (22.51) pushed Laura Turner (25.84) all the way in her 3-1 defeat with Laura receiving the weekend award for her efforts, Debs Watling (17.39) lost a close game against Apylee Jones (17.73) 3-2, Steph Stutley (17.00) hit a 180 and played well in her 3-1 victory over Jennie Gilbert (16.56), Mandy Solomons (20.13) beat England International Tricia Wright (20.48) 3-2 and kept up her fantastic winning record, Carly Townsend (19.39) was also in a tight game against Sharon Godbeer (20.22) and won 3-2 in a fine performance taking a 4-2 victory and taking the overall score to 15-9 to London.



Ladies A award winner Leanne Topper (20.34)

London were now in a buoyant mood and quickly took the first three games to ensure at least a share of the bonus points, Gene Hill (27.35) beat Gary Creamer (23.11) 4-3, Conan Whitehead (28.42) got the London match award with his 4-1 win over Mark Hadwick (27.82) and Tom McGurn (26.31) had a comfortable 4-1 win over Gary Trodd (20.83), David Wawrzewski (27.44) had the tough task of playing against Dave Parletti (30.88) and played well taking out a 157 finish in his 4-1 defeat, Nicky Turner (25.23) quickly went 3-0 up in his game against Dave Webb (23.92) hitting a 110 finish before Dave brought it level with three fine legs, Nicky took the final leg and the 4-3 win to give London the much needed bonus points by taking the 19th game for the overall victory, London have had a tendency of late to take their foot off the peddle once victory has been achieved but that certainly didn't happen against our local rivals here as Danny Faulkner (27.83) hit 2 x 180's in his fantastic 4-1 victory over UK open qualifier Darryl Pilgrim (26.88) and that was followed by Graham Rackstraw (27.05) beating Stephen Lovett (29.10) in a high scoring game 4-2 with Graham taking out a 114 finish in the final leg, Wayne Brown (25.69) then took a comfortable 4-0 win against Neville Wright (23.47) and Steve Ferguson (27.34) had a nice 4-1 win over Darren Bryant (26.41) before London's only 2nd loss in the mens a match for Lewis McGurn (23.03) who lost 4-3 to Andy Bridgman (22.98), Tommy Sanwell (23.01) struggled to make a mark in the first four legs and quickly found himself trailing 3-1 but a comeback with 17, 16 and 15 darts in the final three legs gave him the narrow win which included back to back 180's in the final leg, Lee Cocks (27.11) played Kurtis Atkins (26.50) and won 4-2 which gave the A team a great 10-2 win against a fine Surrey side and left the overall score 28-11 including the bonus points to lift the Londoners further away from the relegation battle.



Mens A award winner Conan Whitehead (28.42)

London's home game against Gwent at the beginning of March was cancelled due to the beast from the east and has been rescheduled for the May Bank Holiday weekend 5th/6th May 2018 so the next game is a tough visit to Cornwall on 24th/25th March, full report in the next issue

The remaining BICC Division One fixtures subject to change are as follows:

24th/25th March 2018 Cornwall (Away), 21st/22nd April 2018 Nottinghamshire (Home) and 5th/6th May 2018 Gwent (Home).

All senior home games are played at The Plumstead Common Working Mens Club, 71 Kirkham Street, Plumstead, London SE18 2JS.

Entry is by programme only, costs £4 which gives you admission for both Saturday and Sunday games.

B Team Matches start on the Saturday at Noon and A Team Matches start at 11am on the Sunday.

Hot and Cold food will be available all day with drinks at club prices.

Come along and support the elite darters of London in a great atmosphere.

YOUTH COUNTY

London Youth played their 5th match of the season at home to a strong Essex side, in the under 18's Charlie Mifsud, Leo Gaffney and Joshua Murray all lost 3-0, with Joshua losing to ex-London player Jakob Kelly who had a nice 120 finish, Lee Weller lost 3-1 as did Phillip Hollyhock, Ben Gaffney lost 3-0 to Essex award winner Freddie Francis who had a very good 29.47 average before Luke Faulkner won 3-0 by default, the ladies under 21's saw both Rebecca Holt and Rosie Gaffney lost close games 3-2 with both young ladies playing very well and Ellie Larsson-Brown win 3-0 by default, the under 21's mens game saw the only overall team victory with Curtis Donnelly (19.76) losing 3-1 to Liam Hill (22.09), Charlie Bubb (21.39) losing a close game 3-2 to Bradley Halls (22.39) before Will Blackwell (29.00) beat Joe Russell (24.86) 3-1 and Ben Cheeseman (30.67) won the match award after his 3-0 win over Chris Gower (20.29), Albie Rackley (20.57) won his game 3-0 by default which gave the visitors a comfortable 10-5 overall win.

The week after the Essex Youth county game London held another Youth Open day at Plumstead Common W.M.C. in the under 18's section, new lad Phillip Hollyhock done superb with a score of 200, followed by Albie Rackley hitting a very credible 193, Joshua Murray was in 3rd place with 134, there were 8 attendees in that section, three players attended in the Ladies under 21's section with Ellie Larsson-Brown coming out on top followed closely by Rosie Gaffney and Rebecca Holt, the under 21's saw only four attendees with captain Ben Cheeseman once again coming out on top with a smashing score of 323 with Will Blackwell hitting 290, Charlie Bubb 165 and Curtis Donnelly 155, the tasks set were round the board on doubles, Kill 64 and Top Darts, these are fun practice routines that are completed by each player having 20 visits to the board, the tasks all have different difficulty levels and the aim is for the players to take them away to improve certain aspects of their game. Also held was a handicapped darts open involving all sections with Ben and Will reaching the final and Ben coming out the winner.

The next London Youth Open Day will be taking place at Plumstead on Sunday 8th April where any new signings are taken and fun tasks are set for the players to compete in, any players interested in joining London Youth darts come along and have some fun, either just turn up on the day at

Plumstead Common Working Mens Club at 11am or contact me via email

johnnystefano180@gmail.com .

London Youth fixtures for the rest of the 2017/2018 season are: 18th March 2018 Kent (Away), 8th April LONDON YOUTH DAY, 29th April 2018 Sussex (Away) and 20th May 2018 Surrey (Away).

Many thanks must go to the Plumstead Common Working Men's Club for their continual support of our Youth Team, a fantastic venue with hard working staff making sure our needs are catered for.

London Youth County Home matches are held at Plumstead Common W.M.C. all welcome, hot and cold food available all day with drink at club prices, entry is by £2 purchase of a programme.

London has some of the top talent playing for them at Youth level, come along and watch their progress.

LADIES SUPERLEAGUE

Edmonton are still unbeaten after 17 games and sit dominant at the top of the league on 116 points, closest rivals Wanderers have played a game more but are behind on 97 points followed by Ninjas on 79, Originals on 74, Booshes on 51, The Avengers on 46 and bottom team The Hustlers on 40 points. The top 16 in the averages table are Leanne Topper (Edmonton), Donna Glead (Edmonton), Casey Gallagher (Wanderers), Steph Stutley (Wanderers), Shaz Deboo-Costello (Originals), Debra Watling (Booshes), Su Holt (Originals), Steph Hewson (The Avengers), Mandy Solomons (Edmonton), Dee Belcher (Wanderers), Nikki Patten (Ninjas), Tammy Mackenzie (Edmonton), Leanne Peetoom (The Avengers), Jane Biggs (Ninjas), Sue Condon (Wanderers) and Carly Townsend (Originals). Mandy Solomons has the highest checkout so far with a 160 and also has the most 180's hit with 4, Leanne Topper has the most tons with 88.

The 2017/18 Ladies superleague singles champion is Donna Glead (Edmonton) beating Su Holt (Originals) 5-1 in the final with semi-finalists being Steph Hewson (Avengers) who lost her semi to Donna 4-1 and Lynne Biondini (Wanderers) who lost 4-2 to Su, there were 19 players in attendance.

MENS SUPERLEAGUE

After 22 weeks of the London mens superleague Plumstead A find themselves on 116 points ahead of Chadwell Heath and Lewisham on 90 points, Wood Green have risen to 4th place on 88 points after Romford plummeted down from 2nd place when they lost 7-0 to a buoyant Downham side that sent shockwaves through the league, the following pack are Woolwich Ferry (83), Bermondsey (76), West Ham (72), Welling (71), Downham (71), Woolwich (71), Plumstead B (71), Vauxhall B (65), Chiswick (60), Southwark (50), and Vauxhall A (50). The top 16 in the mens averages are George Killington (Wood Green), Pip Blackwell (Plumstead A), Darren Peetoom (Woolwich Ferry), David Wawrzewski (Plumstead B), John Nelson (Vauxhall B), Paul Rafferty (Bermondsey), Steve Ferguson (Lewisham), Nigel Payne (Plumstead A), Kevin Smith (Plumstead A), Peter Allen (Plumstead A), Matt Winzar (Lewisham), Lee Clifford (West Ham), Jason Gallagher (Woolwich), Matt Wood (Woolwich) Wayne Brown (Woolwich), and Richard Elms (Welling). David Wawrzewski has hit 291 tons in his 22 games, Pip Blackwell has hit 27 x 180's with 170 finishes being recorded by Darren Irving (Plumstead B), Sean Lahiff (Vauxhall B) and Craig Watkins (Welling).

The Lew Shannon Memorial pairs were held at Plumstead Common W.M.C. and had 25 teams compete in a high quality field, winners were Richie Davis and Shane Wilson (Bermondsey) who beat Paul Amos and Steve Ferguson (Lewisham) 3-0, Matty Finch and George Killington (Wood Green) were the losing semi-finalist against the winners, going down 3-2 and the other semi-final was just as tight as Paul Rafferty and Tom Tobin (Bermondsey) were defeated by the same score against the Lewisham pairing, many thanks to all that turned up and to Marilyn Smithies who ran the competition making sure it went as smooth as possible.

OTHER NEWS

Congratulations must go to London County star Conan Whitehead on his recent England call up for the British Internationals being held at Penydarren Social Club, Merthyr Tydfil, Wales between 6th and 8th April 2018, a much deserved call up for a player making great waves on the BDO circuit, also congratulations to Dan Day who now plays his County darts with Essex for also getting the call to represent his Country.

Be sure to log on to the London darts website at www.londondarts.org to view all up to date stats and tables for both Superleagues, comprehensive pages for County and London Darts history, there is also a competition page with all local and regional competitions supported.

Email me on: johnnystefano180@gmail.com if you want more details of anything to do with the GLDO or if you want to advertise your company/competitions/events on the popular web site.

www.londondarts.org

LONDON PRIDE

Johnny Stefano