

Liverpool & District Table Tennis League

FRANK MURPHY MEMORIAL CUP

2011 / 2012

3rd Round Results

All matches played week commencing **23rd JANUARY 2012** as per the handbook
also a full League match week

M/POLICE 2	398	v	408	CADWA 4
BATH St. MARINE 5	435	v	417	CHRIST the KING
CADWA 2	429	v	376	BATH St. MARINE 3
BOOTLE YMCA 1	307	v	285	BATH St. MARINE 1

4 great matches, 3 matches the lead changed hands, 2 where it changed back again, and one match where the top team just couldn't catch up.

Match 1. Merseyside Police 2 398 v Cadwa 4 408

M. Police 2 H/cap 98, Tom Purcell (31), Brenda Buoey (17) and Geoff Pye (50), took on Cadwa 4. H/cap 100, Graeme Black (-9), Mike Power (21) and Jack Highton (88), started with Cadwa just 2 points in front. The first 2 matches saw Cadwa increase that lead to 29 with wins by Graeme over Brenda, 42 - 29, and Mike beating Geoff 42 - 28, then Tom beat Jack 42 - 16 to bring the diff. to 3 for Cadwa. Graeme then beat Geoff 42 - 24, then a good match for Jack, taking 27 points off Brenda, then Tom coming out 2 points ahead of Mike. So into the last 3 sets with Cadwa hanging on by 4 points, the first set turned the match when Geoff beat Jack by 21 points, next up was Brenda gaining 1 point from Mike, so the last set between Tom and Graeme started Police 18 in front, the match card comment ended with "there was an 18 point advantage to the Police going into the last match between Tom Purcell and Graeme Black, Tom had a disastrous game to lose 3-21 and 11-21, Cadwa win the match" I think the comment was from skipper Tom, a lot of tension in that match.

Match 2. Bath St. Marine 5. 435 v Christ the King 417

Bath.St. Marine 5, H/cap 161, Billy Clayton (45), Barry Davis, (55) and Dave Bradley 61, took on Christ the King, H/cap 51, Omid Khaiyat (-10), Peter Taylor (13) and Peter Walsh Snr. (48). So with the match starting with BsM 110 points ahead, it was just a case of the top players whittling away at the score as happened in the first 6 sets, CtK winning 10 of the 12 games, bringing the score down to BsM just 27 points in front. But what a turnaround, next set on saw Dave taking 8 points off Peter Walsh, and Barry adding 1 point off Peter Taylor, last set on and BsM had opened up their lead to 36 points, not impossible, but Omid was up against the 'old' campaigner Bill, who had a lot of experience in the handicap cup, duly gaining 17 points from the first game, match over. so well done to the minnows of BsM, and maybe it was the fact that the class players of CtK hadn't played a vet's match up to now! (2 W/O's)

Match 3. Cadwa 2. 429 v Bath St. Marine 3. 376

Cadwa 2 H/cap 87, George Lennon (7), Paul Clark (7) and John O'Sullivan 73 took on Bath St. Marine 3, H/cap 137, Rob Peat (16), Dave Stoddern (37) and Dave Noden (84). The match got going with BsM. 50 points ahead and Paul started by pulling 20 points back from Rob, with Cadwa keeping up the pressure to end the first 6 sets 8 points ahead, the last 3 sets Cadwa kept the pressure up finishing 53 points ahead. Cadwa star must have been Paul, who pulled back 66 points, George added 48, with John admirably doing his bit by only dropping 11 points, a positive win to put a second Cadwa team through to the semi's.

Match 4. Bootle YMCA 1 307 v Bath St. Marine 1. 285.

A match I watched start to finish, I didn't intend to, but just couldn't leave it. BYM 1. H/cap minus 16, Keith Williams (-18), Alan Chase (-3) and Ted Birch (5) took on BSM 1. H/cap 1, Ken Jackson (-13), Dave Roberts (-13) and Brian Crolley (27), so from the handicaps we expected to have a fast open match, but it doesn't always turn out that way, this one did!! Match started BSM 17 points in front, and first games were Alan v Ken, Ken gaining 12, adding to the score to 29, Ted then took on Dave with points even 37 each, take no prisoners Keith then took Brian apart gaining 33 points, no disrespect to Brian who played well, but Keith is so experienced in these Vets matches, he knows to ease up is fatal, BYM now 4 points in front. Next 3 sets began with a firm message that BSM weren't throwing in the towel yet, Ken outplays Ted, to win by 25 points to retake the lead by 21, next Brian kept up the pressure while losing both games to Alan, pulling in 33 points to keep BSM 12 points in front, again Keith to the rescue with another scintillating set against Dave, winning both games, Dave adding 22 points to BSM's total, but BYM back in front by 8. Final third of the match started what I thought as the decisive set, Ted v Brian, great defending from Ted, with a 'few' surprise smashes, loads of surprise smashes from Brian, a cat and mouse set, Ted winning 42-21, BYM now 29 in front. Alan and Dave then joined in battle, another top set, with Dave coming out top, 13 in front, with the final set between Keith and Ken to start with BYM 16 in front, and 2 games we had got used to all evening, brilliant!, all out T.T., we had to have a winner, maybe a fairy tale where the unexpected happens, but no, Keith wins both games, but Ken made him work hard, 21-18, 21-18. BYM 1 the winners by 22 points.

Match card comment "what a night, this match had everything, good table tennis, a great atmosphere. M.o.M. K. Williams, who turned it on when needed, 2nd M.o.M. young (74) Ted". (how does Ted keep up the constant running!!)

So to the draw for the Semi Finals, we have two Cadwa teams, one from Bath St. Marine and one from Bootle YMCA Roly Wright. Cup Secretary. 28 / 01 / 2012