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TABLE  
TENNIS  
DIGEST

*Official Magazine*

OF THE

LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

# Table Tennis

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must be addressed to  
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## Digest

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W. Stamp A. Montgomery

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### COMMENT

THIS has been a momentous season, if not in the playing sense, for if as seems certain, the proposals put forward at the Special General Meeting, are ratified at the A.G.M., then the biggest change in the construction of the peace time League, since Les Forrests' formation of the Regions in the mid' thirties, will have been made.

It seems however that there are several other matters which might be gone into thoroughly before the A.G.M. but we will confine ourselves to just one.

First and foremost is the question of short teams, a problem which has been coming increasingly to the fore through the season, until now it has reached such a pass that something must surely be done about it.

We know of one player who in the closing six weeks of the season never once played his allotted two sets, because of this shocking laxity, and personally we feel that active measures with penalties for continual offenders may be the only answer to the problem.

The clubs did not agree with the Management that increased registrations were necessary, for reasons which may well be valid, but we feel that if there is no need for such an increase, the onus is thrown back on to clubs to clean up this shocking blot on the League's reputation.

We have heard enough to make us realise that many scores are filled in of matches never played, and the total must be well in advance of the official figures. Clubs allowing this to be done, should realise that many others are suffering because of their mistaken ideas of kindness. It is time these persistent offenders were rooted out of the League, as they are of no value, and the League would be far better without them.

Though the tried performers continued to hold almost complete sway from start to finish, towards the end of the season a number of youngsters attracted attention, sufficient in fact to give hope that at last the younger generation may soon make a stern challenge to the seniors. We earnestly hope that this may be so, for we are certain that it is from this group that sooner or later the player will appear who will place Liverpool, in the playing sense, high among the best in the country, and we have waited, for that happy day, far too long already.

# BIG MAJORITY IN FAVOUR OF NEW LEAGUE PLAN

By W. STAMP.



THE Special General Meeting on March 30th discussed the re-organisation as set out in our last issue, and it was evident that many clubs had held meetings and given the matter a lot of thought, with the result that many questions were asked and constructive suggestions put forward, and incorporated in the scheme which was passed by 118 votes to 13.

Three clubs comprised the opposition of 13 votes, viz:—Balfour (6), English Electric (4), and Littlewoods (3), with Rafter's (4) abstaining. There were 12 clubs with 19 votes not represented. The rule changes consequent on this decision will be circularised for ratification at the A.G.M. in May.

I would again draw your attention to the fact that the closing date for applications to the League in future will be JUNE 30th. Clubs are asked to call their meetings for election of officers, decide their match night and the number of teams they wish to enter, before this date, as the particulars are for insertion in the handbook.

The new date will not only facilitate the administration of the League, but will enable clubs to plan their next winter programme in good time.

## Competition Winners

I must apologise for not announcing the prize winners in the Name Cards competition in January as promised, but great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the returns from some clubs.

The clubs selling the most number of cards in proportion to their registrations was Wavertree Labour, who sold 19 cards with 12 registered players, and

they will receive a donation of £5.0.0. towards their club funds. The table tennis bat and one dozen balls to the player selling the most number of cards, was won by Mr. Fenna (Wavertree Labour), who sold 14 cards.

Congratulations to the following clubs who did a good job of work, not forgetting their energetic secretaries who inspired their members and collected the money. Anfield (35), Brenka (20), Balfour (22), Cadwa (26), Cheshire Lines (29), Littlewoods (25) and Oakhill (30).

The proceeds of the competition were to help the Magazine finances and to form a coaching fund for young and promising players, and whilst the amount available has certainly bolstered up the magazine for this year, the solution for the future lies in the members having to pay for the postage, instead of the League doing it as at present.

The balance to go into a coaching fund, will not go very far when present day fees and travelling expenses are taken into account, and we cannot therefore be as ambitious as we had hoped. The pity of it all is, that the competition could have been an unqualified success had everyone pulled their weight (remember we only asked that every registered member sold ONE card).

The following clubs did not sell any at all—Aigburth, Bootle Y.M., Dennis, Domestic, Linacre, Lussac, R.A.F. Assn., R.A.F. Movements, St. Dominics and Wavertree Community Centre, and in two instances it was obvious that

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# LEADING AVERAGES FOR SEASON

The following are the players with the leading averages for the season in all twelve divisions. Qualification is at least 20 sets and all League matches, and cup-ties are included.

Players having an \* before their name, indicates they have played at least half their matches at 1 or 2.

## FIRST DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*E. J. Rumjahn (Raft A)	64	59	92.18
*W. Pierce (L. Y.M.) ...	44	39	88.63
*R. M. Rumjahn (Raft A)	61	53	86.88
*B. Hand (15th Crosby)	64	52	81.25
H. Wilcock (Balf A) ...	66	51	77.27
*F. Bamford (15th Cros)	55	42	76.35
*A. T. Smith (Balf A)	70	53	75.71
J. Watts (15th Crosby)	57	43	75.43
D. Ferguson (Raft. A)	42	31	73.80
*K. S. Gaulton (Balf. A)	60	44	73.33
*N. R. Jones (Balfour)	48	35	72.91
L. Davies (Balfour)	44	32	72.72
*P. U. Rumjahn (Raft.)	64	46	71.85
H. Read (Oakhill) ...	56	40	71.42
D. S. Bruce (Anfield A)	50	35	70.00
*R. Heatherington (Balf)	50	35	70.00

## SECOND DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*A. Taylor (Litherland)	50	45	90.00
*J. Rimmer (Lucam) ...	51	40	78.43
*T. Ellis (W.C.C.) ...	26	20	76.92
*W. Allanson (Boot Y.M.)	59	44	74.57
*D. Henwood (Lither)	54	39	72.22
F. Thomas (Linnet) ...	53	38	71.69
D. Foulis (Lucem) ...	42	30	71.42
*G. Gower (C.L.C.) ...	51	36	70.58
*R. Hulse (W.C.C.) ...	36	25	69.44
J. Stewart (Boot. Y.M.)	57	39	68.42
J. Storey (Vic. Pk.) ...	49	33	67.34
*J. Seddon (Wat. Dk.) ...	50	33	66.00
*M. Truman (Vic. Pk.)	49	32	65.30
*L. Mason (Linnet) ...	53	34	64.15
D. West (Bohs.) ...	46	29	63.04
K. Boden (Lucem) ...	56	35	62.50
B. Reeves (W.C.C.) ...	24	15	62.50

## THIRD DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*G. Aspinall (Bath St.)	58	53	91.37
L. Gee (Anfield B) ...	46	38	82.60
*B. Townsend (Ost.) ...	57	46	80.70
R. Young (L. Y.M. A)	54	40	74.07
*D. Jones (I.C.I.) ...	46	33	71.73
J. Brierley (Anfield B)	52	36	69.23
K. Wright (L. Y.M. A)	36	24	66.66
A. Roberts (L. Y.M. A)	56	37	66.08
*E. Smiton (Eng. Elec.)	56	37	66.08
*S. Draper (Bohs. A) ...	44	29	65.90
*A. Gould (Bath St.) ...	58	37	63.97
*H. Roberts (Anfield B)	40	25	62.50
*J. Taylor (L. Y.M. A)	56	35	62.50
*E. Barnes (Anfield B)	52	31	59.61
H. Dean (Bath St.) ...	32	19	59.37
*W. Crafter (Cadwa) ...	34	20	58.82

## FOURTH DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*R. McManus (Bohs. B)	24	23	95.83
I. Rogerson (B. Y.M. A)	56	45	80.35
Mrs. B. Waterson (Loft)	41	32	78.04
*H. Harkness (Panto)	43	33	76.74
W. Slater (Panto) ...	57	42	73.68
*R. Mason (Panto) ...	52	38	73.07
*A. Harris (Boot. Y.M. A)	48	35	72.91
*W. Askew (Lofters) ...	51	36	70.58
C. Bray (Wat. Pk.) ...	53	37	69.81
C. Manning (Vic. Pk. c)	48	33	68.75
A. Hill (Dom. M.) ...	46	31	67.39
W. Bent (Boot. Y.M. A)	56	37	66.08
P. Coulter (Panto) ...	50	32	64.00
Miss N. Lamb (Lofters)	22	14	63.63
*L. Hunter (Vic. Pk. c)	46	29	63.04
R. Musker (Wat. Pk.)	46	29	63.04

## LADIES FIRST DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*L. Rumjahn (Rafters)	46	44	95.65
*K. Casselman (Rafters)	20	19	95.00
*M. Jones (Bohs.) ...	46	41	89.13
W. Finnetty (Lofters)	56	49	87.50
J. Lloyd (Lofters) ...	42	36	85.71
G. Gleed (Bohs.) ...	48	40	83.33
*B. Waterson (Lofters)	56	46	82.14
K. Rumjahn (Rafters)	52	42	80.76
S. Farrell (Bohs.) ...	30	24	80.00
D. Mezey (Bohs.) ...	20	16	80.00
J. Richardson (Balfour)	42	33	78.57
*J. Brennand (Rafters)	52	40	76.92
*I. Howley (Anfield) ...	40	29	72.50
*R. Royle (Anfield) ...	48	34	70.83
*I. Crafter (Oakhill) ...	34	24	70.58
P. Spranger (Balfour)	34	24	70.58

## LADIES SECOND DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*J. Fortune (Wat. Pk.)	40	37	92.50
*J. Jones (W.C.C.) ...	46	39	84.78
E. Cubley (Beau I & A)	38	32	84.21
L. Olsen (Wat. Pk.) ...	44	37	84.09
D. Campbell (Wat. Pk.)	22	18	81.81
L. Wynne (Ost.) ...	36	28	77.77
E. Daniels (Wat. Pk.)	40	31	77.50
J. Lloyd (Little. A) ...	44	33	75.00
*R. Trampnow (Ost.) ...	40	30	75.00
W. Ramsey (Aig.) ...	42	31	73.80
E. Royal (Aig.) ...	32	23	71.87
P. Lewis (Ost.) ...	24	17	70.83
*M. Patterson (Beau.)	40	28	70.00
*N. Wass (Aigburth) ...	42	29	69.04
*E. Owen (Lucem) ...	34	23	67.64
*E. Scott (Wat. Pk.) ...	46	31	67.39

## AVERAGES—Continued

### NORTH—FIRST DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*J. Lovelady (15 Cros A)	26	23	88.46
A. Williams (B. Y.M. B)	40	34	85.00
*L. Cairns (Boot. Y.M. B)	46	39	84.78
*J. Owen (Mag.)	49	40	81.63
J. Edwards (Little.)	38	31	81.57
*J. Hay (Brenka)	42	34	80.95
*W. Tobin (Maghull)	47	39	80.85
*P. Turtle (Everton Y.M.)	46	37	80.43
*D. Styles (Little. A)	46	35	76.08
E. Anderson (Little. A)	28	21	75.00
H. Kitchen (Eng. El. A)	48	35	72.91
G. Every (Little.)	46	33	71.73
D. Hunter (B. Y.M. B)	46	33	71.73
P. Whalley (Maghull)	47	33	70.21
K. Horton (Little. A)	32	22	68.75
R. Gillies (Little.)	40	27	67.50

### NORTH—SECOND DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*H. Dean (Bath St. A)	20	19	95.00
*L. Lewis (Anfield D)	44	36	81.81
B. Crolley (B. Y.M. B)	49	39	81.25
*W. Spencer (Wat. Pk. C)	36	29	80.55
*B. Davies (B. Y.M. B)	44	35	79.54
R. McKenna (B. Y.M. B)	38	30	78.94
T. Flattery (E. El. B, C)	42	33	78.57
K. Readitt (Wat. Pk. C)	28	22	78.57
*T. Owen (B. Y.M. B)	42	32	76.19
E. Halsall (Brown. Pk.)	46	35	76.08
*L. McArt (Brown. Pk.)	46	35	76.08
P. Murphy (L. Co-op)	38	27	71.05
*B. Fare (Eng. El. B)	44	31	70.45
G. Beattie (B. Y.M. B)	48	32	66.66
*R. Blagden (Wat. Pk. B)	24	16	66.66
T. Warwick (Bro. Pk.)	46	30	65.21

### EAST REGION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
G. Nelson (L.P.A.S. A)	50	43	86.00
*A. Moorcroft (Ost. A)	46	39	84.78
D. Newman (Vags.)	46	39	84.78
K. Davies (Vags.)	32	27	84.37
*A. Heague (L.P.A.S. A)	50	42	84.00
*J. Conroy (L.P.A.S. A)	52	43	82.69
*M. Gallagher (Vags.)	59	48	81.35
*W. Gollinge (Cad. A, C)	20	16	80.00
K. McKechnie (Balf. D)	28	22	78.57
*J. O'Keefe (Edward.)	46	35	76.08
*A. Keamey (Cad. A, C)	24	18	75.00
T. Johnstone (Vags.)	59	43	72.88
G. Mitchell (L.P. A, B)	54	38	70.37
L. Murray (Balf. D)	36	25	69.44
T. Cunningham (Edw'd)	22	15	68.18
*W. Savage (Vags.)	59	40	67.79

### CENTRAL REGION 1st DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*J. Robinson (R.A.F.A.)	56	50	89.28
*B. Oxlade (Anfield C)	44	39	88.63
*K. Davies (Vags. A)	20	17	85.00
D. Mahen (Anfield C)	42	35	83.33
C. Jones (L. Y.M. B)	50	40	80.00
*E. Handley (O. Xavs.)	51	40	78.43
J. Ley (D. Post)	32	25	78.12
G. Elliott (Vags. A)	20	15	75.00
D. Loughrey (L. Y.M. B)	48	35	72.91
*W. Shepherd (Luc. A)	22	16	72.72
J. Roberts (Anfield C)	48	33	68.75
D. Walter (Linn. B)	44	30	68.18
A. Smith (Anfield C)	50	34	68.00
W. Johnson (Panto A)	40	27	67.50
*T. Smith (O. Xavs.)	51	34	66.66
*A. Fowler (Panto A)	44	29	65.90

### CENTRAL REGION 2nd DIVISION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
*Wildblood (R.A.F. M.)	31	28	90.32
C. Briggs (R.A.F. M.)	48	43	89.58
*J. Anderson (R.A.F. M)	45	40	88.88
B. Duplan (Stanley H.)	20	17	85.00
*J. Bennett (Peel H.)	46	39	84.78
R. Hemming (R.A.F.M)	36	29	80.55
T. Williams (Stanley H.)	40	32	80.00
*R. Wilson (Livex B)	34	26	76.47
*R. Jones (Deaf Inst.)	42	32	76.19
*E. Moran (Ches. L. C)	32	23	71.87
K. Garner (Ches. L. B)	42	30	71.42
*E. Cheng (Stanley H.)	38	27	71.05
*D. Warrell (Oakhill D)	44	31	70.45
W. Evans (Stanley H.)	40	32	69.44
J. Annand (R.A.F. M.)	47	32	68.93
*T. Buchanan (Ches. L. B)	48	33	68.75

### SOUTH REGION

Player & Club	P.	W.	%
J. Grayson (Ches. L A)	46	44	95.66
C. Grimes (Ches. L. A)	46	44	95.65
*D. Rodrigues (Linn. A)	26	23	88.46
O. Hughes (Ches. L. A)	44	38	86.36
*R. Burge (Ches. L. A)	42	36	85.71
L. Carter (Beau.)	42	35	83.33
B. Pardy (Linn. A)	40	32	80.00
*S. Donnelly (Aig.)	40	31	77.50
F. Farrell (Beauclair)	42	32	76.19
*S. Porter (Beauclair)	42	32	76.19
G. Kettle (Ches. L. A)	30	24	75.00
*R. Weston (Beauclair)	52	38	73.07
E. Wass (Aigburth)	40	29	72.50
R. Palmer (Ches. L. A)	38	27	71.05
T. Edwards (Dennis)	44	29	65.90
J. McKim (Beauclair)	52	34	65.38

(Excluding Cadwa B—Linnets 'A.)

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Basnett St. LIVERPOOL 1

### *From the Secretary's Desk—Continued*

the cards had never even been handed to the members. Other clubs sold either one or two cards and many and varied were the excuses put forward for doing nothing, and I quote the letter received from Mr. Green, the secretary of Linnets.

“Herewith please find cheque value 10/- together with 48 unused cards. One card was sold by M. Murphy, the other I have ‘bought’ myself since I do not wish to penalise the League in any way on account of my very strong views as to the legality of the scheme.

We have found that our members were not willing to put their backs into this idea, the main reason being that, like myself, they do not think it complies with the law, and just would not sell them on that account. Others, as you know is always the case, could not be bothered.”

The League officials through their Secretary, had taken good care of the “legality of the scheme” and perhaps

he could verify the legal aspect from one of the two clubs to sell all the cards they received, viz. Bootle Police.

For years the Linnets Club have been raising funds for themselves by football doubles or trebles etc., and the selling of the tickets has not been confined to their own club—I have recollections of them selling tickets at a closed tournament. Apparently it is quite in order whatever Linnets do, but wrong when done by the League, and the assertion that our competition was illegal had no foundation in fact, and was merely an excuse to *do nothing*. Or could it be that the selling of anything for the League might interfere with Linnet's market?

One thing we have learnt however, is that if the League wishes to embark on anything in the future which they cannot afford out of income, the obvious answer is to raise it in the orthodox way by increasing League fees.

The legality of this ought to satisfy even Mr. Green.

## Amazing Finish To Season

THE season has finished in an amazing climax. Both the league championship and the Readman Cup have ended in a "telephoto" finish.

Balfour A, who were leading by a couple of points from Rafters A, were beaten by their own B team in the critical stages to make the leadership a dead-heat.

Balfour A won their last game against Y.M.C.A., 7-3, which meant that Rafters A had to beat Balfour B in their final match by a better score. But the Rafters team had not reckoned on W. Wong beating Ron Rumjahn, so that the match ended in Rafters A only winning 7-3, thus sharing the title with Balfour A on points and sets.

### Points Decision

Similarly the Readman Cup final was as close, 15th Crosby and Balfour A being level on sets and games at the end of the match and the destiny of the cup being decided by points advantage in favour of Crosby.

The season has been an arduous one, competition between the teams very keen and fortunes have varied accordingly. Some players have shown a marked improvement generally and others have had patches of brilliance although only possessing a mediocre record.

To mention a few there are Oakes and Grant (Oakhill), Killip, Cuff and Fay (Anfield A), Greensmith (Anfield), the McKechnie brothers (Balfour B), Ferguson and Short (Rafters) and Rigby (Y.M.C.A.).

The giant killers have been Tony Smith (Balfour), second to have obtained a double over Ted and Ron since Bernard Hand, and D. Bruce (Anfield), with amazing wins over Bill Pierce, Hand, Reg Hetherington and Les Davies.

### Value of Attack

Whirlwind attack can produce these results as Bruce has shown. It can upset the steadiest and most talented of players as the Japanese teams have shown in their double cup triumphs in the world championships.

It is the type of game that spectators enjoy, instead of the farcical time-limit affairs. I would like to see the majority of our division adopting these tactics and winning points on their merit instead of by the errors of their opponents.

Congratulations to two teams who have ended with a successful flourish. Oakhill drew with Balfour, beat Anfield A 8-2, Y.M.C.A. 6-4 (thanks to Oakes beating Pierce 22-20 in the third after being down 15-20) and then Balfour B 7-3.

The other team, Anfield A, beat Y.M.C.A. 6-4, Crosby 6-4 and drew 5-5 with Balfour. Killip, Bruce, Cohen, Cuff and Fay are a youthful team with potentiality.

As the season closes there are the usual feelings of exultation and heart-break, and with the proposed reorganisation we may see quite a difference in the division next season.

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## Fatal Matches For Linnets

THIS is naturally the appropriate time to look back over the season, with the League fixtures now complete. All worries and hopes of relegation or promotion are finally settled, and we can relax a little and look forward to next season.

At the top of the division we had a real fighting finish between five teams, and the championship was not decided until the last three games.

Linnets, who looked certain champions a month ago, suffered a defeat at Victoria Park on March 23rd, and then drew with Litherland at home, which was fatal. Lucem, who were second, two points behind, continued to win, and so gained the championship. Their winning Line-up for most of the season was J. Rimmer, D. Foulis, J. Charnock, W. Shepherd. I can't think of the other chap, but it is my honest impression they are worthy champions.

### Two Good Teams

In the relegation zone, Waterloo Dock and Rafters B finished bottom in that order, but at full strength are two good teams. We wish them well, and know that if their determination persists they will recover their lost status.

Now, briefly about the other teams. Oakhill A who started to climb up to the top during the middle of the season, fell away badly at the end. Litherland lost to Rafters B without A. C. Taylor, just when they needed the points.

Victoria Park seem well satisfied with their position of fourth, especially after beating Linnets 6-4. Their weakness appears to have been at No. 5.

Cheshire Lines, Bohemians, Bootle Y.M.C.A. and Wavertree all enjoyed themselves without worrying unduly about the League, and seemed satisfied to stay put this year in the hope of strengthening their team for next season. Anyway everybody agrees, unless improvements are made, Lucem and Linnets would be lucky to hold their own in the first division and stay there.

Finally, a round of applause for each of the following:—A. C. Taylor (Litherland), who, as top of the individual merit list, is the outstanding player in this division, F. Thomas (Linnets), whose great improvement brought him

from No. 3 to No. 1 in his side, he will do well in the first division; W. Allanson (Bootle Y.M.C.A.); J. Rimmer and D. Foulis (Lucem), and J. Seddon (Waterloo Dock), who deserve a word of praise for their fine performances.

So far as my experiences are concerned this season, I have seen some first-class games, but the average age of the players is around 28, and there seems to be an absence of young talent. Why this should be so, I do not know.

Before I go, I would like to suggest that all matches commence at 7 o'clock instead of 7-30 next season. We might avoid the late finishing which has been so prominent in the division this season. If you agree put your views forward at the Annual General Meeting.

### The June 30 Deadline

SIR:—The proposal of entering teams by June 30th must surely create an all-time low in Liverpool League administration. How any club can give a correct or even a near correct assessment of their team strength three months before the season starts, is beyond my comprehension.

Now that the recent meeting is over we find the net result is that no clubs will be allowed more than two teams in the first four divisions and no teams will be allowed promotion from Division 5 unless the committee say so.

Surely a much easier solution would have been an amendment to rules at the A.G.M. stipulating that no club would be allowed more than two teams in one division. This would have prevented one of the following anomalies taking place—(a) the breaking up of the breeding grounds of any potential first class players (i.e. the first class clubs), and goodness knows we need them in Liverpool; (b) the first-class clubs keeping together and walking away with Division 5 year after year, getting their practice in with their fellow good players, getting their medals, and killing any incentive or hope any of the smaller fry may have of higher things.

I suggest that the alterations do not affect we "lower classes," unless the last phrase in the last paragraph applies. J. A. LAMBERT, (English Electric).

## HARD LUCK, ANFIELD CHAMPIONS

ONE does not know whether to congratulate Anfield B on their magnificent championship success or to commiserate with them on their almost certain relegation to Division Five, yes, Division Five, because as their club's third string they will be due for the big drop from which there is no return to a higher status.

They will be in good company however, and if present strength is any guide, they will find it a much harder job to win the Division Five Championship than they did the Division Three this season.

With Anfield going down there will be vacancies in Division Two for quite a few of us. Liverpool Y.M.C.A. A, Bath Street, Cadwa and Osterley may be lucky.

### Best Ever

Bath Street will be feeling very pleased with life. Promotion although third in the league, is a pleasant thought, and with the Rumjahn Cup on their sideboard they can look back on their best ever year.

Poor old Y.M.C.A. A, squeezed out of honours, paid the penalty of being *pace-maker*. They deserved a better fate, but the tenseness of the struggle played havoc with them at the season's end. They lost the cup on sets after a 5-5 draw,—never a satisfactory way of winning or losing a cup final. But let us not detract from Bath Street's fine effort.

Technical Students and Linacre finished as expected. They will be hoping that the re-organisation of the League will help them retain their status.

Most clubs and players I have spoken to have enjoyed the season, but all this talk of fiddles with which the magazine has been filled has had a bad effect. There always have been a few fiddles and despite new rules there always will be, but constant talk and reports has made clubs and players "fiddle-conscious" and tended to throw the whole thing out of perspective. If by any chance I cover these notes next

season, I for one will do my utmost to avoid the subject entirely.

Just a few credits to finish up. The player I liked best, D. Young of Liverpool Y.M.C.A.; The most successful player, "The Spider," Bath Street: The most temperamental player, G. Aspinall, Bath Street: The best old timer, R. Hough, Liverpool Police: The most promising youngster, B. Smith, Technical Students.

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### Defence of Juniors

SIR:—After reading the report by J. D. Loughrey on the Closed finals at the Y.M.C.A., I must complain in the strongest possible manner, regarding his comments on the junior singles.

Firstly, he seemingly belittles the winner by writing, L. Cairns was "from the Regions" where as his opponent F. Cuff plays in the First Division. We are not concerned with the division they are representing, provided they both comply with the age regulation.

Secondly, he remarks on the finalists "terrible mannerisms." To publicly criticise the two finest juniors on Merseyside truly amazed me. This is certainly not the way to encourage our promising youngsters.

There was a further point which aroused my indignation, the remarks regarding D. Bruce being a "trifle fortunate" in reaching the final of the Consolation Event. A glance at the League statistics will prove that on occasions Bruce is capable of defeating the best players Liverpool can produce. C. FAY, (Anfield).

J. D. Loughrey writes:—I am borne out in my belief that my comments re gum chewing were fair by the fact that Bootle Y.M. felt the remarks were not too severe. My regard for Bruce's play is high, but still feel he was somewhat lucky to defeat Eric Wall in the Men's Consolation. It is possible to make such a comment on one individual set, and not thereby imply the player concerned cannot play much better on other occasions.

# MAXWELL FYFE AND FOULIS CUPS

By J. D. LOUGHREY

A splendid evenings play, with many of the sets being decided by the closest possible margin and the standard being universally high, made a fitting climax to this season's Maxwell Fyfe and Foulis Cup competitions.

Ian Rogerson had to survive a series of terrific battles before emerging the winner of the Maxwell Fyfe Cup. His coolness under the circumstances—he had five times to carry on after deuce was called and won four of the games—is quite remarkable. Though he was several times in imminent danger of defeat, I feel he deserved much praise in showing so much courage during the numerous crisis, particularly as he is still lacking in experience.

The best of his battles possibly was against Bintley of Anfield, who had to concede seven points a game. This set took a long time to decide, as Bintley settled grimly to his task and was not to be tricked into making mistakes. With Rogerson refusing to be drawn into rash hitting, it became a dour struggle, and it was not surprising that all three games were decided on a deuce.

## Great Courage

The other finalist, E. F. Anderson, also showed astonishing courage for a youngster, and kept his head wonderfully well at crucial moments, during earlier rounds. These two North-end boys gave an exhibition worthy of the occasion, and remembering their ages there must be hope that either of them might train on to become useful members of a higher division than at present.

The Don Foulis Cup provided excellent performances as well, but more particularly it underlined the fact that Joyce Richardson has come on a great deal this season. In a wonderful final she beat Moya Jones, after the latter, playing excellently, had pulled back

her 10 point handicap to 25 all in the third game.

How strange it is that this should happen so often, but the Balfour girl gets praise for refusing to panic and continuing to play her normal game. Her semi-final match with Kay Rumjahn was also desperately close and might have gone either way.

A remark of Don Foulis that the most improved player of the league would win these competitions, seems to have a deal of truth as in the closing stages the standard of play was extremely good and reference to records shows that both winners have shown big advances in results from the previous season.

## Maxwell Fyfe

Details. First round—M. Cohen beat C. Casselman 25—31, 31—24, 31—26; E. Anderson beat R. Mason 27—31, 31—22, 31—19.

Second round—J. Grant beat A. Harris 28—31, 31—22, 31—26; I. Rogerson beat W. Bintley 32—30, 30—32, 32—30; J. Seddon beat Cohen 31—26, 24—31, 31—28; Anderson beat J. Brierley 31—24, 31—29.

Semi-final—Anderson beat Grant 31—25, 33—31; Rogerson beat Seddon 31—29, 33—31.

Final—Rogerson beat Anderson 31—29, 17—31, 32—30.

## Don Foulis

Semi-final—J. Richardson beat K. Rumjahn 29—31, 33—31, 31—29; M. Jones beat A. Brown 31—25, 31—28.

Final—J. Richardson beat M. Jones 31—26, 31—33, 31—29.

# FINAL LEAGUE TABLES

## First Division

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Balfour A.....	22	16	2	4	152	68	36
Rafters A .....	22	15	1	6	152	68	36
15th Crosby ...	22	14	4	4	135	85	32
Balfour .....	22	14	5	3	143	77	31
Oakhill .....	22	10	9	3	111	109	23
Anfield .....	22	9	9	4	114	106	22
L'pool Y.M. ...	22	8	9	5	114	106	21
Balfour B .....	22	8	10	4	99	121	20
Rafters .....	22	7	11	4	111	109	18
Anfield A .....	22	6	12	4	82	138	16
Livev.....	22	3	16	3	81	139	9
African Oil .....	22	0	22	0	26	194	0

## Second Division

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Lucem .....	22	15	4	3	139	81	33
Linnets .....	22	15	5	2	130	90	32
Litherland .....	22	12	4	6	125	95	30
Victoria Park ...	22	14	6	2	122	98	30
Oakhill A .....	22	13	7	2	116	104	28
Bootle Y.M. ....	22	10	8	4	118	102	24
Cheshire Lines ..	22	9	8	5	112	108	23
Bohemians .....	22	8	11	3	112	108	19
W'tree C.C.....	22	6	12	4	100	120	16
Balfour C .....	22	6	15	1	89	131	13
Waterloo Dock ..	22	3	16	3	83	137	9
Rafters B .....	22	3	18	1	74	146	7

## Third Division

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Anfield B .....	22	19	2	1	145	75	39
L'pool Y.M. A ..	22	16	4	2	147	73	34
Bath Street .....	22	15	3	4	140	80	34
Cadwa .....	22	12	7	3	115	105	27
Osterley .....	22	9	9	4	118	102	22
Victoria Park A..	22	8	10	4	111	109	20
L.P.A.S. ....	22	8	11	3	104	116	19
I.C.I. ....	22	7	11	4	105	115	18
English Electric ..	22	7	12	3	89	131	17
Bohemians A ...	22	7	13	2	95	125	16
Linacre .....	22	4	16	2	80	140	10
Tech Students... ..	22	3	17	2	71	149	8

## Fourth Division

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Panto .....	22	19	1	2	159	61	40
Bootle Y.M. A ..	22	18	0	4	157	63	40
Lofters .....	22	12	5	5	123	97	29
Waterloo Park ..	22	13	8	1	138	82	27
Bohemians B ...	22	10	9	3	103	117	23
Victoria Park C ..	22	8	11	3	105	115	19
Domestic Miss. ..	22	7	11	4	103	117	18
Livev A .....	22	7	11	4	96	124	18
Oakhill B.....	22	7	12	3	107	113	17
W'tree C.C. A ..	22	7	13	2	95	125	16
Victoria Park B ..	22	3	15	4	76	144	10
African Oil A... ..	22	2	17	3	58	162	7

## WOMEN'S—Division 1

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Bohemians .....	22	18	2	2	160	60	38
Lofters .....	22	17	1	4	158	62	38
Rafters .....	22	16	2	4	149	71	36
Balfour .....	22	15	5	2	141	79	32
Oakhill .....	22	13	6	3	135	85	29
Anfield .....	22	10	9	3	113	107	23
Bibby's .....	22	9	10	3	107	113	21
Littlewoods .....	22	6	13	3	87	133	15
Linnets .....	22	7	15	0	97	123	14
Cheshire Lines ..	22	3	17	2	72	148	8
Brenka .....	22	4	18	0	56	164	8
Linnets A .....	22	1	21	0	45	175	2

## WOMEN'S—Division II

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Waterloo Park ..	22	19	0	3	168	52	41
Osterley .....	22	15	2	5	151	69	35
Beauclair .....	22	15	4	3	155	65	33
W'tree C.C.....	22	11	7	4	129	91	26
Aigburth .....	22	11	8	3	120	100	25
Littlewoods A... ..	22	11	9	2	106	114	24
Bohemians A ...	22	9	8	5	127	93	23
Leyfield .....	22	8	9	5	108	112	21
Lucem .....	22	9	11	2	100	120	20
Dunlop .....	22	2	16	4	62	158	8
Beauclair A ...	22	2	18	2	54	166	6
Catholic Metro ..	22	0	20	2	40	180	2

## NORTH REGIONAL 1

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Bootle Y.M. B ..	22	19	2	1	150	70	39
Maghull, .....	22	18	3	1	151	69	37
Litherland A ...	22	14	3	5	137	83	33
Littlewoods .....	22	15	6	1	131	89	31
English Elec. A ..	22	12	6	4	126	94	28
Everton Y.M. ...	22	10	8	4	117	103	24
Brenka .....	22	8	10	4	103	117	20
Warbreck Moor ..	22	5	14	3	96	124	13
W'loo Dock A ..	22	6	15	1	86	134	13
W'loo Park A ..	22	4	15	3	79	141	11
Lofters A.....	22	3	16	3	85	135	9
15th Crosby A ..	22	2	18	2	59	161	6

## NORTH REGIONAL II

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Bootle Y.M. C ..	22	21	1	0	174	46	42
English Elec. B ..	22	17	3	2	148	72	36
Brownmoor Park ..	22	15	5	2	144	76	32
W'loo Park C ...	22	14	5	3	138	82	31
Litherland B ...	22	10	6	6	124	96	26
Bath Street A... ..	22	10	10	2	116	104	22
Anfield D .....	22	7	10	5	97	123	19
W'loo Park B... ..	22	5	12	5	93	127	15
Co-op .....	22	5	13	4	89	131	14
English Elec. C ..	22	5	14	3	81	139	13
Maghull A .....	22	2	16	4	58	162	8
Bootle Police ...	22	3	19	0	58	162	6

## LEAGUE TABLES

### SOUTH REGIONAL

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
<i>Cheshire Lines A</i>	20	20	0	0	176	24	40
Beauclair .....	20	18	2	0	162	38	36
Linnets A .....	20	15	4	1	139	61	31
Cadwa B .....	20	10	6	4	106	94	24
Aigburth .....	20	10	7	3	108	92	23
Dennis .....	20	7	11	2	92	108	16
Linnets C .....	20	7	11	2	87	113	16
W'tree C.C. B	20	7	11	2	85	115	16
Dunlop .....	20	5	13	2	78	122	12
St. Peters .....	20	2	17	1	41	159	5
Domestic Miss A	20	0	19	1	26	174	1
Aigburth Meths	Resigned.						

### EAST REGIONAL

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
<i>Vagabonds</i> .....	22	20	1	1	184	36	41
L.P.A.S. A .....	22	20	1	1	172	48	41
Balfour D .....	22	15	5	2	132	88	32
Osterley A .....	22	12	7	3	119	101	27
Cadwa A .....	22	11	8	3	119	101	25
Cadwa C .....	22	11	8	3	116	104	25
W'tree Labour...	22	10	9	3	117	103	23
Edwardians .....	22	5	14	3	89	131	13
Leyfield .....	22	5	14	3	89	131	13
L.P.A.S. B .....	22	4	15	3	68	152	11
St. Dominics ...	22	2	17	3	64	156	7
Fairlawn .....	22	3	19	0	51	169	6

### CENTRAL REGIONAL I

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
<i>Anfield C</i> .....	22	20	1	1	171	49	41
L'pool Y.M. B	22	15	4	3	144	76	33
Panto A .....	22	14	5	3	137	83	31
R.A.F.A. ....	22	14	5	3	130	90	31
Old Xaverians	22	12	4	6	137	83	30
Linnets B.....	22	12	8	2	121	99	26
Oakhill C .....	22	9	9	4	116	104	22
Post & Echo ..	22	7	12	3	103	117	17
Lucem A .....	22	6	13	3	96	124	15
Vagabonds A ...	22	3	14	5	75	145	11
Lussac .....	22	1	19	2	50	170	4
Catholic Metro	22	1	20	1	40	180	3

### CENTRAL REGIONAL II

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
<i>R.A.F. M'ments</i>	22	19	2	1	172	48	39
Cheshire Lines B	22	17	5	0	139	81	34
Stanley House	22	14	4	4	146	74	32
Peel Hall .....	22	9	7	6	121	99	24
Florence Oxton	22	10	8	4	115	105	24
Livex B .....	22	8	8	6	98	122	22
Oakhill D .....	22	7	10	5	104	116	19
Cheshire Lines C	22	6	9	7	99	121	19
Beauclair A ...	22	8	11	3	90	130	19
Tech Students A	22	5	13	4	86	134	14
Old Xaverians A	22	4	14	4	83	137	12
Deaf Institute ...	22	1	17	4	67	153	6

## Last Set was the Decider

AN extremely tense struggle ended not surprisingly in a draw on sets, and it was a three game margin in favour of Bath Street which decided the destiny of the Cup. Bath Street made a grand start and had a 4-1 lead before the Y.M. showed signs of making a serious resistance. The next four sets all went in favour of the Y.M. boys, and it was a truly astonishing change of fortune.

Bath Street however had built up a useful advantage on games in the early stages so that Dick Young knew he had to beat Dean of Bath Street before the final set if his side were to have any chance at all.

The resultant tension of the deciding set was in no way surprising, but it underlined the fact that the closing stages of our various Cup Competitions can provide an excitement which is quite unique, and which quite makes up for any lack of skill by the players.

Frankly this last set provided very little of the arts and crafts of the game, but that was of small importance compared with the result, so every stroke which sent the ball off the table was greeted with cheers or groans depending on the spectators feelings. It was only right that Dean who kept his head much better than Young should prove the winner, and in the end he won fairly comfortably, but indeed it was a most grim encounter.

Aspinall playing his sets early on, laid the foundations of Bath Street's success by winning both his matches, displaying a mastery of his opponents that one would expect from the leader of the Third Division averages, but John Taylor for the Y.M. did just as well and deserves credit for winning the vital ninth set to give his side the lead. Possibly the closest struggle of the evening was between Roberts and Cooke, the former winning on a deuce in the third. At the time it seemed that this reserve might cost Bath Street the match, but the courage of Dean in the final set made up for it, and on the evenings play the North End side deserved their success, even if the margin was desperately small.

## Change: Destination Unknown

AT the end of what I think has been a very happy season, as far as any rate, as the majority of us are concerned, there seems to be prevalent a sense of anti-climax, due first to the lack of a season-ending Closed Championship and second to our failure to discover where we are likely to spend next season.

Panto and Bootle Y.M.C.A. are exceptions; they are certainties for third division status, and well they have deserved it.

Alternately pace-making each other, they have both coursed eleven points ahead of the rest of the field and were only just separated in a photo-finish, with honours going to the Post Office boys, Harkness, Duffy, Mason, Slater and Coulter. Incidentally, they will have to find a replacement for Brian Duffy next season.

### Youngest Side

The Bootle line up of Jones, Harris, Ferris, Rogerson and Bent—probably the youngest side in the division—console themselves with the knowledge that they were the only unbeaten side and that three of Panto's four lost points made their way to the Y.M.C.A. headquarters.

To the four clubs doomed by re-organisation—Bohemians B, Oakhill B and Victoria Park B and C—we send our best wishes for success in whatever their future sphere may be.

Seldom can a club have made a better recovery than Bohemians.

Twice they seemed doomed for a lowly berth and each time avoided it with ease. Their final burst of 10 points from five games enabled them to finish a comfortable fifth.

It was a surprise to see the popular Oakhill veterans—if they will excuse the word—fourth from bottom and consequently doomed for relegation, re-organisation or not. A remarkable thing this, for a team whose worst defeat all season was 7-3. A pity for them that Bob Platt and Henry Sorsky were unable to reproduce their early season form at the testing time.

At African Oil and Wavertree there is speculation as to whether re-organisation may allow them to remain in the

division. If it should, it is evident that strengthening must take place.

The changes in the Wavertree turnout have been many and varied, but lack of a good opening pair is noticeable. All five of their most recent team—Cohen, Fowler, Paterson, Massey and Good—were capable of performing with credit lower down the team order.

Lofters and Waterloo Park both hope that they may find their way into Division Three. I can visualise Waterloo Park doing well there, especially if Charlie Bray can finally decide who to play at No. 5, but I doubt if the present Lofters team will go far, mainly because they lack good enough backing for Bill Askew and Beryl Waterson, while their reserves, apart from Nan Lamb, seldom shone.

Finally, a brickbat for the one really poor sportsman in the division. May he mend his ways or take up billiards! I still don't feel his attitude excused the behaviour of a home supporter at a club noted for its hospitality. This gentleman saw fit to cavil at an umpire's decision accepted by both players and to accuse the above-mentioned of cheating because he made no demur.

And a personal note. Thanks, secretaries, for your assistance when called on!

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## Well Done, Beryl and Brian

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs Beryl

Waterson, of Lofters, for carrying Liverpool's flag to London in the Daily Mirror tournament.

May we offer to her our best wishes and hopes that at the Albert Hall next month she will finally hoist that flag to the top of the pole by winning the women's singles. But whether she does or not, her appearance there will be a crown to a good season.

Congratulations also to young Brian Pardy, of Linnets, for reaching the final rounds of the Evening Chronicle event at Manchester. It is an uncommon thing for a regional player to get so far in such a tournament and augurs well for his future.

## OLD DOG FRED HAD HIS DAY

THE Readman Cup Final between 15th Crosby and Balfour A had not only variety in the colour of shirts—see last part Rule 19—but also a variety of movement. This went from the Can Can of Joe Watts to the adagio of Derek Sayers.

In addition, there was Fred Bamford. Never was the old saying "An old dog for a hard road" proved truer than in the last set of the night. Balfour led five sets to four, 12 games to 10, and Bamford had to beat Harris two straight to give Crosby a chance to retain the cup on points.

Bamford's earlier display against Wilcock, to whom he lost 11—21 17—21, did not augur well, but the veteran produced some real vintage stuff to win 21—7, 21—11. It was all there—attack, defence, half volley and every inch of the table used to advantage.

Well played, Fred.

### Decisive Attack

Hand won both his sets. Against Harris his attack was too sharp and decisive for his opponent, and the nonchalance with which he hit winners gave the impression of a knock up. Poor Harris was just a retriever of balls from various parts of the hall. He might have tried a bash himself, for he could not have been worse off.

Hand found Smith a much more difficult problem. Smith, mixing his game well, won the first and continued to hold the initiative to 19—15 in the second to look all over a winner. Then he lost it and the game to 19.

That was not all, the third game found Hand leading 11—1 so that Smith had lost all but one of the last 17 points. He put in a late rally but Hand finished up 21—19.

Both teams were forced to play a reserve, but neither Delamere nor Wong let their side down, each winning once. Wong beat Watts in no uncertain manner, while Delamere, as well

as beating Sayer, took a game out off Wilcock.

Even though Wilcock lost the first 23—25 and recovered in the second from 12—19 to 21—19, I feel that Delamere deserved to win the third for his enterprise. Wilcock won 25—23 but played a negative game and it was lack of stamina more than anything else that beat Delamere.

It may seem hard to decry a man who won both his sets, but I cannot help thinking that if Wilcock had used his attack more against Delamere he could have won two straight. What a difference that would have made.

Watts had a poor match. When he went on against Sayer, Crosby were in front for the first time at 4—3 and it was freely anticipated that the set would see it go to 5—3.

This seemed good forecasting when Watts won the first game against an almost static Sayer 21—9. Sayer hit a couple of winners in the next two games and these, combined with his ability to get the ball over the net and on the table, proved good enough to beat a jumpy but very much out-of-touch Watts.

The Smith-Coogan set was, I thought, the best of the night and though Smith won 21—19, 27—25, he would be the first to admit he had all the luck. If ever anybody earned the right to a third game it was Coogan. Whether he would have won it we shall never know but he certainly deserved the chance.

Crosby deserved their win if it was only for their fight back, and nobody can say they had the luck. Balfour A, I feel, have only themselves to blame for defeat. With the exception of Smith and Wong, who showed some enterprise, the rest were very negative.

Balfour were only once behind during the course of the match but instead of going on and firmly grasping the victory that was there for the taking they let it slip.

For the record, Crosby's winning margin of points was 464 to 424.