



Nets & Edges

News from Table Tennis Wales

November - December 2014

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A View from the Chair



Veterans Delegate Required

I hope you are all well, enjoying the season and winning a few matches!

We are seeking someone to act as coordinator for Welsh veterans international events.

It involves:

- Acting as liaison with the other home countries in regard to entering Welsh teams in events
- Liaison with selectors
- Liaison with selected teams
- Appointing and then heading up an organising team for the next time Wales hosts the home nations event (in 3 years time)

This is a voluntary position

If you are interested please contact General Manager Phil Avery at philipaveryco@hotmail.com

Best wishes to all for a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year

Bernard Carter Chair

Coaching Corner

Simon Oyler has been selected by UK Sport to be an Aspire coach on their Elite Coach programme for 2015

Domestic News

Ryan Oyler and Beth Roberts continue to dominate the internal junior events. A new ranking list has been produced recently to reflect their number 1 positions on their respective lists.

The Cardiff Dragon events are coming thick and fast with a monthly influx of new players

International

Charlotte Carey has qualified for the World Junior Championships in China this December. Charlotte also reached the QF of the singles at the Hungarian Youth Open in November. She had a match ball to reach the semi finals but it wasn't to be. Charlotte was joined by Josh Stacey, Marc Castro, Soffi Jenkins, Lydia John and Beth Roberts in Szombatherly

Coaching Courses

A new UKCC Level 1 course is now available:

Venue - Cardiff City Table Tennis Club

Course Reference Code - 83402

Dates

Day 1 - Sunday 18th January 2015

Technical Day - Sunday 8th February 2015

Day 2 - Sunday 8th March 2015

Other News

The Welsh men's team qualified from the standard division to the Challenge division in Lisbon this September and will play the likes of England, Italy, Belgium and Slovakia in the next event in Russia in 2015

Other Major Events

Selections will be made shortly for the Welsh Euro Challenge and the Junior/Cadet 6 nations (which is in Cardiff)

Up-coming events:

Welsh Ping Pong Qualifier (29 Nov)

Blaenau Gwent Jun/Cadet (30 Nov)

Nottingham GP (6-7 Dec)

Dragon - (7 Dec) - Under 9s Under 11s Under 13s Under 15s at Cardiff City TTC

Cardiff GP (20-21 Dec)

Glamorgan Closed -Sens & Vets- (28 Dec)

For entry forms for Welsh events see the Tournament Entry Forms page on the TTW website at www.ttaw.co.uk. For entry forms for English events visit their website at <http://tabletennisengland.co.uk/>

Ryan Jenkins National Coach



South & Central

Cardiff Junior and Cadet Open

The Cardiff Junior & Cadet Open took place at St.Mellons Table Tennis Club on Saturday 4th October. There was strong entry with players travelling from all around Wales, Ireland and England to do battle.

Ryan Oyler, Joshua Stacey and Joseph Roberts all players from St.Mellons TTC, made it a clean sweep in the boys events by winning the Junior Boys, Cadet Boys and Under 13's Boys respectively. Lara Whitton causes the upset of the day by winning the Under 15's girls in spectacular fashion.

The full results –

Cadet Boys:

Winner - Joshua Stacey

Runner Up - James Kelly (Ireland)

Losing semi finalists - Joseph Roberts & Cade Short

Cadet Girls:

Winner- Lara Whitton

Runner Up - Jamie Lee Harley

Losing semi finalists - Lauren Stacey & Bethany Brewer

Under 13 Boys:

Winner - Joseph Roberts

Runner Up - Louis Price (England)

Losing semi finalists - Stanley Shilton (England) & Elis Burgess

Under 13 Girls: Round Robin

Winner - Beth Richards

Runner Up - Lauren Stacey

3rd - Lara Whitton

4th - Grace Clement

Junior Boys:

Winner - Ryan Oyler

Runner Up - Chris Griffiths

Losing semi finalists- Jac Jenkins & James Kelly (Ireland)

Junior Girls:

Winner - Beth Roberts

Runner Up - Mair Kelly (Ireland)

Losing semi finalist: Soffi Jenkins & Kate Roberts



Table Tennis Development.

We are happy to announce that we have a new partnership within the Cardiff area.

In our new partnership with Cardiff City Football Club's Community and Education Foundation, we are looking to grow our grassroots table tennis even further. With the help of the Cardiff City FC project and their community coaches, we will see a rapid increase in the number of young people across Cardiff, having the opportunity to take part in table tennis activities, the ability to engage with more schools and look to introduce more players into our club environments.

We are very excited to have this partnership up and running, along with the support of Sport Cardiff and their new city-wide community structure, we are looking forward to the progress and new successes these projects will bring.

Cardiff Games

January will see the start of the Cardiff Games competitions. Secondary schools across the capitol will do battle in the Cardiff Finals held at St Mellons TTC (year 7&8) and Cardiff City TTC (year 9+10).

Who will be the Champions of Cardiff??

Come February it will be the turn of the Primary School Cardiff Games, where we will see different primary schools take part in skilled sessions within 3 regions of Cardiff.

They will have to bring their best skills along with them and put them to the test to see who will be the Primary Skill Kings of Cardiff!!

Please follow the progress on twitter - @OylerBoiiii and @walesTT

Stockton 4 star Junior event – Soffi Jenkins wins Gold in the junior girls team event.

Other results at Stockton include:

Jac Jenkins & Luke Saville (Bronze in Junior Boys team)

Callum Evans & Marc Castro (QF of Junior Boys Team)

Soffi Jenkins - QF of the junior girls banded event

Callum Evans - Semi Finals of the Junior Boys singles (losing to Tom Jarvis)

Jac Jenkins - Quarter Finals of the Junior Boys singles (losing to Gabriel Achampong)

Glamorgan Closed

Louie Evans – Silver medalist in u13 boys

Chris Griffiths - Gold in Junior Boys

Commonwealth Games – Glasgow 2014

Stephen and Ryan Jenkins competed in their 4th games with Conor Edwards also being selected. The main results were as follows:

Team Event 5th

Mixed Doubles – Stephen and Naomi reached last 16

Mens Doubles Stephen and Ryan reach last 16

Llynfi Valley TTC – First training Camp took place on 27th October with 20 players booking on and 6 coaches helping on the day. Stephen Jenkins has been appointed head coach to push the club forward, run dragon events, training,





COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
IN WALES
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leaders courses and to generally support the club.

Llynfi Valley Table Tennis has been running for just under 2 years, and with backing from SPORTED, and FUND FOR WALES, funded by a grant from the Comic Relief programme administered by the Community Foundation in Wales is attracting a number of persons ranging from 6 to over 60 years of age, every Friday at Nantylffyllon Miners Institute.

Due to the success of the voluntary-run club, the training day will hopefully become a regular event with the assistance of Table Tennis Wales and Stephen Jenkins.

Steve Jenkins & Simon Oylor



North West

The 2014/15 season is underway in the North West. Overall we have one team less than last season although two clubs, Amlwch (now playing even further west out at Wylfa Nuclear Power Plant) and Rhyl both have an extra team. Last season 73 players played some part in the campaign and we have seen 59 players in the first month of the current league contest. Some others will play in the winter months, but we are slightly down on last season having no representatives from Bangor University.

The handicaps are out for the cup competitions and two new faces appear in the top thirteen. At the top we have Ken Connor and fellow newbie Jacub Blahut has also made an early impact in the league.

Rank	Player	Club/Team
1	Ken Connor	Y Morfa A
2=	Paul Collins	Amlwch - Wylfa A
2=	Keith Williams	Amlwch - Wylfa A
4	Mark Pugh	North Wales Police A
5	Reg John	Amlwch - Wylfa A
6	Ian Ault	Amlwch - Wylfa
7=	Peter Beatham	Y Morfa A
7=	Thomas au Yeung	North Wales Police A
9=	Andy Horton	Y Morfa B
9=	Tony Wan	North Wales Police A
11=	Jacub Blahut	Craig-y-don A
11=	Paul Hulme	Denbigh A
11=	Rob Stanway	Y Morfa B

The Llandudno & District Closed Tournament is being held on the 22nd November in a break from the recent tradition of holding the competition at the end of the season. In a further alteration we are holding the closed finals on a separate night at Craig-y-don, to promote table tennis in the region. The finals will be starting promptly at 7:30 at the community centre, LL30 1TE. Entrance is free with one show court table being used, all welcome.

From Sean Lucas



South West

Steve Heydon has been appointed our new Regional Director, Steve has revamped our blog <http://westwalestt.blogspot.co.uk> to include news and up to date information about the area and its successes. Stan Eastwood is also running our Swansea and District Table Tennis League Web page which shows all local league news and information this can be found at <http://westwalestt.blogspot.co.uk> .

Our Welsh Squad players Marc Castro Tommy Heydon Lydia John and Lara Whitton are all playing in the Bristol Grand Prix, Lara our Cardiff Junior Open Cadet girl winner makes her first Grand Prix debut. Both herself and Lydia are playing in the Womens and Under 21 events which will they can only gain experience from at such young ages. Marc and Lydia having just returned from the Hungarian Youth Open. Lawrence John is now in Grantham College where he is studying his A Levels and training is also competing after his success in the Stockton 4* winning his respective Junior Banded event.

Our Regional Squad is now fully subscribed with new players from Penlan Mumbles Gorseinon and Carmarthen enjoying weekly sessions aimed at taking their game to the next level. We welcome TOM COLLIER, MORGAN COLLIER, LIAM OWEN, DAFYDD GIBBS, TAMLAN EASTWOOD, DANIEL FELTON, DEXTER LLOYD EVANS, CERYS GRUNEBERG, WILLIAM TRUBEY, JACOB YOUNG. Many thanks again to our coaches: Dennis, Roy, Peter, Jo, Jason, Stan, for your continued support in our clubs.

Swansea & District Table Tennis League standings so far:

Premier Div 1st Penlan A 2nd Carmarthen A 3rd Penyrheol A

First Div 1st Carmarthen C 2nd Betws Rugby Club B 3rd Llanelli

Second Div 1st Carmarthen E 2nd Penlan N 3rd Penyrhol C

Junior Team Championships of Wales Weekend One

Swansea Teams featured in both the Premier and Division 1 of the Butterfly Team Championships of Wales.

Swansea A finished a credible 5th - just behind St Mellons B - who also secured 4 points.

Swansea B finished 3rd in the First Division

Paul Karabardak and Will Bayley took a bronze medal in the men's class 6-7 team event at the 2014 ITT Para Table Tennis World Championships in Beijing.

Judith Whitton

Website Links

For Wales website

[Click here](#)

For ETTA

[Click here](#)

For the ETTU

[Click here](#)

For the ITTF

[Click here](#)

All league & club organisers (and individual members) are very welcome to let us have news stories or features - we will do our best to publish. Email your copy to philipaveryco@hotmail.com

Wildmill Community TTC- Players Wanted!

Wildmill Community TTC, based at Coity Higher Community Centre, Heol West Plas, Litchard Bridgend CF31 1PA is looking for new members.

The club under Head Coach Regina Grech will celebrate its 10th anniversary in August 2015 and was previously supported by Bridgend Council Borough Council Youth Service with the help of Street Games.

Funding for this will cease as from the end of November and Regina will be looking to take over the club as from December 1st. Previously a kids-club only it will be opened up to everyone aged 5+. This might be of interest for players from the Bridgend area that are looking for extra practice.

The club is operating on a Tuesday 5.15-6.45 and costs are £ 2 per session.

The club has currently got a team in the Junior Welsh League Division 2.

All ages and abilities welcome.

Head Coach Regina Grech

Safeguarding

October 2014 TTW was the launch date for TTW new policy and procedures for Safeguarding and Protecting Children. It is mandatory for anyone within the sport in Wales who;

- Is involved either directly or indirectly with children as part of their role.
- Supplies a service for children on behalf of the NGB or a NGB affiliated club/league.

All affiliated clubs and leagues have already received information and from January 2015 they must appoint a Safeguarding Officer to comply with the policy and also its duty of reasonable care under insurance provided as part of TTW membership.

This person will be the first point of contact for all members at the club/league and will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the policy and procedures.

TTW as part of its duty of reasonable care will provide ongoing training and support for all members who must individually ensure they comply with the policy and in particular the practice procedures. These procedures are there to protect YOU.

If you want any more information the Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy can be found on our website or you can contact our National Safeguarding Officer, Lesley O'Connell via telephone 01495 352118 or email childprotection@ttaw.co.uk

Coach Education

UKCC

The dates and venue for the next Level 1 course have now been confirmed:-

Venue – Cardiff City TTC

Day 1 – 18th January 2015 / Technical Day – 8th February 2015 / Day 2 – 8th March 2015

Course Tutors – Mostyn Lewis and Simon Oyler

All interested parties have been circulated with the information and details posted on the TTW website.

A very good qualification level of Level 1 coaches following the 2 courses last season – a total of 18 newly qualified coaches at Level 1 over the 12 months.

Leaders Award

These courses continue to be popular with 7 courses being held across Wales (Powys / Welshpool/ Bridgend/ Swansea/ Cardiff) in the past few months with a total of 70 new “Leaders” registered since February a third of which (23) were ladies.

We are continuing to encourage and look for more ladies to qualify.

Meeting with Table Tennis England

A meeting was held with the new head of Coaching and Performance for Table Tennis England (TTE) Simon Mills and Miriam Beales who heads up Coach Education (Ryan Jenkins & Mostyn Lewis for TTW). A positive meeting with a number of topics covered.

UKCC Technical Working Group – A meeting of the home countries involved with UKCC (England / Scotland / Wales) is being set up by TTE for January 2015.

Future plans for the months ahead include:-

- to introduce a Coach Licence scheme for Coaches in Wales which will embrace continuous professional development (CPD)
- to encourage more ladies to qualify (currently only ~15% of qualified coaches are female)
- to increase the number of coaches qualified at Level 2 (currently only 13)
- to continue to promote the TTW Leaders Award (especially with organisations such as the Urdd and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wales)

Mostyn Lewis – Director Coach Education



Disability Table Tennis

Welsh Paralympic Table tennis players head for China

Following the disappointing news that London 2012 Paralympic singles bronze medalist Paul Davies would miss the World Para Table Tennis Championships after undergoing surgery, Wales still provided a strong contingent as part of the GB team at the World Para Table Tennis Championships in China – 6-15 September 2014 - Rob Davies, (Brecon), Sara Head, (Beddau), Paul Karabardak, (Swansea) and Neil Robinson (Bridgend) GB coach.

Group stages

Rob Davies was prepared for a tough match against his first opponent Endre Major and he had to show all his fighting qualities to beat the Hungarian 3-2, clinching the deciding fifth set 14-12 on his third match point after saving a match point at 11-12 with a great serve. His second match, against Silvio Keller from Switzerland, was more comfortable and he ensured top position in his group in the men's class one singles with a 3-0 win.

"I'm really happy," said Davies. "It's always good to have a difficult match at the start to get you into the competition - against Major it was particularly difficult and I left it until the last minute but he played probably the best he's played against me

Paul Karabardak found the men's class 7 world number one Maksym Nikolenko from Ukraine too good in his first match, losing 3-0. In his final group match Paul was disappointed not to progress to the knockout stages in the men's class 7 singles after losing his second group match to Daniel Horut of the Czech Republic 3-1

"I think I could have played better," said Karabardak, "maybe not been as nervous and played with a bit more self-belief"

Sara Head, from Beddau, lost to number two seed and reigning world champion from China Li Qian 3-0 but beat Mexican Sigala Lopez 3-1 (-11,8,8,10) to progress to the last 16 round against her old rival Fanny Bertrand from France.

Sara lost in a 5th set thriller, fighting back from 9-3 down in the deciding fifth set showing great fighting qualities against Bertrand to lead 11-10 but could not convert the match point and lost 13-11.

"I'm pleased with the way I fought back and I'm pleased with my performance but obviously that is tinged with disappointment that I lost," said Head. "She is very tough and we've had many battles.

Knock out stages

It was down to Rob Davies of Brecon to fly the flag for Wales/GB. He faced a tricky quarter-final against the Brazilian Aloisio Lima but came through 3-1(4,-12,8,7) to assure himself of a medal. In the semi-final against the Italian Andrea Borgato. Davies won the match 3-0 winning a very tight first set 15-13 but then took the next comfortably 5 and 5. to book his place in the men's class 1 final



Rob Davies



Paul Karabardak



Sara Head



Neil Robinson

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against the Korean Changho Lee.

Although the former rugby player from Brecon could not produce his best in the final Lee played a great match and was a deserving winner in the end. Davies eventually losing 3-1(-4,12,-8,-11).

"After I came back to win the second set I was feeling more positive," said Davies. "It put me back in the game and I kept battling but it just didn't come for me in this game unfortunately. I'll come back from it and hopefully get the next title."

Team event

In Paul Davies's absence new World silver medallist Rob Davies was consigned to the role of supporting his team mates.

Paul Karabardak and his partner Will Bayley were grouped with Spain, Czech republic and Egypt in the men's class 6/7 team event.

In a hard fought match against Egypt Paul won the final match against Eid 3-0 to clinch a 3-2 victory.

Next up was a strong Spanish team the match came down to the 5th match where Paul lost 3-0 to Morales and Spain won the match 3-2. The game had hinged on the doubles GB losing 3:2 ; -9,10,-5,9,9 in a desperately close match

The GB pair defeated the Czech Republic 3-1 to reach the semi final of the class 6/7 team event. Paul put up a great fight losing 2-3 to Horut but two victories for Will Bayley and a crucial 3-2 doubles win gave GB the overall victory.

Paul Karabardak and Will Bayley took the bronze medal in the men's class 6-7 team event after a battling performance against Ukraine which they eventually lost 1-3.

Karabardak played world number one Maksym Nikolenko and after losing the first set he came back to take the second and pushed the Ukrainian all the way in a 1-3 loss. Bayley then levelled the tie with a 3-1 win over the European champion Mykhaylo Popov. The doubles was crucial and Ukraine took the match 3-2 and a 2-1 lead in the tie.

Bayley lost the next singles 3-1 and the tie went to Ukraine.

"I thought I played well against Nikolenko," said Karabardak, "and I did myself better justice than when I played him in the singles as I didn't really have a chance against him when I played him then. But to push him all the way and to make him work for the win was really good.

"I'm really pleased as this is my first World championship medal and it's really special because I've won almost everything apart from a World medal and a Paralympic medal so just one more to go now and I've got the whole set."

Sara Head and her partner Jane Campbell were grouped with Korea, Croatia and France in the women's class 3 team event.

They had a disappointing start to their team campaign with a 3-1 loss to Korea. Campbell lost a tight first singles match to Mi Gyn Lee 7-11 in the fifth and although Head levelled the tie with a 3-1 win over Su Yeon Seo the GB pair lost the doubles 3-1 and the tie when Head lost her singles to Lee 3-1.

They faced European champions, Croatia next and despite a closely contested match GB lost 3-1.

Although the GB pair beat France 3-0 in their final group match it was not enough to take them through to the semi-finals.

"It was a really close game against Croatia," said Head, "and we were obviously

disappointed to lose. Every game we play, every match, every competition is all new experience and I think this is an experience we are going to learn from and hopefully it's going to make us stronger in the future."

So Wales finished the World championships with
Rob Davies Class 1 singles Silver
Paul Karabardak Class 6/7 Team Bronze

French open - Cote d'Azur 23-26 October 2014

Thomas Matthews represented the GB Pathway development squad and was disappointed not to progress from a tough group in men's class 1. In his first match he was involved in a great battle with Marcus Sieger from Germany and went down fighting 7-11 in the fifth. He then played really well against the Paralympic silver medalist and world number three Jean-Francois Ducay, taking the third set and pushing the Frenchman all the way in the fourth in a 1-3 loss. Matthews finished on a high note with a 3-0 win against Cyril Hernandez from France. In the Team event Tom played with Sebastian Defrancesco of USA and did not progress through the Group. Tom will have gained much needed experience from this event.

Neil Robinson
Para TT Rep
TTW Board member



Table Tennis thriving in Chepstow

Chepstow, an area known for its wide range of sports and activities on offer, has added table tennis to its packed programme with a community chest grant helping the club thrive. Primary School programmes using specialised artengo nets and the popular table tennis 5x60 club has ensured there is a fantastic pathway from school sport to the community club for children of all ages.

What else could we add to the exciting new opportunities existing for table tennis in Chepstow? Working closely with Table Tennis Wales, the exciting possibility of Monmouthshire's very first outdoor table tennis table became a reality and has been a fantastic addition to the community.

We are very grateful of the support of all our partners and felt that after the success of the previous year's Primary Schools Sports Festival that we were committed to delivering the same for children ages 5 to 9 years in 2014.

With the opportunities to play table tennis through the club, 5x60 and primary school lunchtime/afterschool clubs, indoor tables to hire and the addition of the free outdoor table, we feel that table tennis can now be offered to anyone, at any time during the day. The activity promotes inclusiveness through the use of specialised equipment and is prevalent in the sports timetable for the Chepstow SEN group. The outdoor table has also impacted on target groups such as Women and Girls, especially at lunchtime where different groups can be seen taking part in table tennis. Groups of 6th formers can often be found using the table between lessons and breaks from studies

The outdoor table is very popular in our play scheme programme and sports camps in school holidays and often used with children who have 1-1 support or small groups of children who need a break from other activities.

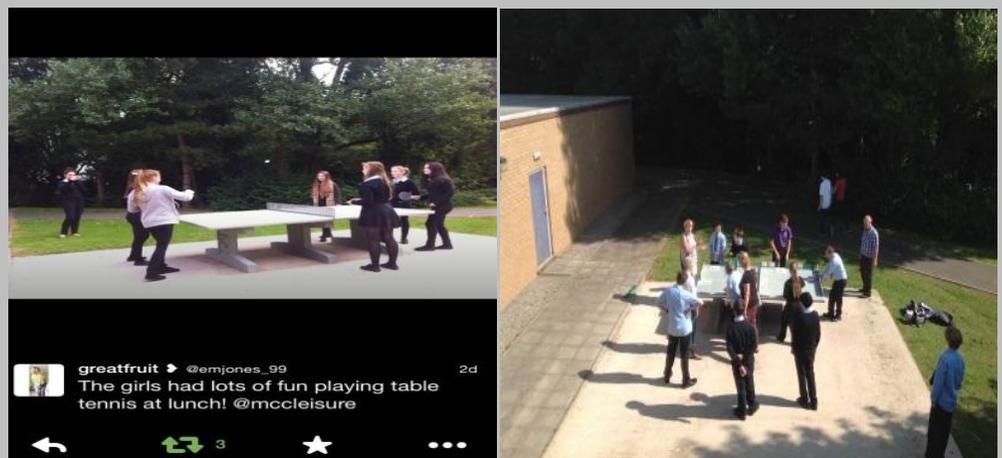
The Chepstow School leadership academy plays an important part in the running of activities within table tennis. 6 of the group have received their table tennis leaders award, and now run indoor and outdoor table tennis sessions through programmes such as 5x60. Through working closely with the club, community chest has also ensured 3 additional volunteers have up-skilled to level 1 as a table tennis coach to ensure quality coaching.

Through the use of adapted sports equipment such as wrist straps, larger balls and barriers which attach to the sides of the tables, we have ensure table tennis is an inclusive sport, but the table can also provide the opportunity for table top activities such as table top cricket.

The outdoor table has been well received by the members of the public with families, friends and clubs using the table and different times of the day. Whether it be 6th formers relaxing between lessons, walking groups warming up before their wye valley walk, families playing before/during or after swimming lessons or members of the public coming down to play with friends, the facility provides a pick up and play approach which promotes a range of health and physical activity related benefits

Ian Saunders

Head of Tourism Leisure & Culture- Monmouthshire Council



Bits & Pieces

Amazing rally at Commonwealth Games

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Official clothing suppliers to the Welsh teams

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