BASILDON
TABLE TENNIS CLUB
CHAMPIONSHIPS 2018

In 2018, Basildon Table Tennis Club held its first championships for the first time in many years. All club members were invited to compete in the two events that were held, the drawn doubles (6 September) and the handicap singles (13 September). Both were devised in a way to give everyone an opportunity of winning and taking home a coveted trophy.

Handicap Singles – Thursday 13 September 2018

Report

An impressive 28 entrants turned up for the handicap singles event. Player handicaps were assigned by the tournament organisers based on league ranking and ability. The groups were manually drawn to create an even spread of seeds and handicap ranges.

Group A was made up of 4 players, with matches played to best-of-3. Top seed Liam Squirrell made up for his disappointment in the doubles event the previous week by comfortably winning all his matches and topping the group. The key match was between Dave Kirston and Colin Clements, to see who finished in 2nd position and progressed to the main draw. The victory went to Dave, as Colin was unable to make up the 3-point handicap deficit.

Group B was made up of 3 players, with matches played to best-of-5. Trevor Collin finished the group in 1st position, with two convincing 3-0 victories. In the battle for 2nd position, the match between Trevor Ward and Jenne Seibolt went all the way to a 5th game. In the end, Trevor ended up victorious and earned a place in the main draw.

Group C was made up of 4 players, with matches played to best-of-3. Harry Keys was in excellent form and sailed through in 1st position, with three straight-set victories. The key match was between Tony Ayliffe and Richard Riebold, to see who finished in 2nd position and progressed to the main draw. Unfortunately for Richard, he was unable to make his 2-point handicap advantage count, as Tony fought his way to victory.

Group D was made up of 3 players, with matches played to best-of-5. Due to player absences on the night, some groups had to be reshuffled. This resulted in Garry Hartgrove having to work really hard to overcome the handicap deficits in his two victories over Luke Henstock and James Green. Luke beat James in a close match which went to 5 games.

Group E was made up of 4 players, with matches played to best-of-3. Despite the large handicap deficits he had to overcome, Ian Wall topped the group with 3 straight-set victories. In the match to determine 2nd position, Tina Hutchinson beat Andy Roff. Novice player Jan Boatwright came away with some pride after impressively taking a game off Tina in their match.

Group F was made up of 3 players, with matches played to best-of-5. To decide 1st position in this group, there was an epic match between Chudi Upkaka and Malcolm Henstock. In a

match that swung back and forth, Chudi triumphed in the 5th and final game. Malcolm picked up a victory against Pauline Davie to secure 2nd position.

Group G was made up of 3 players, with matches played to best-of-5. This group wound up being straightforward, with Paul Brown picking up 2 straight-set victories to finish in 1 position. Steve Lennox beat up-and-coming youngster James Howard to earn 2nd position and a place in the main draw.

Group H was made up of 4 players, with matches played to best-of-3. Charles Yeung showed that he was a player to watch out for as he played very well to pick up 3 wins. Bill Platt comfortably finished in 2nd position with 2 wins. Chris Gore beat John Cooper to finish in 3rd position.

In the plate event, Colin Clements dominated the top half of the draw to reach the final. Even with the lowest handicap in the plate event, he earned victories over Jan (21-17, 21-18), Jenne (21-16, 21-12) and Richard (21-16, 21-18). In the bottom half, Andy Roff proved too consistent for his opponents on his way to the final, with victories over Lindsay (18-21, 21-18, 21-16), Pauline (21-16, 21-18) and Chris (21-17, 21-19). After finishing runner-up in the doubles plate event the previous week, Andy was aiming to go all the way this time. Unfortunately, it wasn't to be, as Colin continued his good form to secure the win (21-16, 21-19).

In the main draw, the results for the round-of-16 went mostly as expected, with straight-set victories for Liam, Harry, Paul and Charles. Dave Kirston used his great skills in placing the ball around the table to push Ian very close in their match. Ian found a way to win however and booked his place in the quarter-final (21-14, 10-21, 21-19). There was also a close match between Trevor Collin and Malcolm, which saw Trevor come back from losing the first game to record victory (20-22, 21-18, 21-15). Chudi beat Trevor Ward in a closely-fought match (21-19, 23-21) whilst the biggest upset of the round came when Bill beat Garry in 3 games (21-19, 19-21, 21-17).

In the quarter-finals, Liam showed his class to overcome the 5-point handicap deficit and hard-hitting of Trevor Collin (21-19, 21-18). Harry continued his winning run by defeating Bill in impressive fashion (21-18, 21-18). Ian proved too good on the night for Chudi, as he won comfortably (21-16, 21-14). In possibly the biggest upset of the night, Charles beat Paul in their quarter-final match. Despite losing the first game, Charles continued to fire off his trademark backhand winners to secure a tight victory (17-21, 21-14, 21-19).

The first semi-final was an exciting prospect, with top seed Liam up against the rapidly-improving Harry. In a fantastic match with some fine attacking play, Harry pulled off a stunning victory (21-18, 21-19). In the other semi-final, Charles was unable to repeat his heroics in the previous round. Ian used a combination of steady pushing, blocking and looping to claw back the 6-point handicap deficit and book his place in the final (22-20, 21-16).

The final between Harry and Ian was set. The two players had faced off in the doubles final the previous week, with Harry coming out on top. Could Ian get retribution and take home the gold this time? The occasion also marked the first time the two players had ever come up against each other in singles competition. Harry got off to a flying start by comfortably winning the first game 21-13. He continued his dominance in the second game and led 7-3. At this point though, Ian turned on the style and went on an impressive run of winning-points to get himself back in the game. Using his serves to good effect, he continued his momentum to lead 20-18, but Harry hit back to bring the game to deuce at 20-20. A lucky net cord and forehand winner later though saw Ian win the game. Incredibly, this was only

the first game that Harry had dropped all night! So, the final deservedly went into a third and final game. It was closely fought, as both players were playing well. It was neck and neck until the latter end of the game, where Harry's consistency eventually saw him pick up championship victory (21-13, 20-22, 21-16). Harry definitely proved himself to be the star of the tournament and with his promotion to the Basildon TTC 'A' team for the forthcoming season, big things are expected of him!

Although the competition slightly overran, a thoroughly enjoyable night's table tennis was had by all. The trophies were awarded and a bottle of bubbly was kindly presented to Ian as a thanks for organising the club championship events. Thanks were also given to all those who helped in setting up the event on the night.

Photos

Plate event winner and runner-up: Colin Clements and Andy Roff

Championship winner and runner-up: Harry Keys and Ian Wall

Group results

Group A			
	Wins	**Position**	**Results**
Liam Squirrell (0)	3	1st	Liam bt. Colin, 2-1 Dave bt. Lindsay, 2-0 Liam bt. Dave, 2-0 Colin bt. Lindsay, 2-0 Liam bt. Lindsay, 2-0 Dave bt. Colin, 2-0
Colin Clements (+6)	1	3rd	
Dave Kirston (+9)	2	2nd	
Lindsay Johnson-Farge (+10)	0	4th	

Group B			
	Wins	**Position**	**Results**
Trevor Collin (+5)	2	1st	Trevor C bt. Trevor W, 3-0 Trevor W bt. Jenne, 3-2 Trevor C bt. Jenne, 3-0
Trevor Ward (+6)	1	2nd	
Jenne Seibolt (+9)	0	3rd	

Group C			
	Wins	**Position**	**Results**
Harry Keys (+2)	3	1st	Harry bt. Tony, 2-0 Richard bt. Dave, 2-1 Harry bt. Richard, 2-0 Tony bt. Dave, 2-0 Harry bt. Dave, 2-0 Tony bt. Richard, 2-0
Tony Ayliffe (+7)	2	2nd	
Richard Riebold (+9)	1	3rd	
Dave Humphreys (+12)	0	4th	

Group D			
	Wins	**Position**	**Results**
Garry Hartgrove (+4)	2	1st	Garry bt. Luke, 3-0 Luke bt. James, 3-2 Garry bt. James, 3-0
Luke Henstock (+15)	1	2nd	
James Green (+16)	0	3rd	

Group E			
	Wins	**Position**	**Results**
Ian Wall (0)	3	1st	Ian bt. Tina, 2-0 Andy bt. Jan, 2-0 Ian bt. Andy, 2-0 Tina bt. Jan, 2-1 Ian bt. Jan, 2-0 Tina bt. Andy, 2-0
Tina Hutchinson (+8)	2	2nd	
Andy Roff (+10)	1	3rd	
Jan Boatwright (+16)	0	4th	

Group F			
	Wins	**Position**	**Results**
Malcolm Henstock (+6)	1	2nd	Chudi bt. Malcolm, 3-2 Chudi bt. Pauline, 3-0 Malcolm bt. Pauline, 3-0
Chudi Upkaka (+8)	2	1st	
Pauline Davie (+16)	0	3rd	

Group G			
	Wins	**Position**	**Results**
Paul Brown (+2)	2	1st	Paul bt. James, 3-0 Steve bt. James, 3-0 Paul bt. Steve, 3-0
James Howard (+10)	0	3rd	
Steve Lennox (+10)	1	2nd	

Group H			
	Wins	**Position**	**Results**
Charles Yeung (+6)	3	1st	Charles bt. Bill, 2-1 Chris bt. John, 2-0 Charles bt. John, 2-0 Bill bt. Chris, 2-0 Charles bt. Chris, 2-0 Bill bt. John, 2-0
Bill Platt (+9)	2	2nd	
John Cooper (+10)	0	4th	
Chris Gore (+12)	1	3rd	

Main draw

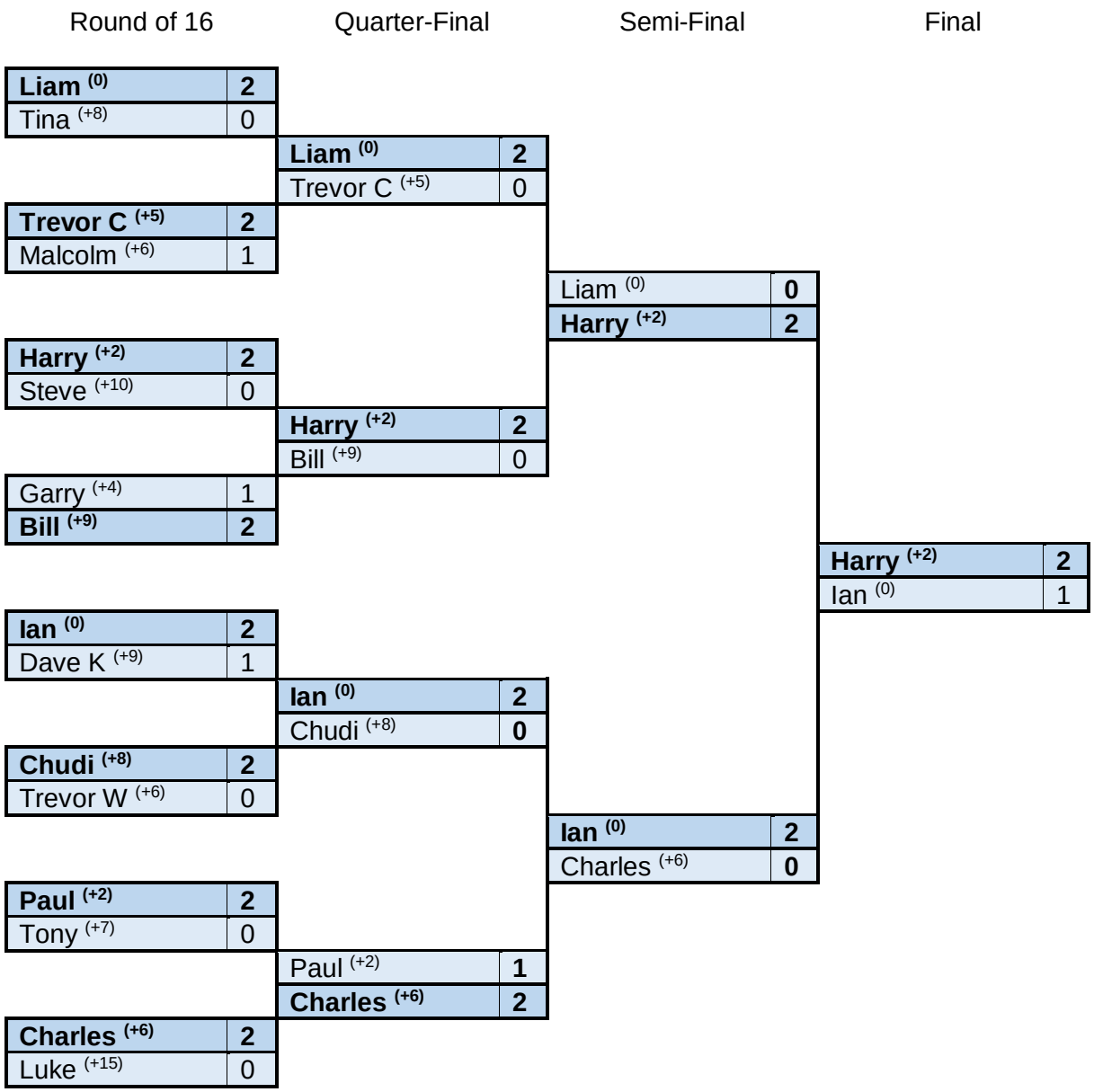
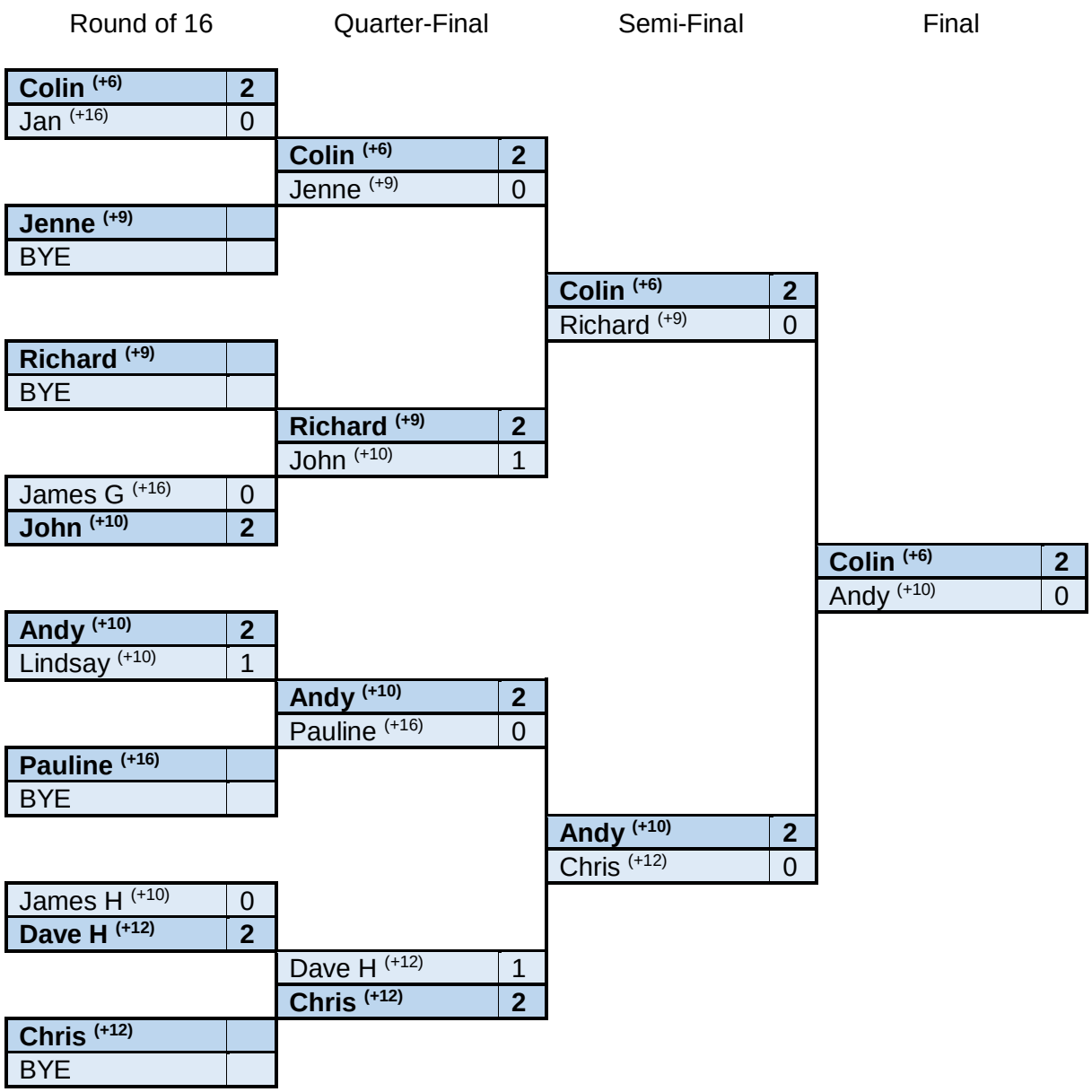

Round of 16
Quarter-Final
Semi-Final
Final
Liam (0) 2
Tina (+8) 0
Liam (0) 2
Trevor C (+5) 0
Trevor C (+5) 2
Malcolm (+6) 1
Liam (0) 0
Harry (+2) 2
Harry (+2) 2
Steve (+10) 0
Harry (+2) 2
Bill (+9) 0
Garry (+4) 1
Bill (+9) 2
Harry (+2) 2
Ian (0) 1
Ian (0) 2
Dave K (+9) 1
Ian (0) 2
Chudi (+8) 0
Chudi (+8) 2
Trevor W (+6) 0
Ian (0) 2
Charles (+6) 0
Paul (+2) 2
Tony (+7) 0
Paul (+2) 1
Charles (+6) 2
Charles (+6) 2
Luke (+15) 0

Plate event


Round of 16
Quarter-Final
Semi-Final
Final
Colin (+6) 2
Jan (+16) 0
Jenne (+9)
BYE
Richard (+9)
BYE
James G (+16) 0
John (+10) 2
Andy (+10) 2
Lindsay (+10) 1
Pauline (+16)
BYE
James H (+10) 0
Dave H (+12) 2
Chris (+12)
BYE
Colin (+6) 2
Jenne (+9) 0
Richard (+9) 2
John (+10) 1
Andy (+10) 2
Pauline (+16) 0
Dave H (+12) 1
Chris (+12) 2
Colin (+6) 2
Richard (+9) 0
Andy (+10) 2
Chris (+12) 0
Colin (+6) 2
Andy (+10) 0