

Surrey County Notes (April 2017) by Chris Andrews

In an all family affair Paul and Jo Drinkhall storm to the National Mixed Doubles title, winning the Mixed Double title for a now fifth time on their return to Competition for the first time since the Glasgow 2014. The Commonwealth Games Gold medallists produced some dazzling displays. The Drinkhalls beat England teammates and three times Mixed Doubles reigning National Champions Sam Walker and Tin-Tin Ho 3-0 (12-10, 14-12, 11-6) in the final in Nottingham in Jo's first event since the birth of her second child. As well as this Jo Drinkhall reached the final of the Women's Doubles with Kelly Sibley losing to Tin-Tin Ho and Maria Tsapsinos the reigning Women's Doubles National Champions. All in all Jo Drinkhall had a great tournament and she didn't even enter the Women's Singles. Aaron McKibbin won the Men's Para Singles Class 6-8 beating Will Bayley, Billy Shilton and David Wetherill.

Whitgift School (Croydon) were crowned champions of the English Schools' Table Tennis Association team finals under-19's event and they are coached by Goran Maric. They won their matches 8-0, 8-0 and 5-3. In the under-11's boys Barnes Primary (Richmond) came third. Ernest Bevin College (Tooting Bec) were second in the under-16's boy's event and fourth in the under-13's boy's event.

At the Nottingham Grand Prix Darius Knight was runner-up in the Men's Singles event. Shaquille Webb-Dixon won the Men's Band 2 event in the process beating the winner of the veterans' title.

Surrey Seniors were runner-up in Division 1. They did very well to push Devon so close. Surrey Juniors came an unexpected third in Division 1B and did excellent with a very young team of Jamie Nordin, Robert Pelc, Asa Gauntlett, Damien Gray, Isobelle Joubely and Frederica Bonato.

The London Academy 2 star saw Federica Bonato win both the girls under -15 and under -18 events. Ollie Maric-Murray won the under-11's event and Francesco Bonato won the under-11's consolation. In the under-13's event Mikael Toosy came third winning the third place play-off match in five sets against Ollie Maric-Murray. Mikael Toosy was runner-up in the under-15's consolation event. Jon-Vai Chung beat Alejandro Ito-Aramendia in the under-18's consolation event.

At the Horsham Spinners TTC 2 star Nahom Goitam was runner-up in the under -14's and under-15's events. Jon-Vai Chung was third in the under-14's event and Jamie Orton was runner-up in the consolation under-11 event.

Alejandro Ito-Aramendia of South Croydon was top of the averages at the National Cadet League at Horsham Division 1 with 9 wins out of 10 where Graham Spicer A came third. In Division 2 Rosehill were third and Guildford A fourth with Adit Gandhi of Guildford second in the averages. In Division 3 Graham Spicer B came second with a team of Bertie Stanley-Hughes, Oliver Cheung and Lucy Adams.