

## **SUTTON & DISTRICT LEAGUE AGM 2014: ANNOUNCEMENT!**

I am here on behalf of the Surrey Table Tennis Association and I'm going to tell you some bits and pieces about one of our rising stars – A regular Sutton League player.

The season started with the Burton Uxbridge 2 star tournament at which both the cadet and junior events were won. Also early in the season was the London Academy 2 star in Edgware where the cadets were won and the same player was runner up in the juniors. In 2014 there was the Horsham Spinners 2 star where our player won both cadets and juniors events.

In January Surrey was competing in the county championships in the Cadet Premier Division. Here there are 7 leading counties battling it out, of which 3 get relegated. Playing at No 1 for Surrey, a record of 11/14 was achieved (78.6%) and Surrey finished as runners up, a whisker behind a very strong Yorkshire team who beat us 6-4 to inflict our sole defeat.

In November and March we faced the challenge of the Junior Premier Division which is seriously strong and we did well to avoid relegation thanks to a valuable contribution from the whole team.

Also In January was the Cadet Masters – a gruelling event between the top 12 in England. Our star player commenced proceedings in the 11<sup>th</sup> slot and finished the weekend in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

A Junior British League Team in Division 2 saw our player finish with 80% wins and the team in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, just one point behind the leaders and 6 sets ahead of them!

More recently our young star competed in the London Grand Prix senior tournament, won the Band 4 event and was runner up of the Band 3. She was also awarded player of the tournament which was accompanied by a framed certificate and £50 Bribar voucher.

In the under 14's Nationals our player reached the semi-finals and was beaten in 4 games by the eventual winner.

The Derby 4 star Band 1 event was added to the growing list of titles; and finally the Blackpool 4 star saw three finals reached – Band 1, cadet singles and junior singles.

Her team has just qualified for the London Youth Games finals in July ...

So in all it's been a pretty successful season for a young lady who was only 14 in January. The trophy was previously won by Joanna Drinkhall before she became England No 1, and so I'm very pleased to announce that Surrey's Outstanding Junior of the Year Award goes to Isabelle Joubaily.

Michael Loveder, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2014.