

## **Surrey County Notes (June 2019) by Chris Andrews**

Paul Drinkhall the Surrey based England International won the Serbian Open and is the first English player to win two ITTF world events.

The PTT Slovenian Open saw Aaron McKibbin win Bronze in the Team Class 8 event alongside Billy Shilton and Ross Wilson. Aaron also won Bronze in the Singles Class 8 event.

England's Men qualified for the European Championships with Surrey based Paul Drinkhall in the team.

Surrey Based Paul Drinkhall has been picked in the Great Britain squad for the European Games.

At the Cadet National Championships Henry Maric-Murray was the surprise of the group stage as he won his group. Later on he lost to the second seed Louis Price. Ollie Maric-Murray also won his group but later lost to Felix Thomas.

In the squad for the England Schools International is Federica Bonato for the under-19's age group and Danielle Kelly for the under-16's age group.

Daiurs Knight's team Ormesby are the British Premier League Champions and Darius finished as the highest averaged Surrey man in the Senior British League with 71% in the Premier league.

At the London Grand Prix Redbridge Robert Pelc was Runner-up in the Men's Band 4 event.

Cippenham Table Tennis Club's 4 star Junior Championship saw Robert Pelc become Runner-up in the Junior Boys Singles and Krishna Nagarajan won the Cadet Boys Consolation event.

Phil Snelson was Runner-up in the Horsham Spinners Veterans 1 star event.

At the Surrey Closed a great time was had by all. In the Women's over-40's Singles Carmen Vadji swept the board and won the event with Kumiko Williams as runner-up. In the semi-finals of the over-40's Michael Silver beat Paul Baker 3-2 and Steve Davis beat Axel Raeder 3-1. The final was a classic match with Steve Davis winning 3-1. The over-60's Women's event saw Carmen Vadji win Gold for the second time that day with Janice Lee the Runner-up. In the semi-final of the over-60's Steve Davis beat Ajay Shah and Paul Baker beat Brian Mitchell. Steve beat Paul to win his second gold medal of the day. The Women's under 21's saw Gabriella Lee win with Rachel Tsang Runner-up. The Men's under -21's saw Robert Pelc's toughest Singles match of the day was against Damien in the semi-final which he won 8-11, 11-8, 11-5, 8-11, 11-6. In the final Robert beat his older brother Richard 3-1. The women's Doubles winners were Gabriella Lee & Kumiko Williams who beat Ruochen Liang & Rachel Tsang. The Men's Doubles final was an amazing match with Robert Pountney & Adam Laws coming out on top against Richard & Robert Pelc 5-11, 11-5, 6-11, 12-10, 11-5.

The Women's Open Singles saw Gabriella Lee storm to her third title of the day as she beat Rachel Tsang in the final 3-0. The top four seeds of the Men's Open Singles all came through to the semi-finals with Adam Laws matched up against Richard Pelc and Robert Pountney against Robert Pelc. No-one gave Richard Pelc a chance but he didn't take any notice but this was to be the match of the day. Richard led the first set 9-3 only for Adam to make a big comeback. However Adam could not quite catch him and lost the first set 11-8. Again in the second set Richard took a big lead only for Adam to come back and lose this time 12-10. Adam won the 3rd set 13-11 but Richard took the fourth and the win 11-9. The other semi-final between the two Roberts was also a magnificent match with lots of long powerful rallies but the young second seed prevailed 11-7, 8-11, 11-4, 11-4. In the final Robert again beat his older brother this time 3-0 11-8, 11-9, 11-8. The tournament was well run by Adam Laws.

Joanna Drinkhall attended one of the Surrey Training Camp this month and presented Henry Maric-Murray with the Jim Forrest Trophy.

In the Croydon League Sparta A won the Premier Division with Quan Zhou of Eldon A on 90.43%. Wickham Park B won Division 1 with Eddy Taylor of Limpfield A on 85.19%. Croydon SDA won Division 2 with their player Ashley Hird on 98.59%. Limpfield B won Division 3 with Rennis Sathyadevan of Wickham Park E top of the averages on 84%. Sparta A won the John Mullis Open and Handicap Cups.

In the Thames Valley Divisional tournament Richard Tanner won the Division 1 title thereby retaining the Bishop Cup. In the Division 2 Handicap Singles Youngkwan Moon was the winner. The Division 2 Handicap Doubles saw Steve Prichard and Martin Camps win. Guojian Hao won Division 3 Cup event and the plate event was won by Steve Baker. Division 3 Doubles was won by Joe Zhu and Guojian Hao. Cheam won the Cup final and the Plate final was won by Chessington 1.