

REPORT ON THE VISIT OF BAT AND BALL TABLE TENNIS CLUB 2011.

The JTTA hosted the annual visit of Bat and Ball Club made up of experienced County players from the south of England over the weekend of 19/20 November 2011.

Jersey took the honours convincingly on Saturday winning 46 matches to Bat and Ball's 14.

The top two local Men's teams set the scene with 10—0 and 9—1 wins respectively. Max Tupper, Gregor Frankowski and Craig Gascoyne for the A team registered the whitewash over Karl Bushell, Dale Aitkenhead and Barrie Gilbert. Gascoyne dropped just one game, Tupper two and Frankowski four. The latter having to dig deep against England Vett Bushell before converting 11/9, 11/9, 10/12, 6/11, 12/10.

Josh Band led the way for Jersey B not dropping a single game against Keith Mellor, Trevor Spraggs and Steve Collins. He was supported well by Eugene Ellis who dropped just one game in his singles and then partnered Band in their 3—0 doubles win. Tom Marsay endured two five game marathons but finally emerged victorious against Mellor and Collins but could not deal with the canny shot selection of Spraggs losing 3—0.

Jersey Ladies A was a blend of youth and experience. Kay Lefebvre registered her third singles win after a marathon five game thriller finally getting the verdict 8/11, 11/7, 11/13, 11/6, 14/12 against Sarah Whithorn. Juniors Kelsey le Maistre and Vicky Barnes showed what huge improvement they have made with their standard by both winning against Whithorn and Diane Taylor of Bat and Ball. Maria Taylor-Woodward took rubbers for the visitors but with Lefebvre and Barnes winning the doubles 3—0 it ended with an 8—2 victory for the home team.

Jersey Ladies B had a tougher match against seasoned Veteran players Sarah Whithorn, Margaret Thornton and Dolly Gilbert. Carol Milnes picked up two wins and Karen Barnes one although Barnes was desperately unlucky to lose two singles matches in the fifth games. Alice Corfield also for the Jersey Ladies B team gained some valuable experience but couldn't add to the Jersey points as the local team went down 7—3.

Jersey's Mens C team produced some solid performances with no fewer than three matches going the full five. Mario Martinka converted his three singles for Jersey and Kevin Allen weighed in with two more to add to Scott Cassin's win against Ron Stracey. Cassin and Martinka combined to beat Andy Meads and Brian Gale in the doubles to secure the 7—3 win for Jersey.

Jersey's Men's D team was comprised of **APPLEBY** Elite squad junior members who despatched their illustrious opponents 9—1. Jordan Wykes, Jack Mills, Chris Morshead and Jack Messervy won all of their singles matches against Mike Barratt, Mike Willemot, Tom

Taylor-Woodward and John Calcutt [who had changed playing hands due to a shoulder injury]. The visitors got a consolation doubles win as Calcutt and Taylor Woodward beat Morshead and Messervy 3—2.

The following day it was more of the same from the rampant home side who introduced different players to their teams.

In the Mens A encounter Josh Band, Marcin Jurkewicz and Yogi Ellis took two singles wins apiece against Karl Bushell, Dale Aitkenhead and Barry Gilbert. Band and Jurkewicz had a comfortable 3—0 win in the doubles to seal the 7—3 win.

Mariusz Cieminski led the B team to victory with three 3—0 wins without dropping a game. Hugo Tupper also won his three and Tom Marsay two against, Trevor Spraggs, Steve Collins and Keith Mellor respectively. Marsay joined Tupper and clinched the doubles 3—2 for the 9—1 overall victory.

Meanwhile in the Women's A match, Kay Lefebvre and Vicky Barnes took two singles wins apiece and Emily Robins an excellent battling 3—2 victory over Diane Taylor for her point. Lefebvre and Barnes beat Maria Taylor-Woodward and Sarah Whithorn 3—0 in the doubles to register another win for the home side this time 6—4.

Womens B were not so fortunate losing 3—7 to the visitors. [Two young **Jersey** players guested for Bat and Ball due to injuries of the visitors]. Carol Milnes was the stand out player of her team taking her three singles matches. Alice Corfield and **Jacob Gosselin** couldn't add any wins against Margaret Thornton, Dolly Gilbert and **Luc Miller**. The visitors Thornton and Gilbert also took the doubles against Milnes and Corfield.

Jersey Mens C just missed out on an honourable draw as Jordan Wykes and Jack Mills failed to take the all important doubles. Both had two singles wins apiece against the Bat and Ball team of Brian Gale, Andy Meads and Maria Taylor-Woodward. Young Philip Quinn did all that he could but was unable to register a win against his three very experienced opponents. As a result the visitors took another rare win 6—4.

The final rubber was the Men's D match which ended in a whitewash win for the Jersey team of Oren le Marquand, Matthieu Fisher, Ollie Griggs and Tyler Gosselin. Mike Barratt, Mike Willmott, Tom Taylor-Woodward and John Calcutt could not cope with the power of the Jersey junior quartet who blasted their way to a 10—0 victory.

Overall taking into account all of the weekend's matches **Jersey won 85—35**. "This was an impressive victory by the JTTA," said their President, Chris Band afterwards. "Our friends in Guernsey could only register a 53—27 overall victory over Bat and Ball this visit so I am delighted that we have put in such a fantastic performance here in Jersey."