

Week Eighteen

Eastwood stayed three points clear at the top of the Masters First division after a hard fought 3-3 draw against bottom placed Fitzwimarc Thirds. There was just two points separating the teams overall and four of the six rubbers went to three sets. Adam Reader and Emma Dixon both won two rubbers each for Fitzwimarc while Gary Webb and Lorene Roberts also won two rubbers each for the home side.

Fitzwimarc then battled out another 3-3 draw later in the week at Greensward Thirds. Chris Gates and Jo Howard-Simpson won a brace each for Greensward while Emma Dixon and Michael Blee won a brace each for the opposition.

There were three matches in the Men's First Division which affected both the top and bottom of the league. East Thurrock extended their lead at the summit to 11 points with an impressive 8-1 win over third placed B & BP. Phil Tuffee and Toby Andrews won three perfect rubbers with Lawrence Smith and Will Sands also getting a hat-trick plus two for Alex Penny and Zak Pryor. Nick Harbott and Paul Hyde won the one for the visitors.

B & BP recovered from that defeat though as two days later they beat Fitzwimarc Seconds by the same scoreline to go into second. Daniel Potter and Carl Thomas won three rubbers without dropping a set with Paul Hyde and Nick Harbott also getting three. Craig Siddons and Martin Birkett won two. Patrick Barker and Oliver Smith got the single rubber for Fitz.

Eastwood Seconds met Westcliff Seconds in the other match in that division with both needing points for survival. Westcliff secured a much needed 8-1 win to take them away from trouble as Russell Blunt and Michael Clarke won three perfect rubbers with a hat-trick for Mark King and David Clark and a brace for Tom Kirby and Matthew Tonge. David Virgo and Martin Rainbow got the one for Eastwood who fall to one off bottom.

Greensward had two matches in the Men's Second Division with contrasting score lines. They lost 6-3 at David Lloyd as the hosts went top courtesy of John Hodges and Paul Stone winning three perfect rubbers and were supported by a brace from Andrew McMahon and Yu Wang and one from Rohan Subasinghe and Nishchal Tanna. Tim Baskett and Tom Cook won two for the visitors and Ben Bradford and Gary Rose won one.

They responded though with a 6-3 win over Fitzwimarc Fourths. Tim Baskett and Tom Cook secured a perfect hat-trick for the away side with Emeka Agunwamba and Conor Atay winning two rubbers and one for George Barton and Ben Bradford. Peter Lewin and Danny Peach won two rubbers for the home side with one for Andy Burrell and Peter Impey.

Elsewhere, SLH Rayleigh won 9-0 over Greensward Seconds in the Mixed Second Division to extend their lead at the top to nine points. Highlands beat Hawkwell 6-3 in the same division and remain second while Fitzwimarc made it eight from eight in the Ladies Division One with a 4-2 triumph over Greensward.

