

County Secretaries Report for 2023/4

All our 6 County team put in strong performances this season.

Our Senior 1st team in the Premier division was captained by Chris Rogers and held their matches over 2 weekends.

Their first weekend took them to Milton Keynes where they knew they had some tough matches to get through.

Making up the team with Chris were Luke Greenfield, Abishek Sudhakar, Karen Smith and Anna Wereszczaka.

They won 1 match out of 3 and finished in 6th out of 8 teams

The 2nd weekend saw them at Draycott with just 1 team change of Erin Thompson taking Anna's place.

They won 2 out of 4 matches and their final position was 5th overall, leaving them in the Premier division.

The Senior 2nd team played their 4 matches over back to back weekends.

Adam Pettitt was team captain with Jack Rogers, James Berry, Sandor Koch, Jess Birbeck and making her debut for Leicestershire Ella Barnard.

With 2 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss saw them finish in 3rd place just missing out on runners up due to points count back.

Our Vets 1st team made their customary trip to Ashford TTC in December.

Chris Rogers leading from the front with Dave Gannon, Matt Hobday, Andy Lebutt and Karen Smith. They came up against the top 3 Vets teams in the country and although some notable wins from Chris beating Vets number 3 and finishing 2nd in the averages, Karen beating Vets number 1 lady, the team finished without a win.

The 2nd weekend was back to Draycott in January with Abraham Conteh added to the team. They won 3 of their matches keeping them in the Vets Premier Division for next season.

The Junior County team was ably run by Jane Rogers, her team for the 2nd weekend was Roma Morjaria, Catherine Lv, Kai Bhakta, Khaalid Patel, Corey Lancaster.

After day 1 in October , they won 2, lost 1, in March at Knighton Park TTC they won 1 drew 2 finishing in 2nd place.

The Cadet's matches were all played on 1 weekend in October at Knighton Park TTC with Shirley Pickering organising the weekend, there were 7 matches for every team so a full programme.

In the Team were Aiden Chen, Wai Fung Mak, Anshh Dhagia, Pranav Savjani and Charles Rowell.

Wai-Fung, Charles, Anshh and Pranav making their County debuts, Catherine Lv and Alisa Ma also making her debut. They were up against some of the best teams in the country and only won 2 matches finishing 6th out of 8 teams.

Leicestershire's Over 60's team captained by Tony Smith were in their 3rd year having back to back promotions and being unbeaten, this being their 1st year in the Premier O 60's. the team were Chris Rogers, Richard Hayes, Dave Gannon , Tony Smith and Karen Smith

They won 6 of their 7 matches losing only 6-4 in their loss. Outstanding performances came from Karen Smith who won 7 out of 7 of her singles matches and 7 out of 7 for the mixed doubles with Chris. Chris Rogers dropped just 1 of his singles matches winning 13 out of 14. Richard Hayes beating a previous European champion. Tony and Karen also won 5 out of 7 mixed doubles. This is truly an outstanding team finishing in runners up position.

The County have decided to re enter another Vets 2nd team for next season taking us up to 7 teams.

Thanks to all the team captains for their hard work.

The Phil Reid Memorial Trophy Handicap Tournament was held at Knighton Park TTC with 2 evening sessions. There were 34 entries an increase of 5 from last year . the finals were held on Sunday January 7th with 2 round robins from the group winners.

Congratulations to Dave Mountain who beat Elly Bajarias, Elly with a 4 start. Thanks to Mike Smith for running of this event.

The Rose Johnson Challenge Bowl tournament was this year run by our Vice chairman Jordan Tweed, he has slightly varied the format to attract more teams.

4 teams progressed through to the semi finals with players from 6 different clubs.

Abbots Road and Winstanley contested the finals with Abbots Road winning by just 3 points showing our handicap system is working very well. Thanks to Jordan for organising this event.

The Junior County Championships were run by Mike Smith at Knighton Park TTC in May. There were 25 entries, from 5 clubs, 24 boys and just 1 young lady.

Rex Pooley SID won u 11's RU Maisey Phillips MB

Saxon Beardmore GWB won U13's RU Charles Rowell MB

Anshh Dhagia KP won U 15's RU Dylan Mahtani KP

Khaalid Patel KP won U 17's RU Aarav Jaiswal KP

Dillon Kearney KP won U 19's RU Shivam Champaneri KP

The Schools Individuals Tournament was once again organised by Mike Smith. He told us that a record 183 entries were received, the largest entry was from the under 11's.

Principle winners were U 11's Rex Pooley and Maisey Phillips

U13's Charles Rowell and Catherine Lv

U 16's Aiden Chen and Emily Jeffers

U 19's Dillon Keraney and Roma Morjaria

In the finals held at Aldersley Wolverhampton only Catherine went through from the group matches

The Schools Team event Boys U 11's Avenue Road, Girls St Peter's Market Bosworth

Market Bosworth would contest the Boys U 13's and Rushy Mead U 13 Girls.

There were no teams went through from the Regions play offs.

Knighton Park entered teams in the National Junior and Cadet Leagues held at Highfields TTC Wellingborough, James Lancaster looking after the Juniors and Shirley Pickering the Cadets.

There was 1 team entered from Knighton Park in the Senior British League.

There are more and more coaching sessions being held across the County, all run by volunteer coaches.

In the 'Pride of Table Tennis Awards' Knighton Park put forward Karen Smith for Female Volunteer of the Year, Jack Biteniek was put forward for Male Volunteer of the Year and John Bowness for Life Time Achievement Award.

Karen was voted in as Runner Up at National level, congratulations to all the nominees.

David Morley continues to run the Special Olympics group each week.

They have 9 regular members in their group each Wednesday morning, they have 2 more who would like to come but their care company will not fund them. David is working with Ellesmere College and Fulhurst College about links with them and their SEND students.

There has been 1 SO tournament held this year and 6 of our players entered and came home with medals.

Also 6 players went to Ratcliffe College in a multi sports event and Chris King and Lee Spence contested the finals. The group also won all the other sporting activities!!

Member League reports

Hinckley's Report sent in by Nick Rayner.

Hinckley completed their 2023/24 season with 17 teams playing across 2 divisions, the winners of division1 was Market Bosworth and the runners up were George ward E. The winners of division2 were Hit and Hope A and the runners up were Goons 2.

The Closed Championships saw some fantastic play and culminated in Gareth Edmunds beating Adam Pettitt in the final.

We have Junior coaching sessions taking place at Market Bosworth and George Ward, but unfortunately we were unable to hold a junior championship this year, however the committee are working hard towards making sure this happens during the upcoming season.

We said 'goodbye' to Mike Holt and Russell Pettitt from George Ward and Hinckley committee and would like to thank them for all their hard work and commitment over the years and wish them all the luck in their future retirement and roles.

Leicester League's report from Peter Wilson.

2023/24 saw the Leicester Senior league run it's second full season since Covid. We had 53 (up from 51) With an unfortunate late withdrawal we had 11 teams in Division 1, 10 in Div 2, 8 in Div 3 (playing each other 3 times and 12 in Divisions 4 and 5.

We ran a cup competition for Div 2 to try and make up for the shortfall in matches and the finals were played at Leicester Electricity.

The Leicester Junior League took place at the Leicester Grammar School with 28 teams taking part. There were 4 league/team sessions.

We also held individual championships (forming part of the Closed) for the cadets age group at LGS. The rest of the Closed Championships were held at Knighton Park over a weekend in March. This included both graded and age/sex events as well as handicap singles and doubles events.

The Rose Johnson Memorial Trophy (Ladies handicap) was held at Knighton Park.

The Elbow Tankard (summer league) was held over the summer with 8 teams and the final(all KP) was played at KP.

The 2024 version currently being organised has 12 teams.

We entered 3 teams in the ELCC national events. Our ladies (Karen Smith and Jess Birbeck) qualified for the finals at Draycott and finished in 7th place.

Loughborough's report has been put together by Jordan Tweed.

Draycott Dinosaurs won the Division 1 title by 10 points from the Loughborough Students, Draycott having more experience than the students.

Draycott's talented youngsters also won division 2 for the second year running, so there will be 2 Draycott teams in their top division.

The Students emerged winners of their division 3 by 6 points clear and Goons B won promotion from div 4 into 3 for next season.[]

Leicestershire have this year appointed Jordan Tweed as our new deputy National Councillor following the retirement of Mike Holt, who has served the County over many many years, he has been thanked for his all his dedication to Leicestershire.

Our Thanks go to Regent Sports and Knighton Park for hosting our meetings.