

## UNLOCKING TALENT - YOU HAVE THE KEYS A Message from the coaching team

These are truly exciting times at BATTs. We have a firm foundation for success as a talent development centre. Our ambitions will only be achieved by a lot of hard work - not only by our players and the coaching team but also by parents and other supporters.

Let's examine a bit more closely at what we need from our aspiring players. We are very lucky at BATTs to have fantastic facilities and plenty of top class support for coaching and playing. During the last few months we have been delighted to see many encouraging signs of success, but to achieve the players' ultimate potential we are going to need a lot more than just coming along to a training session each week. We will be looking for:

- Willingness to train and play not only during the scheduled coaching sessions but at other times when tables are available (there are many opportunities).
- Regular participation in tournaments. This applies particularly to those in the Performance B and A squads. Most of the best tournaments involve significant travel - see next point. Local tournaments will be listed in BATTs News but keep an eye on the Table Tennis England site for information and forms to enter competitions elsewhere in the country.
- Co-operation between parents who may be able to share transport in taking our players to tournaments. We shall be looking for ways to establish a better network of parents to help in this.
- Players to seek out opportunities for more 1 to 1 coaching.
- Players to take responsibility for their skill development. In brief, this means keeping notes on their performance in competitions to ensure that we (the coaches) and the players know what the priorities are for further development. Again, parents can play a key role in supporting this.
- Grab opportunities to see top class players in action. We can learn a lot from watching how skilled players perform and there is nothing better than to see it live. We are lucky to have chances to see good players at BATTs in various competitions and in training. See the "What's @ BATTs" column on page 4.

Finally, we are well aware that many people reading this will have no intention of becoming a future champion. BATTs will continue catering for players at ALL levels including those who only want to play socially.

Please contact any of the coaching team to make comments or ask questions arising from this message.

Adam - Alan - Dennis - Graham - Mark - Neil - Peter

## Outdoor Extension Arrives!



Adam and Neil brave the elements to christen our new outdoor table, which arrived at the beginning of February. Inspired by **Ping!** and obtained as the result of another enterprising opportunity spotted by Neil, the table was supplied at no cost to BATTs (other than the concrete base) by a generous gesture from *Concrete Sports Ltd*.

We can now look forward to many new members flooding in as a result of this initiative and lots of outdoor play in the summer. Meanwhile, the photo of Adam and Neil braving the elements seems like a great opportunity for a **caption competition**. Send your entry to Graham (see address below).

## Lighting UPdate



The installation of low-energy LED lighting is another important step



forward in the enhancement of our facilities. The work is expected to begin on Monday 16th March and should take just a week. We were delighted to learn from our contractors that disruption to our normal programme of events at the Centre should be minimal. One small area of the hall will be used for contractors' equipment during the works, and it will be necessary for matches and training to finish at 10pm during the relevant period, to allow the night-time installations to continue.

Watch out for notices that may contain additional advice and instructions.



## Welcome Peter Cleminson



We are delighted that **Peter Cleminson** has joined our coaching team at BATTs, immediately achieving a further reduction in the average age of the team. Peter started playing table tennis at age of seven at Peniel Academy where he was coached by Nick Jarvis. He progressed to become England number 2 at under 11, under 13, under 15 and then reached number 1 in the under 18 Junior rankings. He played internationally for England youth teams in many countries including Saudi Arabia, Yugoslavia, Poland. As a senior he also played for England, reaching number 10 in the senior men's rankings at the age of 18.

While he was still a junior Peter began helping Nick Jarvis coach at Peniel and learned a huge amount from this. Since then he has been a coach/practice partner at many schools/clubs around London and Essex.

While still in his early 20s Peter moved to Hong Kong where he met his wife Serena. He worked there mainly in event management, organising table tennis events for large corporations. On returning to the UK in 2013 he has continued this for companies in and around London.

Peter and Serena now have two children - Elijah aged 5 and Shylah aged 16 months. They live near Ongar on a family farm.

Peter's immediate priorities at BATTs will be to extend our links with local primary schools, as well as participating in all our main coaching sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

## Onwards and Upwards

**Good news for BATTs players in the most recently-published ranking lists.** Congratulations firstly to our Head Coach **Adam Nutland** who has reached 18 in the England Men's ranking list - this equals the highest he has achieved so far and reflects his excellent recent performances in tournaments and in the British League. Many of our junior and cadet players are also now beginning to climb the ranking lists, and reflects their hard work in training. The following have improved their position by **10 or more places** in their age group:

**Callum Boyce**  
**George Campbell**  
**Jaycee Chan**  
**Diesel Harvey**  
**Louis Henderson**  
**Isaac Hughes**  
**Justin Jeffery**  
**Luke Jones**  
**Alana Mansfield**  
**Josh Poland**  
**Joe Walker**  
**Ray Yan**

Well done all of you!

As far as **Ethan Walsh** is concerned, while we could not expect him to improve on his number 1 ranking in the U13s he can look forward to a higher cadet and junior ranking as a result of his recent successes (see next story).

## Masters Medal for Ethan



Picture by Trevor Parsons

A superb performance by **Ethan Walsh** resulted in him taking third position in the Cadet Masters competition held at Burton Uxbridge 21st and 22nd February.

The Cadet Masters is a special competition restricted to the leading under 15 boy and girl players who play in a round-robin format over the whole weekend.

Ethan went into this competition for the first time and was the youngest of the 12 boys chosen to take part. At the outset, a medal must have seemed quite an ambitious prospect but Ethan was never daunted by the prospect and played consistently well throughout the weekend.

This was a remarkable achievement for Ethan to win 9 out of his 11 matches. He showed wonderful fighting spirit, winning a series of very close encounters with higher ranked players. To secure his bronze Ethan defeated four boys ranked above him, including the talented Harry Dai currently ranked number 2 in England, and James Smith ranked 3 - both of them would have expected to be among the medals.

By the end of the weekend Ethan had lost only two matches—to the England number 1 cadet Alex Ramsden, who was undefeated, and to Joe Clark who took the silver medal.

The girls' event was won by Kate Cheer who narrowly defeated Denise Payet, with the up and coming Charlotte Bardsley (previously coached by Adam!) taking bronze.

# British League Reports: Women and Junior Teams

By Mark Jarvis



*Our boys' A team who finished second in Division 2, winning promotion*



*Some of our junior team members after their hard weekend's play*

Jess Jarvis, Ella Patel and Nicole Todd represented BATTs in this season's **Women's British League**. Two weekends of fierce competition against some vastly improved opposition saw our ladies finish a very creditable 5th in division 4.

This result means that we will be plying our trade in division 5 next season but I'm confident, as are the girls, that we can gain promotion in 2015-16.....the future is bright! Well done girls.

For more information visit:

[https://www.tabletennis365.com/britishleague/Tables/Womens\\_2014-2015/Division\\_4JBL](https://www.tabletennis365.com/britishleague/Tables/Womens_2014-2015/Division_4JBL)

In this season's **Junior British League** BATTs had four teams competing for honours. The competition was hosted by RAF Cosford in Telford and all players were eager to make a good showing of themselves. And they did not disappoint with some excellent performances from all players involved.

**BATTs Boys A** finished 2nd and were promoted and **BATTs Girls B** finished just outside an automatic promotion following a number of tough matches.

Players who represented BATTs were as follows:

Boys A - Ethan Walsh, Luke Jones and Jordan Wykes

Boys B - Josh Poland, Joe Walker, Louis Henderson

Girls A - Ella Patel, Steph Cross, Jane Li

Girls B - Jess Jarvis, Sarah Menigstab, Gracie Edwards, Rebecca Lowman

For more information visit:

[https://www.tabletennis365.com/britishleague/Tables/Junior\\_Girls\\_2014-15/Girls\\_Division\\_3](https://www.tabletennis365.com/britishleague/Tables/Junior_Girls_2014-15/Girls_Division_3)

## Harlow League Championships

BATTs players were again prominent in the Harlow League Championships held during February. Men's singles winner was **Zayd Mauthoor** who overcame Kuan Lim in a very close final.

Earlier in the men's singles there were some shocks for some highly experienced players from the in-form BATTs junior **Luke Jones** who demolished seeded players **Keith Fung** and **Peter Radford** in successive rounds to reach the semi-finals where he lost to Zayd. Consolation for Peter Radford, who won the men's doubles partnered by Paul Beck.



*Zayd Mauthoor - Men's Singles Winner*

## Tournament Diary

**Sunday 8th March**

BATTs Super Series

**Saturday 14th March**

Milton Keynes Junior/Cadet 2 Star

**Saturday/Sunday 14th/15th March**

Blackpool Junior/Cadet 4 Star

**Saturday/Sunday 4th/5th April**

Fusion Junior 2\*

**Saturday/Sunday 11th/12th April**

U11 - U14 National Regional Qualifier

**Saturday/Sunday 9th/10th May**

BATTs 1\* Cadet & Junior Open

**Saturday/Sunday 16th/17th May**

Chandlers Junior 4\* Open

**For more information, including entry**

**forms for all these events visit the**

**Table Tennis England website**

## Grass Roots



**Our ever-popular "Grass Roots" tournaments provide an opportunity for youngsters to get their first taste of tournament play.**

These are informal tournaments, and we always get a lot of interest from similar youngsters at other clubs, so it is also a great way of mixing with others and having a fun day of TT.

More information will follow but make a note of the dates now:

**Sunday 31st May**

**Saturday 11th July**

Bat For Sale: Hardly Used

Mark Fielding is looking to sell a nearly-new racket he bought which doesn't suit his game. The blade is a Donic Waldner with flared handle. Red rubber is Stiga Calibra, black rubber is Joola Maxxx. It has been made up very well with a Joola protection tape round the blade and comes with a box. Price £60. Contact Mark directly by email: [fielding.m@sky.com](mailto:fielding.m@sky.com)

## Congratulations to.....

- 👍 Our Junior Team in the **National Junior League** who were unbeaten in the last round of matches played at Ellenborough and are now top of Division Two. Well done **Casey, Methmal and George**. All now hinges on the last round of matches being played on 28th February!
- 👍 **Samadhi Udamulla** who was unbeaten in the Under 11 event at the Hertfordshire Schools Tournament in February.
- 👍 Great performances by **Justin Jeffery** and **Jaycee Chan** at the BATTs 1\* Tournament on 14/15th February. Justin won the U16 event without dropping a set and reached the semi-final of the U18 event. Jaycee made it through to two semi-finals and a final. In the U16 he was one of Justin's victims in the semi-final and in the U13 he narrowly lost a five setter to Kieran Wardell who was visiting from Ormesby, Middlesborough. Well done also to **George Campbell** who lost in the quarter-finals of the U13s by the narrowest of margins.
- 👍 Our Cadet Teams in the **National Cadet League** who played in a tough series of matches at Ellenborough in February. **Alana, Benjamin, Callum, Casey, Declan, Diesel, George, Isaac, Jaz, Matthew N, Matthew P** all gave 110% effort and were excellent ambassadors for BATTs. Thanks also to our great team of adult supporters.

## BATTs Hosts TT for Football Clubs



A few weeks ago, we hosted a tournament organised by the Chelsea Football Club's community sports programme under the auspices of the *Premier League 4 Sport* initiative. Youngsters representing six major football clubs played in the competition organised by **Dean Andrews**. It was a busy and successful day with more than 110 matches being played.

## Coaching Course at BATTs

Coaching is one of the most satisfying ways to contribute to sport. Our coaching team at BATTs is always on the lookout for players who may feel that the time has come to put something back into the sport.

We now have an opportunity on our doorstep for aspiring coaches to take the first step, with a Level 1 UKCC course being held at BATTs starting in May.

Completion of this course, along with some additional qualifications, lead to Licensed Coach status.

The Level 1 course at BATTs takes place on three Saturdays (attendance is required on all three, from 9am—6pm each day): **2nd May, 30th May, 13th June**. The closing date for applications is 24th April but early application is strongly recommended as the course is likely to be over-subscribed.

For more information, including the application form, visit the Table Tennis England website: <http://tabletennisengland.co.uk/coaching/>

For an informal chat about coaching you are also welcome to speak to any member of our coaching team.

## What's @ BATTs

.....Play	.....Spectate
<b>Sunday 1st March</b>	
6pm - 8pm Open Club Session	
<b>Saturday 7th March</b>	
10am - 1pm Open Club Session	
<b>Sunday 8th March</b>	
BATTs Super Series	
<b>Saturday 14th March</b>	
6pm - 8pm Open Club Session	
<b>Saturday/Sunday 21st/22nd March</b>	
Senior County Matches (all day)	
<b>Saturday/Sunday 28th/29th March</b>	
Senior British League	
<b>Sunday 29th March</b>	
5pm - 7pm Open Club Session	
<b>Sunday 12th April</b>	
10am - 1pm Open Club Session	
<b>Saturday 25th April</b>	
10am - 1pm Open Club Session	
<b>Sunday 3rd May</b>	
10am - 1pm Open Club Session	
<p><b>To see the full calendar of everything going on at the Norman Booth Centre see our website and click on "Calendar"</b></p>	

## Plastic Ball-y Hoo

We've all heard the worrying reports about the cost of the new plastic balls, and how easily they break. Hopefully we'll soon find out what's happening and whether we shall need to take steps to reduce our rather huge usage of balls.

## Recycling Rubbers

If you are one of those players who regularly changes your rubber please don't throw them away but let us have the used ones. If you remove them carefully they are perfect for our beginners' rackets. Leave the used ones in the office marked for my attention—  
*Graham*