

BATTTS Juniors - Hope for the Future

JANUARY was a phenomenal month for BATTTS, with an impressive string of successes in a whole range of competitions.

The foundation of our success is really the hard work in training that our youngsters now put in each week.

Our head coach Adam Nutland leads by example, and his own recent training has improved his national ranking to 23 in the Senior Men's list. Adam has started appearing in one of the top leagues in Sweden and made a great impact over there, winning 10 out of his 11 singles matches during his first weekend's play.

East Midland Triumph for Ethan

Ethan Walsh added another trophy to his growing collection of silverware when he carried off the final of the East Midlands Four Star, beating Josh Weatherby of Durham 3 - 1 in the final. Ethan had been laid up with flu for most of the Christmas period, so this was great effort in his first major tournament of 2015.



Ethan is now back in training again, including regular sessions with the England squad.

During the past year Ethan's hard work has really paid off. As well as being England number one Under 13, his cadet ranking has progressed from 26th to 7th. Pretty good going for a 12 year old!

Luke Jones Essex Champion!



BATTTS players made a great showing in the Essex Junior Closed Championships held at BATTTS on 10th January. In his final year as a Junior **Luke Jones** played superbly throughout the day storming to victory without dropping a set. In the final he beat Sam Hume 11, 5, 9.

While Luke's success was outstanding there were plenty of other results to give us great confidence for the future. **Alana Mansfield** found herself pitched against boys in two separate events, which didn't have enough girls to allow a separate competition. But Alana put in a highly creditable performance, reaching the final of the U11, where she lost to William Bettley.

Ray Yan, who trains regularly at BATTTS, won the U13 boys event, beating Casey Mansfield in the final after Casey had topped the number one seed Rahul Jindal. The photos show trophy presentations by Ken Field, the Essex TTA Chairman.

Double Victory puts BATTs in Contention

A triumphant weekend for our **Senior British League** team has set up the exciting prospect of a play off place to give BATTs a chance to compete at the top level next season.

The double victory was achieved by our team playing in Division One. Led by **Jimmy Walsh** and ably supported by **Luke Walsh, Jack Bennett** and **Jordan Wykes** our team had a close match against the Woodfield team from Wolverhampton. They won the match 5—3. In the afternoon, inspired by their morning's effort there was no looking back and they trounced the Westfield team - who had won

three of their earlier matches with an 8 - 0 clean sweep.

The challenge ahead is to continue this fine form during the final set of matches which will be held at BATTs on the weekend of **28/29th March**.

Special note to parents! We believe it is very important for our younger players to have opportunities to view some of the top class table tennis that takes place at our club. The youngsters can learn a lot from watching skilled players

in competitions such as the Senior British League. If you can possibly look in during the weekend, don't miss the chance.



Jimmy Walsh led our young team to victory

#	Team	P	W	D	L	SF	SA	Points
1	Nottingham Sycamore II	10	8	1	1	65	15	17
2	Batts I	10	6	1	3	47	33	13
3	Speedwell Chesterfield	10	6	1	3	46	34	13
4	Wymondham	10	6	0	4	41	39	12
5	Elgre Draycott I	10	4	2	4	43	37	10
6	Woodfield I	10	2	4	4	35	45	8
7	Westfield I	10	3	1	6	29	51	7
8	Greenhouse II	10	0	0	10	14	66	0

Stephie Rises to the Masters Challenge



Stephie at the Masters

Photo Mike Loveder

We welcomed the top juniors from England at BATTs on the first weekend in January. The Junior Masters competition was limited to 12 boys and 12 girls and entry by invitation to the top ranked players only.

We were delighted that our own **Stephie Cross** was invited and she put up a plucky performance. Rising magnificently to the occasion Stephie refused to be over-awed by her higher-ranked opponents. The weekend finished on a high when, in her final match she beat Sophie Barlow from Cleveland (ranked 10 places above Stephie) 3—1.

The event was brilliantly staged by Table Tennis England and the only downside was that we didn't have more BATTs members along to watch.

Coaching Schedule

We are making some minor adjustments to our coaching schedule starting on Monday 2nd February. The changes only affect those in **Performance B** squads, where we have regularised the timings so that all the Performance B slots are 1.5 hours.

B squad members who show interest and commitment may be invited to stay on for the first part of the subsequent A squad session.

Please contact Adam or Graham if you have any questions or concerns about these changes. Revised times are shown in the table (left).

DAY	TIME	LEVEL
Monday	4.15pm – 5.45pm	Performance B
Monday	6pm – 8pm	Performance A
Tuesday	4.15pm – 5.30pm	Beginners
Wednesday	4.15pm – 5.30pm	Beginners
Wednesday	5.30pm – 7pm	Performance B
Wednesday	7pm – 9pm	Performance A
Friday	4.15pm – 5.45pm	Performance B
Friday	6pm – 8pm	Performance A

Facilities Update

Members will not have failed to notice that we are about to take delivery of our **out-door table**. Inspired by the "PING" project it will be fascinating to see how many new members we attract when the weather warms up!

Less apparent, but involving rather more work for Neil, is the project to **replace all our lighting** with low energy LED tubes. This is an excellent opportunity for us to take advantage of being pilot project funded by Sport England.

We expect installation during March, when there will be a week or two of disruption to our normal schedule. Further information about this will be given as soon as we can.

Essex Schools: Welcome Back!

Sponsored by Sainsbury's, and organised by *Active Essex*, the Essex Schools tournament is a popular competition. The latest event, on 16th January, there was a large entry and some very encouraging results for BATTs juniors and cadets, this time representing their schools. **Alana Mansfield** won the U11 girls and **Stephie Cross** the U16 girls events. There were also some excellent performances from our younger boys, with **George Campbell** scooping the bronze medal in the U13 boys, and three of our players reaching the quar-

ter final stages of the U11 after finishing top or second in their groups. Well done **Callum Boyce**, **Lorcan Neville** and **James Dainton**.

Another feature of this tournament was the welcome return of some old friends who used to train regularly at BATTs and several of whom featured among the medal winners.

The tournament was refereed by Arthur Clark who certainly deserves a medal for his sterling work in running so many competitions.

Tournament Diary

Here are some notable tournaments that will be of interest to BATTs players.

Saturday/Sunday 14th/15th February BATTs Junior/Cadet 1 Star

Entry closing date 27th January but if you see this too late you could try contacting the organiser Arthur Clark to see if a late entry can be accepted.

Sunday 22nd February

BATTs Super Series

Entry form on BATTs website.

Sunday 22nd February

Horsham Spinners 2 Star Junior/Cadet

Events for U10, U11, U12, U13, U15, U18

Closing Date 13th February.

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

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

What's On

To see the calendar of everything going on at the Norman Booth Centre see our website and click on "Calendar"

Harlow League: Tight at the Top

Our top team in the Harlow League is engaged in a desperately close struggle with Allnutts. The Chimps (Django Fung, Peter Radford, Keith Fung, Kuan Lim and Carl Johnson) were unbeaten until they came unstuck against the Gibbons who fielded new signing Adam Nutland.

#	Team	P	W	D	L	SF	SA	Points
2	Allnutts	10	8	0	2	80	20	80
2	Batts Chimpanzees	10	7	2	1	80	20	80
3	Batts Gibbons	10	6	2	2	66	34	66
4	Water Lane A	10	7	1	2	65	35	65
5	Batts Gorillas	10	5	0	5	49	51	49
6	Batts Tamarins	9	3	1	5	35	55	35
7	Lavers Hawks	9	2	1	6	26	64	26
8	Batts Orang-utans	10	2	0	8	25	75	25
9	Cobra	10	0	1	9	14	86	14

Two Star Dominance

Two of our young players dominated a disappointing entry in the Under 11 event at the Chandlers Two Star tournament at Grantham. It was victory for **Alana Mansfield** who beat **Samadhi Udamulla** in the final of a round robin competition. Samadhi excelled in the U13 where she found herself matched against Katie Holt the England number 5. Katie is ranked 84 places higher than Samadhi who put up a very creditable performance against her older opponent. We expect great things to come from Alana and Samadhi in future!



Other Events @ BATTs

Saturday 7th February	County Junior Championships followed by Open Club
Saturday 28th February	British League Veterans Matches (all day)
Sunday 1st March	British League Veterans Matches followed by Open Club Session at 6pm - 8pm
Saturday 7th March	County Veterans Matches (afternoon)
Saturday 14th March	British League Veterans Matches followed by Open Club Session at 6pm - 8pm
Sunday 15th March	British League Veterans Matches (all day)

Open Club Sessions are for any adult full members of BATTs and all juniors in the Performance A and B squads.