



Ping! is Here!

A review of the 2015-16 season

Chairman's Welcome.....

Welcome to the 2016 edition of the annual BDTTA newsletter.

Another season completed finally played with the new, if somewhat delayed and still only available in white, plastic ball. I found a very mixed response, from "can't tell the difference" to "I'm not playing with that thing". I have yet to see one break in match play, Mark Butler tells me it is not uncommon to get through several in a single night. I think this might have something to do with how hard he hits the ball and if he wasn't so aggressive he could save himself some money!

At a National level the England Men's team playing in the World team Championships in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia enjoyed their most successful run for 33 years, winning the Bronze medal, after losing a hard-fought match against Japan in the Semi-Finals.

At a local level we welcomed a new Results Secretary, who brought enthusiasm, ideas and technology to the role, giving the best every results service we have ever had.

The BDTTA move to Dorset has gone smoothly, and we hope to see so inter-league activity in the coming season.

Ping! Is coming to Bournemouth and Poole with 15 outdoor tables being site around the area, free to use, with special bats and balls being held nearby, available on request. These are scheduled to be in place for up to 3 years with the hope that it will spark new interest and, perhaps some new players for the local leagues.

Embracing new technology, we now have a Facebook page. Search for "Bournemouth Table Tennis" and join the Group!

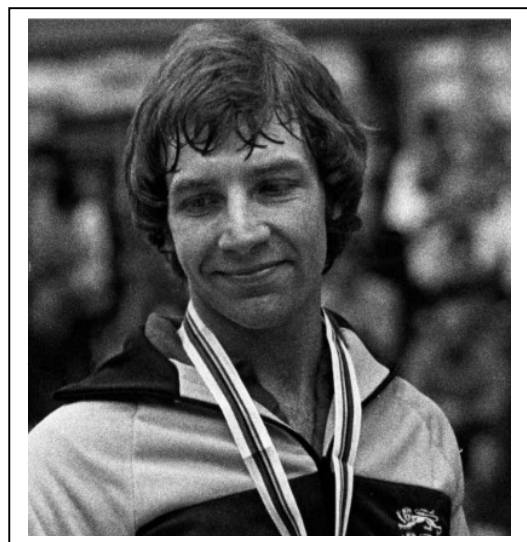
The biggest challenge facing the BDTTA is getting new younger players to join our League Competition. We have, as always, a strong coaching program and encourage and support Junior and Cadet Players and teams. Academic demands, however, seem to grow and grow. We need to find a way to make our Competition more compatible with these demands, otherwise it won't be long before we have no-one under 40 to play!

Phil



Phil Hadley

OUR GUEST TONIGHT FORMER ENGLAND INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN CHAMPION JOHN HILTON



John Hilton (b. 25 June 1947) is a table tennis player who sensationally won the singles event at the Table Tennis European Championships in 1980, in Bern, Switzerland, at odds of over 1000-1. His use of a revolutionary combination bat, with different rubbers on either side, completely bamboozled his opponents, coupled with his defensive play, and led to one of sport's greatest upsets.

Ultimately, the table tennis authorities had to change the rules because of John Hilton, so that either side of a bat had different coloured rubbers. This gave the opposing player the chance to spot which rubber his opponent was using. John used a bat which had black rubber (one side antiloop the other side very spinny) on both sides, meaning that opponents generally had no clue which rubber he was using when he 'twiddled' his bat in mid-rally, especially when his sleight of hand was coupled with him squeaking the soles of his shoes on the floor at the moment of bat on ball impact, this additional tactic masking the slight difference in sound between anti-loop surface and spinny surface.

John still plays table tennis in the Bolton league which his team famously won in the 2012-13 season. John has won many Veteran titles and to date, is the only British player to have won the gold medal in the Men's Singles

event at the Table Tennis European Championships.

Along with Desmond Douglas and Carl Prean he was part of the England mens team that reached the Semi-Finals of the world championships held in Tokyo in 1983.

Despite the change in te rules that followed his European success, John was still a force to be reckoned with playing in the Veterans section at a national level for many years.

We give a warm welcome to him tonight.

Another View from the Bottom

I am led to believe that it was the British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli who coined the phrase 'There are lies,



Dammed lies and Statistics', well at least Mark Twain believed it to be so. Indeed, that may be a wholly accurate description when with Politicians, but when it comes to Table Tennis (invented in the early 1890's, well after the demise of Disraeli), then I am sure statistics can be relied upon to give us all a fair reflection of the state of the game to date. Even down to the local level, like the Bournemouth Table Tennis League.

There were some 284 players registered for the Bournemouth League this year, slightly down on last year, but not much. Of these 254 were senior players, with an average age of about 56 years, and there 30 were junior/cadet player's, which is down by 25% on the previous year. Of these only three were female, which is definitely not good news. The number of female players, both young and old, is barely 10% of the total number playing the game.

'It shows the imminent decline of the game', 'There will be no one to take our place once we are gone', I hear you say. But not so, and here's the reason why. There are more young people playing regular competitive table tennis now, here in Bournemouth, than there are senior players playing in the Bournemouth League. This year alone over 300 children, aged 11 to 18, took part in the English Schools Table Tennis Associations (ESTTA) competitions, held at the Dorset Table Tennis Centre (DTTC). The ESTTA is in 'good standing' with Table Tennis England and is a member of the National Council for School Sport (NCSS). This year two Bournemouth teams got through to the National Finals and one of these, Park School, became National Champions.

Table Tennis dominates the sporting activities of many schools in the area. It was not so many years ago that Portchester School, now Harewood College, was the one and only dominant force in Schools Table Tennis. At present in Bournemouth professional coaching takes place weekly at the following schools. The Grange, Highcliffe, St Peters, Harewood College, Bournemouth School for Boys, Bournemouth School for Girls, Poole High, Bournemouth and Poole College and Park School. Tables and participation also occurs in a high number of other primary and secondary schools in the area.

In the Poole League there are well over 40 young people playing two-player team league table tennis each week, throughout the season both at the DTTC and at Branksome Junior School. Here the matches start at 6.30 in the evening and by 8.30 all matches have been completed. Parents like it because there is still time for children to do their school work when they get home. The players like it because the scoring system allows games won to be converted into points.

Social Table Tennis can be played in Bournemouth in about 30 different venues, including Community Sports Halls, Private Halls and Schools. The BDTTA has produced a Tables Tennis Venue Directory, which has gone live this week on the Associations Website. Copies of this electronic document will not only be deposited with Active Dorset and Table Tennis England, but also with the BBC under its 'Get Inspired' activity finder. Enjoy the rush.

PING will shortly enter the equation. No doubt there will be many enquiries from people wishing to start or come back to the Sport having sampled the game on the many tables that will be set for 'free use' of those wishing to have-a-go.

Clubs should make themselves ready for the inevitable invasion of the new enthusiasts, either competitively or socially. But to attract young players back to the Bournemouth League it may be that change is inevitable. In a progressive sport change should be constant. Perhaps a little insight is required, a little wisdom, a little understanding, a little more horse sense. After all, a little Horse Sense is what keeps Horses from betting on people.

Gordon White

ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

England Make History at the World team Champs

Seemingly against all odds, the England team who only reached the top division of the World Team Championships a few years ago had the tournament of their lives to reach the semi-final stage of this event. The trio of Liam Pitchford, Paul Drinkhall and Sam Walker who entered as the 18th seeds unexpectedly advanced from their strong group with a great win over Germany. They then went on to the knockout stages to prove that this victory was no fluke, beating the highly ranked teams of Poland and France 3-2 on both occasions to earn a spot in the semi-final against Japan.

While they would ultimately lose 3-1, the matches were much closer than that score line suggests with England's #1 player Liam Pitchford narrowly losing both of his games in 5 sets. While England would have been disappointed that they couldn't go one step further to reach the final, by reaching this stage they were the last European country remaining in the tournament, putting the rest of the world on notice that they will be serious contenders in the foreseeable future.



Match report Semi-Final vs Japan

The 2016 Perfect World Table Tennis Team Championships in Kuala Lumpur has been a rollercoaster of emotion for the Leopards and supporters, but did see the team standing proud on the podium for the first time in a staggering 33 years.

Losing 3-1 to Japan in the semi-finals was certainly no disgrace and could easily have looked a different story had a flick or net been present at crucial times.

World number 7 Jun Mizutani did manage to drag his team over the line beating Chesterfield's Liam Pitchford, but only after digging deep to claw back 4 match points in the fourth crucial game.

Pitchford was indeed outstanding against Mizutani, deserving to win the match not only for himself but for his sheer self-superiority throughout the complete tournament.

England can indeed stand tall on the table tennis global stage, for now at least and say 'we got there' in style.

The difficulty will of course be convincing the doubters this is not a fluke, and could even be the progressive norm in future table tennis thinking England.

From the outset the match was always going to be something of challenge if the Leopards were to upset the apple cart, if not simply due to ranking differences, with Paul Drinkhall 72, Liam Pitchford 64 and Sam Walker 159.

Drinkhall was first into the lion's den against the people's champion Jun Mizutani, who although trailing in two of the rubbers was on his best defensive behavior. The left-hander made life difficult for the Teessider taking the contest in straight sets 11-9, 11-9, 11-4.

Next up it was Maharu Yoshimura against an eager Liam Pitchford, who looked off the pace in the first, losing game 5 but made up for his slow start stretching the match to a five set thrilling battle.

Sam Walker then played the match of his career lifting England's hopes once again as he gave world number 20 Yuya Oshima a major shock, winning the contest in four sets 11-6, 11-6, 11-9.

In the fourth match Pitchford was causing major headaches for the Japanese as he won the first two rubbers 11-8 and 12-10, Mizutani gained some ground and managed to take the third game 11-7.

Pitchford then showed his absolute class and even had 4 match points to his name, but the battling Mizutani saved every single one throwing the match into the decider. The Japanese star took the lead and sealed the victory for his nation 11-6.



Bronze Medal winning team

Leopards Delight As Pitchford & Drinkhall Qualify For Rio 2016



The continental qualification tournaments have concluded and the extremely nervous Paul Drinkhall and Liam Pitchford can now look forward to the forthcoming Rio 2016 Olympic Games knowing their places and aspirations are secured.

Both Leopards lost out by a whisker to an automatic place earlier in April but were hopeful, like many other top players around the world the door was still open if things worked out well.

Yesterday the ITTF Olympic Games Singles Ranking was published on Thursday 5th May, which simply means the 22 remaining places for those players above just the water line are now known.

The Listing

The ITTF Olympic Games Singles Ranking takes into account the players who competed in the continental tournaments but did not secure places for Rio de Janeiro.

Equally the fact that only two athletes per National Olympic Committee are eligible for each of the Men's Singles and Women's Singles events adds another complexity to the already difficult process.

Approval

The approval from the National Olympic Committees is still needed and the final list could look slightly different following that analysis.

Now with the 62 players, who have qualified for each of the Men's Singles and Women's Singles events known, the selection for the 16 Men's Teams and 16 Women's Team can take effect.

Six continental places are afforded, one for each of Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and Oceania.

Next, for each continent, the highest ranked team in the May 2016 ITTF Olympic Team Ranking list, which has a National Olympic Committee and a total of two athletes already qualified will receive one additional athlete quota place from the Team Quota (22 places in total) to form a team of three players.

If within a given continent no National Olympic Committee has qualified two athletes, then the highest ranked team, based on the May 2016 ITTF Olympic Team Ranking list, with one athlete already qualified will receive two additional athlete quota places from the Team Quota to form a team of three players.

ANDREW BAGGLEY RETAINS WORLD PING PONG CROWN

Andrew Baggaley (ENG) 3-2 Maxim Shmyrev (RUS)

(13-15, 15-5, 14-15, 15-14, 15-11)



ENGLAND'S ANDREW BAGGLEY was once again crowned the King of Ping as he got the better of Russia's Maxim Shmyrev in a blistering five set encounter at the Alexandra Palace in North London.

The Milton Keynes man was a winner last year as he broke the super-fit Russian's run of three WCPP titles and this year it was a clash of the two champions

The final match, watched by a by a buoyant 1000-strong crowd at the iconic venue, was a blood and thunder affair as each man battled hard to gain the initiative. Two of the five sets were decided by the single point and another went 15-13. Baggaley, who found himself 1-0 down and then 2-1 behind, found something extra to survive match point in the fourth game and then pull away in the closing stages of the decider for victory.

Commented an emotional Baggaley; "That is phenomenal, I cannot believe it. To be match point down and win; I am speechless. Maxim is an absolutely outrageously good player, the balls he hits are amazing and he is one of the legends of this sport so I know I have to play inspirational stuff to beat him just to have a chance.

"He had it at one stage but I kept my composure. I don't know how I did it to be honest This is one of the best moments of my career. He was better than me, he was a few percent ahead of me the whole time but I kept going. I didn't want to be denied but at one stage if he had played a big ball he would have been the champion.

"It was a shame that somebody had to lose this match because he is a fantastic champion and an amazing guy."

The 32 year old Englishman collected the magnificent trophy, a gold medal and \$20,000 in prize-money as he cemented his place in the ping pong history books.

For Shmyrev it moved his overall record in the five year history of the event to three golds, a silver and a bronze – an outstanding record that will be hard to surpass. Although he had some kind words at the close, his disappointment was clear.

"It was a fantastic event for me and there were some fantastic game. In the final I didn't make some key points, my mind wasn't smart enough at times," he said.

Earlier, Baggaley had disposed of English rival Andrew Rushton whose bronze medal finish had equalled his best effort in

2014. In the other semi-final it was Maxim Shmyrev who dug deep to reach his fourth WCPP final in five years. He KO'd last year's runner-up Alexander Flemming in a gruelling four setter.

National Successes

Chloe Thomas (almost) makes a clean sweep

The 2015 Welsh National Championships were held in Cardiff Shortly after last year's BDTTA presentation evening.

Having already represented her country at the Commonwealth games as reported last year, Chloe, who plays for Bournemouth Sports, had gained valuable experience and put it to good use.

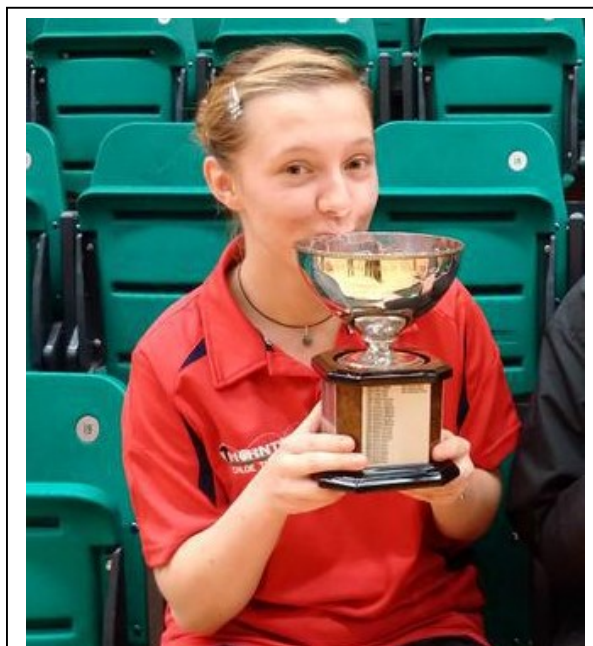
She entered all the events she was qualified for, U21 Ladies, Senior Ladies, Ladies Doubles teamed with Charlotte Carey and Mixed Doubles with brother Patrick.

In both singles events Chloe lost one rubber, but progressed as runner-up. She then won the semi-final, only to be up against her nemesis from the group stages, Charlotte Carey in the U21 and Megan Phillips in the Senior Competition.

Chloe took her revenge in both and took the Ladies doubles crown as well! The mixed Doubles proved one too many, and she had to settle for runner up, losing 3-0 to Charlotte Carey and Daniel O'Connell.

So three out of 4 Welsh Crowns for Chloe, who has since gone on to represent Wales at the Team Championships in March

Our congratulations go to Chloe and hope her success continues.



Chloe Thomas

James Lewis named Table Tennis England Coach of the Year 2016

James Lewis scooped the Table Tennis England Coach of the Year award at the PG Mutual National Championships.

The judges were impressed by his range of activities, including:-

- Bournemouth Coaching Officer for 5 years
- Supported over 20 new coaches through their coaching courses
- Co-ordinated the Dorset School Games and ESTTA Schools events each year with over 200 participants
- County Cadet and Junior Team Co-ordinator
- Bournemouth NCL and NCL Co-ordinator of 8 teams
- Supported Paul Whiting in Developing the Bournemouth South West Development and High Performance Centres
- Founder and Director of Dorset Table Tennis Centre and Academy
- INSET trainer to Staff in over 20 Dorset Schools
- A level and GCSE Officiating Teacher
- Committee member of the PZ and PING Strategy Teams
- Supported the setting up of 10 Satellite Clubs in and around Dorset
- Assist with the running of the Poole Pairs attracting over 30 new players each week
- Coach of Park School which were National Champions of the ESTTA Schools Team Event in 2014

James is one of the many players that BDTTA has provided sponsorship for coaching qualifications over the years.

Congratulations to James

Sports and Recreation Achievement Award SHAUN'S AN INSPIRATION – OFFICIAL!

New Milton Table Tennis Club's only wheelchair player Shaun Newcomb was honoured by the Spinal Injuries Association with their Sports and Recreation Achievement Award. This award is presented to an individual who has provided inspiration to others through their outstanding sporting or recreational achievements.



Shaun Newcombe

Shaun is a full time wheelchair user, currently a UKCC Level 2 table tennis coach who is working towards completion of his UKCC Level 3 coaching qualification. While Shaun coaches all ages and abilities, he specialises in coaching athletes with a disability, working from beginner standard to Elite level. Shaun was selected to be the coach for the EAD (Elite Athletes with a Disability) at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, and in December 2013 he was the GB Team Manager and Head Coach at the World Championships for Players with Learning Disabilities (INAS) in Hong Kong. In August 2014 he was Team Manager and Head Coach at the World Junior Games at Stoke Mandeville where he also runs the Table Tennis event in the annual Inter Spinal Unit Games. Shaun works with the Table Tennis England Association as the South/South East Regional Disability Officer and runs table tennis sessions for rehabilitation in the Duke of Cornwall Spinal Injuries Centre in Salisbury. In addition, he also coaches at New Milton Table Tennis Club and with a Regional Disability Squad in Maidenhead. Shaun also just happens to be Vice President and Development Officer of the New Milton Club.

He was nominated by Table Tennis England's South West Development Officer Lisa Williams for his work in coaching and inspiring disabled athletes, and he was short-listed to the final three for the Sport and Recreation Achievement Award. As a short-listed nominee, Shaun was invited to attend the "Rebuilding Lives" Awards Ceremony at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel where the awards were presented by Channel 4 Countdown's Susie Dent.

Susie addressed guests at the beginning of the evening with words such as "passion" and "inspiration", just two of the very fitting anagrams that she had found within the charity's name. Passion and inspiration were evident by the bucket load as the 2015 winners were announced during the course of the evening.

A surprised and humbled Shaun said after the ceremony: "The Spinal Injuries Association (SIA) is a marvellous organisation whose strap-line is "Rebuilding Lives After Spinal Cord Injury". Over the years the SIA have provided me with excellent support and invaluable information, and I became a life member soon after my injury. I am honoured to have been given their "Sports and Recreation Achievement Award", when there are so many amazing people across the sporting spectrum, giving their time to inspire those with a spinal injury in sport".

Malcom Floyd

BDTTA League Review:

The old adage of "When you have put your foot in it, stop digging" comes to mind.

Taking on the role of Results Secretary, you then discover some of the things you hadn't thought about, one of which was shifting teams and players around the divisions to get the website set up correctly ready for the start of the season and so that results can actually be entered.

There were quite a few people who seemed to forget they have to be registered with TTE and paid up on an ANNUAL basis (I include some my own club-mates in this) so I found myself chasing up Club Secretaries, Team Captains and Individual players to make sure it was all done before the first match was played.

This is mentioned because there was also some confusion with several players from the previous season being given a new registration number and it not being linked to the Bournemouth League on the TTE 365 site. I could only see the 'old' number which was not showing payment details for the new season, so there was some "You haven't paid/Yes I have/No you haven't".

So when you get the reminder from TTE at the end of July make sure you keep your current number for next season when you pay your registration fee!

In last year's newsletter mention was made of being able to accept results by email and that Home team Captains would be able to enter results. The option for Home Team captains entering results was trialled with a few teams and can be expanded across the league if people wish to do it that way in the future. From updating the results perspective getting many scorecards by email has worked well and meant being able to enter results often the same night, however I cannot think of anything going wrong with the post either so big thanks to one and all for a relatively stress-free season.

I quite like statistics so it was quite a surprise to see how many 'substitute' players from lower divisions were being used, but at least this means that teams were turning up with a full team.

As for the number of times teams turned up with only 2 players (much more than I expected) I am sure no-one started off the season intending to do this and it is by definition not possible to use a 'play-up' if you are in the lowest 'lettered' team or in Division 5.

So instead let us congratulate the teams that managed to finish the season who did not concede a match; did not turn up with a 2-person team but managed 3 every week ; and used only the players they originally registered without anything special being asked for, as we could argue that these teams and players showed the commitment they anticipated at the start of the season.

There were a number in this category but I think it is particularly worth mentioning that the teams that finished bottom of Division 3, 4 and 5 managed this feat, with Winton B and Bournemouth Sports L also managing it with only 4 players.

Given the fact that these teams were losing most weeks, it shows a lot of dedication for each team member to have turned out and play and not decide "I can't be bothered this week". I think this should be an inspiration to us all, as much as seeing the (hopefully) high quality of play at the top of our respective divisions.

Summary by Division:

The Committee had a mandate to fill the top division this year by promoting clubs up which obviously had an effect on all the other divisions, but with some teams "volunteering" and the addition of more teams from a number of clubs this was achieved with only one space appearing in Division 4 and the Premier Division (due to an unfortunate late team withdrawal).

Premier Division

Bournemouth Sports A were clearly out to regain the title and right from week 1 started to stamp their authority in the division. By week 8 they were pulling away from defending champions Merton A and it soon became a question of how big would be the margin as they eventually only dropped 3 points in the season. The battle for the runners-up spot was really decided in week16 with New Milton B doing their own A team a favour in defeating Merton A, confirmed by the improved New Milton A doing the same the following week.

Down at the bottom it was always going to be hard for Broadstone A, who were not helped when their best player left the area due to work commitments after week2.

John Hook (New Milton B) and Alan Henwood (Bmth Sports B) get a special mention for playing in every match.

Premier						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	G	PT
Bmth Sports A	16	16	0	0	148-12	61
New Milton A	16	12	1	3	113-47	48
Merton A	16	11	0	5	96-64	43
Winton YMCA A	16	5	5	6	74-86	29
New Milton B	16	5	3	8	69-91	27
Bmth Sports B	16	4	3	9	65-95	24
Merton C	16	3	4	9	57-103	22
Merton B	16	4	1	11	55-105	19
Broadstone A	16	2	3	11	43-117	11

Division One

Lynwood A were at the top after week 2 and it settled down to Ringwood A playing catch-up which happened when they inflicted the only (and heavy) defeat of the season on the leaders in week16.

The division went down to the wire, as with Ringwood having won 10-0, Lynwood went into the last night of the season knowing a 7-3 win would mean taking the title with the same number of points but with having won ONE game more than Ringwood. Despite losing the first game, Lynwood saw out the match 9-1 to win the division by one point.

Martin Jerome took the honour of top average whilst playing a high number of games, but Barry Annis deserves a mention for playing the most games (54) for Bmth Sports D.

Division 1						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	G	PT
Lynwood A	18	16	1	1	132-48	60
Ringwood A	18	15	0	3	129-51	59
Broadstone B	18	12	2	4	111-69	47
Merton E	18	10	2	6	96-84	40
Merton D	18	10	1	7	90-90	38
Bmth Sports D	18	7	2	9	91-89	35
Bmth Sports C	18	4	4	10	79-101	28
New Milton C	18	6	0	12	77-103	28
Ringwood B	18	2	1	15	52-128	15
New Milton D	18	1	1	16	43-137	10

Division Two

This division proved to be a 'game of two halves'. The early leaders Broadstone D were caught by the half-way stage by the youngsters of Bmth Sports F and were in a close struggle with New Milton E. Several teams seemed to be battling against relegation with Merton F who having been pushed up from Division 3 were already slipping away.

The second half, however, saw some large swings in fortune with the Bmth F team maintaining form to win the division by a large margin. Lower down several teams having had personnel problems, recruited some experienced players that saw some steady rises up the table.

The biggest change in fortune in the second half were to both Broadstone teams, the early leading 'D' team having been level

Division 2						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	G	PT
Bmth Sports F	18	15	2	1	128-52	58
Broadstone D	18	10	2	6	110-70	44
New Milton E	18	9	4	5	100-80	42
Bmth Sports E	18	11	1	6	99-81	40
Lynwood B	18	7	3	8	92-88	37
Merton F	18	7	5	6	92-88	37
North Bmth	18	6	2	10	83-97	31
Bmth Sports G	18	6	5	7	81-99	30
Broadstone C	18	5	1	12	63-117	23
Merton G	18	1	1	16	52-128	14

at the top mid-way, managed to claim the runners-up spot,, despite a dramatic difference in points tally compared to the first half), whilst the seemingly safe 'C' team went into terminal decline, although it went to the last match to confirm it.

Steve Davies took the highest average honour with 100% and 32 wins, whilst Russell Yearworth (who must now have 'stalwart' status) played the most games (50). The previously mentioned division winners had some of the most improved young players in the league (so here's hoping that most of its players skip over into the Premier division next season!)

Division 3

Division 3						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	G	PT
Breamore	18	11	3	4	113-67	49
Merton J	18	12	3	3	111-69	48
Bmth Sports J	18	9	4	5	99-81	42
Ringwood C	18	8	3	7	93-87	38
Merton H	18	5	7	6	89-91	35
Nimrod A	18	7	2	9	85-95	34
Bmth Sports H	18	7	5	6	88-92	32
Shamrock A	18	7	2	9	86-94	32
Broadstone E	18	5	2	11	69-111	23
Winton YMCA B	18	2	3	13	67-113	23

The statistics show that this was the most competitive division overall this season and the tone was set in the first week with 3 draws and 6-4 wins. This continued throughout, with the most draws, most by 6-4 and fewest 4-pointers throughout the league.

The title went down to the wire and to Breamore, with the decision being made in their last match, when they won the 9th singles (in 5 sets) on the night. Winning the doubles for the 3rd point to make it 6-4, against a team already relegated, shows how close the division could be and made for an extravagant margin of one point over Merton J !

Of note in this division was the 3 very strong players, 2 with 100% record and 1 with only a single defeat who coincidentally missed playing each other, whilst Mike Davies of Ringwood turned out in every match posting a 62% record and Gad Rubin of Nimrod who only missed one match who had a 70% average.

Division 4

Division 4						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	G	PT
New Milton F	16	15	1	0	126-34	57
Bmth Sports K	16	10	3	3	106-54	46
New Milton H	16	9	4	3	105-55	43
Nimrod B	16	9	3	4	99-61	41
New Milton G	16	9	2	5	96-64	39
Merton K	16	7	0	9	73-87	29
Shamrock B	16	4	1	11	58-102	22
Winton YMCA C	16	1	1	14	28-132	7
Bmth Sports L	16	0	1	15	29-131	4

This was a very consistent division. After the first few weeks the positions remained remarkably stable for the whole season



New Milton F Division 4 Winners

with points gaps opening up between each team that could not be closed by the team below.

New Milton F ran out winners by a sizeable margin , whilst Bournemouth Sports K kept ahead of the challenges by Nimrod A and New Milton H to take the runners-up spot.

Alistair Feltham played in every match for Winton C, whilst the New Milton F dominance was shown by occupying 3 out of the top 4 spots in the averages, with Paul Iliffe of their H team splitting Steve Cheeseman and Mike Roberts in 2nd place.

Division 5

This division had the welcome faces from a new single team club this season with the new boys of Electrick. It is fair to say it did not start too well in the first half of the season, but something must have happened with thoughts of Xmas, as in the second half they were transformed with 4 wins and 2 draws climbing out of the bottom spot. Also note that Electrick turned out a full team every week.

The division itself was won by a huge margin. Winton D were too strong for everyone else winning all but one match, their run being ended by their 'worst' performance, of a draw, in week 16.

Rob Ryan was ever present, whilst Matthew Ryan and Keith Lamb played in all but one match each.

The runners-up position was occupied by Bournemouth Sports M for a number of weeks before they slipped away and left it in possession of Merton M until the final week of the season when they were overtaken by Merton L.

Division 5						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	G	PT
Winton YMCA D	18	17	1	0	146-34	64
Merton M	18	12	2	4	113-67	48
Merton L	18	9	5	4	107-73	46
New Milton J	18	9	2	7	92-88	38
Bmth Sports M	18	7	3	8	90-90	34
Nimrod C	18	6	1	11	76-104	29
Nimrod D	18	5	2	11	74-106	26
Elec-Trick	18	5	2	11	67-113	23
Shamrock C	18	5	3	10	72-108	22
New Milton K	18	4	1	13	63-117	22

Ian Brown



COMPETITION REVIEW

BOURNEMOUTH & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION FINALS NIGHT REPORT– FRIDAY 15th April 2016

The 2016 Finals Night was the culmination of two weeks of successful league tournaments. The tournaments for the Bournemouth Handicap and Bournemouth Closed were contested by nearly 40 competitors in each event, the best entry for many years. The Finals Night was well supported with an entertaining and exciting evening of table tennis by everyone who attended. A number of players won two titles piece: - Ali Mallock, Zita Winter, Maggie White, Zac Dowling, Finn Morgan-Baylis.

Some very competitive matches were played that kept the spectators on the edge of their seats, one match that was worthy of a special mention was the Veterans over 60 final between Danny Allen and Kevan Smith, Merton team mates playing in Division 1. Danny raced into a 2 game advantage only to be pegged back by Kevan to two games all, with the momentum now squarely resting with Kevan an exciting final end lay in prospect. Kevan raced into unassailable 7-0 lead but Danny obviously didn't read the script. Danny didn't give up and he slowly clawed his way back into the match, catching Kevan at 10 all. Danny finally won 13-11, well done Danny for a great comeback.

The Division 5 final was contested by father (Rob) and son (Matthew) Ryan both playing for Winton YMCA. Matthew showed no respect for age and duly won 3 straight – one can only speculate what the conversation was like in the car on the way home!



Veteran over 50 winner Doug Gerrish

Many congratulations to all winners on the night. A big thank you for all volunteer umpires on the night and the committee members who refereed during the tournaments.



Mark Butler

Mark Butler
Tournament Secretary

INDIVIDUALS RESULTS

Premier

Finn Morgan-Baylis (B'th Sports) W/O Norman Swift (Merton)

Division 1

Martin Jerome (Ringwood) Bt Gerard Redman (New Milton)

Division 2

Jacob Blackburn (B/ Sports) Bt Ali Mallock (B/Sports)

Division 3

Keith Gillison (Shamrock) Bt Geoff Ware (Breamore)

Division 4

Steve Cheeseman (New Milton) Bt Ian Linney (New Milton)

Division 5

Matthew Ryan (Winton) Bt Rob Ryan (Winton YMCA)

Ladies Singles

Zita Winter (B'th Sports) Bt Maggie White (B'th Sports)

Ladies Doubles

Zita Winter (B'th Sports) Bt Karen Kelly (B'th Sports)
Maggie White (B'th Sports) Jean Watson (Merton)



Mixed Doubles

Maggie White (B'th Sports) Bt Jacob Blackburn (B'th Sports)
Ben Cunningham (B'th Sports) Emma Blatchford (B'th Sports)

Mens Doubles

Zac Dowling (B'th Sports) Bt Martin Poulson (Winton YMCA)
Finn Morgan-Baylis Adam Thompson (Winton YMCA)

VET 40+

Mark Butler (Merton) Bt Steve Hemmings (New Milton)

VET 50+

Doug Gerrish (New Milton) bt Steve Hemmings (New Milton)

VET 60+

Danny Allen (Merton) Bt Kevan Smith (Merton)

VET 70+

Danny Allen (Merton) Bt Ian Robertson (Merton)

Junior U15

Ali Mallock (B'th Sports) Bt Matthew Stanfield (B'th)



Junior U15 Finalists
Matt Stansfield and Ali Malloch

Junior U18

Zac Dowling (B'th Sports) Bt Finn Morgan-Baylis (B'th)



Junior U18 Finalists
Finn Morgan-Bayliss and Zac Dowling

B'th Closed

Adam Thompson (Winton YMCA) Bt Finn Morgan-Baylis (B'th)

B'th H/Cap

Matthew Daish (New Milton) Bt Steve Hemmings (New Milton)

TIMES & DIRECTORY HANDICAP **MAIN COMPETITION**

BMTH SPORTS YOUNGSTERS WIN THE CUP AGAIN!

The Times and Directory Handicap Cup Final featured two teams who had won their respective divisions in the Bournemouth & District Table Tennis League by a country mile. The New Milton F team (Ian Linney, Steve Cheesman & Mike Roberts) who were Division 4 champions without dropping a match, faced the youngsters of Bournemouth Sports F (Ali Malloch, Jacob Blackburn & Luke Goodall) who won the Division 2 title, only losing one match in the process. This was exactly the same team who won the cup last year, so they were desperate not to relinquish their spoils.

Indeed, the Bourne stormed into an early two match lead at the Grange as Ian Linney playing off +9 lost to Ali Malloch, and Steve Cheesman (+7) was beaten by Jacob Blackburn. It could so easily have been 1-1 at this stage but Cheesman fault-served at 19-19 in the third and final set to go on to lose 19-21. Mike Roberts (+7) stopped the rot by getting the better of Luke Goodall to make it 1-2, but Cheesman (+7) then lost to Malloch making it 1-3. Linney made good use of his +9 start and wiped the floor with Goodall, then Roberts (+7) beat Blackburn to level things off at 3-3.

Cheesman (+7) had no trouble at all against a dispirited Goodall to give Milton the lead by 4-3, but Roberts (+7) also fell victim to man of the match Malloch which left things delicately poised at 4-4 for the decider.

Linney was the hero of Milton's semi-final against Winton YMCA D as he won the final match to put his F team through to the Cup Final, and it all came down to him again. Linney had a +9 start but it proved too little against a rampant Blackburn, who overhauled the handicap very early doors in both sets to win it 21-16, 21-15 and secure the Cup. A shell-shocked Linney was gracious enough to say "he hit me off the table" in tribute to Blackburn, and that just about summed it up.

Mark Butler

PLATE COMPETITION

TIMES & DIRECTORY PLATE STAYS WITH NEW MILTON

For the second year running, a New Milton Team has reached the final of the Annual Times & Directory Handicap Plate competition. Last year it was won by their D team (Terry Jenvey, Chris Pusey & Kai Major), and this season it was the G team (Lewis Reading, Graham Underwood & Eddie Tompkins) seeking to keep the Plate within the club.

The Gees had already seen off their own B team in the semi-final, and their opponents Merton H (Simon King, Rob Searle & Christine Renault) had done likewise to their own club mates in the Merton D team. The New Milton side usually ply their trade in Div 4 of the Bournemouth and District league whereas Merton play in Div 3, both teams ending up mid-table.

The handicapping reflected the league differential with Simon King giving a +5 start, Rob Searle conceding 6 and Christine Renault giving the less generous +3 start to the Milton players.

Milton went 2-0 up with Reading beating King 21-19, 21-14 and Underwood seeing off Rob Searle 21-19, 13-21, 21-10. It looked like Milton were going to go 3-0 up as Eddie Tompkins took the first end off Christine Renault, but Renault tantalisingly edged the next two 21-20, 21-19 to peg one back for Merton. Next up was Rob Searle who breezed past Reading 21-17, 21-16 to level things off at 2-2.

All eyes were on Tompkins who just edged his match against King 21-20, 21-19, then Underwood beat Renault in a very tight sixth match 20-21, 21-19, 21-16 to put Milton 4-2 up.

Merton needed to win the next match to stay in the final, and Searle duly obliged by just getting the better of Tompkins 21-16, 17-21, 21-19. Milton started to get the jitters as Renault saw off Reading in two straight ends 21-19, 21-19 to level things off at 4-4. The decider was between Underwood who was looking for his hat-trick and King who had lost both his matches, but Milton weren't counting their chickens as King had only just lost out to Tompkins. Underwood starting off +5 quickly pulled away in the first end to take it comfortably 21-9 and won the second 21-14 to secure the Plate for New Milton.

Malcom Floyd

Bournemouth Coaching Report Summer 2016

With over 200 young players receiving professional coaching each week in schools, clubs or at the centre, the future looks bright for Bournemouth table tennis. At the top end our junior players continue to push forward and are making the most of the coaching opportunities offered to them.

At a local level, Bournemouth this season proved too strong for other teams from around Dorset, Hampshire and Sussex winning both the National Cadet League and the National Junior League. Next year it is hoped that a British Junior League Team can be created from our young pool of local talent. It has also been fantastic to see 6 new UKCC Level 1 coaches now qualified and getting involved both in their clubs and at Dorset Table Tennis Centre. Congratulations to Mike Wells, Finn Morgan-Bayliss, Zac Dowling, Sam Perez-Haynes, Grant Dimond and Logan Hale.

A special welcome back to table tennis must also be given to Simon Heaps. Simon was Cadet European Champion a few years ago. He has thrown himself into supporting me in coaching the Dorset High Performance Squad. His expertise, experience and contacts should help us move forward towards the Talent Development Centre Status we hope to be awarded by Table Tennis England this year.

Many thanks as always to the Bournemouth League for their unfailing support and ensuring that table tennis in this area continues to build and grow.

Dorset Schools Teams which headed to Plymouth in January 2016. 4 of these were crowned South West Schools Team Champions. Park School Boys, Grange School, Bournemouth School for Girls and Budmouth College U19s. Park School National Champions 2016 in the U11 Boys Category



Dorset Schools Team

Dorset Table Tennis Academy 2015-2016 Highlights this year

Coaches now qualified in 2015-2016. Further coaches now qualified include Finn Morgan-Bayliss, Sam Perez-Haynes, Zac Dowling, Mike Wells, Grant Dimond and Logan Hale.

Dorset Junior County Team Joint 1st (Runners up on countback)

Dorset Cadet County Team 3rd

Gina being selected for England Schools International in July

Matt Ware (Coaching Officer for the Bournemouth League 2015-2016)



Dorset Table Tennis Academy

James Lewis



Discretionary awards 2014-15 Season

It is traditional to announce these awards on the night of the premeditation, giving an element of surprise to the recipients. This does, however, rob us of the opportunity to give a background to the awards and why they were awarded.

To put this back into balance, here is some background to last year's awards. It is planned to continue this approach in future years.

Elsie Carrington Trophy for Sportsmanship awarded to Allan Elcock

For those of us who have played against Allan it will not be a surprise that he has been presented with this award.

Allan has played in a variety of divisions over the years, on occasions being asked by his club to play outside of his usual level of competitiveness. Regardless of the level and whatever the circumstances, Allan is always gracious in defeat and complementary in victory.

In addition, if Allan is playing, the entire match is played in good a spirit, resulting in an enjoyable yet competitive evening whatever the match result.

It is easy to overlook what a positive impact people like Allan have on the players they play against, particularly youngsters and what an ambassador they are for their team, club association and sport.

Congratulations Allan on a wholly deserved award.

Michael Wettstein Cup for Outstanding services in administration Tony Viney

Tony's playing days were curtailed some years ago, but he still continued to be an active member of the Association standing on the committee. When Ken Large gave notice of his intention to stand down as Treasurer at the end of last season, Tony was on hand to take over the role.

When Malcolm Floyd stepped down as Results Secretary at AGM in 2014, it was not in Tony's mind to pick up a role he had done many years ago in the era of cards, note pads and newspaper submissions. In the event it was only him that offered to take up the challenge. This challenge included, working through difficulties with a new results system while having no access to the internet or e-mail.

Tony was able to complete the League results and Averages, despite all the problems he had encountered, by looking to work with the other people involved when it would have been all too easy to take a "not my problem" approach.

It is people like Tony who make our Association as strong as it is. Congratulations to him on a job well done.

Phil Hadley

Sadly No Longer With us

SANDY FAGAN

Sandy Fagan, former New Milton TTC Club Secretary and wife of Club President and former Chairman Bob Fagan, sadly passed away in Lymington Hospital on 19th November last year. Sandy had been a member of the New Milton TTC since 1972 and played the sport up to the onset of her illness 5 years ago. Both of their children, Michael and Jackie, also played for the Club.

Sandy looked after the junior and new players and always made people feel welcome. Her funeral was held at Hinton Park Woodland Burial Ground on the 4th December and was attended by many people, including twelve current members and several former club members.

The Bournemouth & District Table Tennis League Association was represented by General Secretary Gordon White. When she was well, Sandy always attended club functions with husband Bob, and she is sadly missed.

VALERIE SCOTT-JOHNS

Valerie Scott-Johns, wife of New Milton TTC Secretary and club stalwart Bev, sadly passed away at the Oakhaven Hospice, Lymington on 25th March after a courageous battle with Myeloma.

Valerie, proud mother of their two children Elizabeth and Alexander, was extremely supportive of Bev's heavy involvement with the club and attended a number of club events over the years. Her funeral was held at the Hinton Park Woodland Burial Ground on 8th April and was attended by a large number of mourners including many of Bev's club mates both past and present.

The Bournemouth and District Table Tennis Association was represented by General Secretary Gordon White and former President Harold Feltham.



Bev Scott-Johns

SPOTLIGHT ON MATTHEW DAISH

Matthew has increased his training each week with Matt Ware and has played in at least 18 tournaments (including several Grand Prix) from the start of the 2015/16 season. Some of the locations travelled to are: Cippenham, Horsham, Bristol, Aldershot, Derby, Milton Keynes, London, East Midlands and Huddersfield. Matthew has also played more tournaments in Germany and significantly improved his German ranking. Playing for New Milton A in the Bournemouth league Premier division, Matthew averaged 86% (67% last season) with



Matthew Daish

notable wins over Finn Morgan-Bayliss and Nathan Bingham from Bournemouth Sports. Playing for Waterside A in the Southampton league Premier division Matthew averaged 88% (69% last season) with notable wins over Jimmy Yeung (Gen II) and Artur Caltabiano (Waterside B).

Playing for Waterside in the Senior British League, Matthew helped the team win their division and gain promotion (from Division 4 to 3). He came top of the averages table with a percentage of 95%, winning 19/20 of his matches.

Playing for Pompey in the Junior British league, Matthew helped the team win the Division (Div 2) and gain promotion to Division 1.

He also helped Hampshire come 2nd in the Junior County Championships in the Premier division – their best result for many, many years. He won the Hampshire U18 Singles Champion title and was runner up in the Senior Singles event.

Matthew's England ranking has improved enormously since this time last year rising from 93 to 31 in the U18's – without the latest updates – and he played in the England Junior Nationals in Huddersfield in April – only the top 32 players in the country were invited. Matthew was one of the youngest invited competitors from Hampshire and Dorset.

Following a recent training session in Germany, Matthew was asked to join Mainz 05 TTC. Their first team currently play in the Bundesliga 3. He is looking forward to playing in their second and third teams next season where there are good opportunities for progression.

NEWS FROM NEW MILTON

NEW AND OLD FACES FOR NEW MILTON CLUB

The club benefited from a number of fantastic new signings at the start of the season and also gladly welcomed back some old faces. Doug Gerrish slotted nicely into the Premier, his 69% average helping his A team to second place, and John Hook's maiden 70% buoyed up the B team in the Premier.

Steve Cheesman took Div 4 by storm and only lost two matches all season to help his F team to win the division. Also in Div 4, Paul Iliffe only lost three games to help his H team to secure third place, as did John Childs' 67% average.

Also in Div 4, Graham Underwood joined the G team and his 75% win rate aided his team to a very respectable mid-table position.

Making very welcome returns to the club were Russell Wilson, Lewis Reading and David Strike. Russell's homecoming 50% did his second-placed A team no harm at all, and Lewis and David came up with praiseworthy 70% and 73% averages respectively for their G and H teams in Div 4.

TRIBUTE TO THE BDTTA COMMITTEE

Could I use the seventh edition of the splendid BDTTA Newsletter to place on record my grateful thanks for all the hard work put in by the BDTTA committee in running the league and other events on behalf of the membership. As the Results Secretary for nine years I am only too aware of all of the hard work that goes on behind the scenes, which can sometimes feel like a thankless task. I know that the committee comes in for some flak from time to time, but the committee members give generously of their time in the best interests of the membership.

I didn't want to single anybody out, but as a past Results Secretary I must commend Ian Brown for his sterling efforts in his first season in that post. He very quickly got to grips with the Results System and the results and tables were issued promptly most weeks.

Malcolm Floyd
New Milton Table Tennis Club



One of the new Ping! tables being set-up around the country

National #TableTennisDay – time to start the party!

The countdown is on to the big day! It's National #TableTennisDay on Thursday July 14.

Last year's celebration saw more than 200 events around the country, plus Sky Sports coverage – and it reached more than four million people on social media.

Now the challenge is to beat that this year.

So what can you do to get involved? #TableTennisDay is a chance for every member of the table tennis family to celebrate and share all that is best about our sport. It's about working in partnership across the community to enthuse and inspire people to pick up a bat, get active and pick up a sporting habit for life.

Your first step is to download our online toolkit, which provides help, advice and suggestions for how to get the most out of the day, whether you are a club, school, workplace or any other organisation.

Once you've downloaded the toolkit, we're here to help you promote your event in your local media and offer any other guidance.

As for Table Tennis England's plans, this year we've chosen the iconic Brighton seafront for the flagship celebration and will be partying on the prom in company with England aces Kelly Sibley, Andrew Baggaley and other special guests.

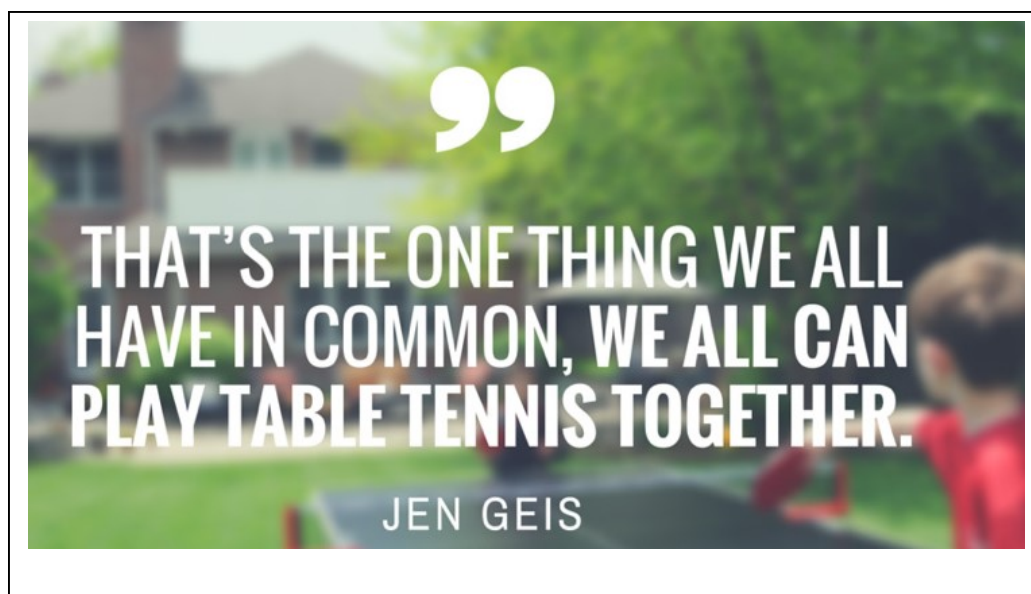
We'll be beside the seaside from 10am on the day, so if you're in the area, do pop along and say hello and join in the fun.

Wherever you are, why not enter our fantastic competition to win a custom table tennis table for your organisation? All you have to do is design a special #TableTennisDay character – f You will be able to follow all the build-up to the day on our website and on social media – look out for the #TableTennisDay hashtag on Twitter.

There's just over two months to go, so let's get cracking and make it a day to remember across England!

Paul Stimpson

Finally, A few things that made me laugh or that I wish I had thought of first



PING!
BOURNEMOUTH

HELP

NEEDED!

THIS SUMMER

Ping! are filling the streets of the city with loads of ping pong tables for everyone to enjoy and play on for free!

HELP NEEDED

We're after enthusiastic volunteers to help make Ping! happen, from running social ping pong events to getting people to pick up a bat and play - you'll be a great help



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YOU MUST ➔ BE OVER 16

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➔ TRAVEL EXPENSES

TO HELP, PLEASE CONTACT...

Lee Monk
Development Officer: South West
Table Tennis England

Email: lee.monk@tabletennisengland.co.uk
Phone: 07561 112817

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