



# CIPPENHAM NEWS

Official Newsletter of Cippenham Table Tennis Club : July 2024 : No. 248

## Sai is U10 national champion!

**S**ai Prasanna Kumar is England's new Under-10 Boys' Singles champion. The 10-years old Cippenham protege, who lives within walking distance of the Club, enhanced his growing reputation still further by adding his first national title to an array of other dazzling performances during a season when he became by far the youngest-ever winner of the singles title at the Maidenhead Closed Championships.

Sai cruised through his preliminary round group in the event at Wolverhampton, winning his four matches with ease. He then had another easy win in the quarter-final before facing his stiffest test in the semis. Sai dropped his only games of the event in this match, the second and fourth, in a tight match against Jayden Chen, before demolishing his final opponent, Daniel Pavia, 11-7, 11-2, 11-8, to clinch the coveted national title.

One day earlier, Sai had nearly caused an upset in the older Under-11 singles competition. He dropped just two games in his four matches to ease through the preliminary group and then dispatched both opponents in the first round and quarter-final 3-0. However, the semi-final was a step too far as Li Hao Chen defeated the Cippenham youngster 11-8 in the fifth game to deny Sai a place in the final.

Sai is the third Cippenham player to win the national under-10 singles title. Bradley Evans was the first, back in 1998-9, and then his brother Gavin went on to win the same age-group event a staggering three times in a row from 2000-1 to 2002-3. Gavin later went on to become European champion at both under-12 and under-15 level and is currently coach of the England men's team.



Sai in action at the national U10-13 Championships. Photo from TTE website by Michael Loveder

## 10 teams entered for British League

### Senior British League:

**Team 1:** Martin Adams; Martin Gray; Robert Hansell; Andy Norwood; Shae Thakker; Tom Windram

**Team 2:** Jaiden Caldeira; Rachael Iles; Anna Piercey; William Saint; Jamie Woodford

### Veterans' British League:

**Men 1:** Martin Adams; David Barr; Robert Hansell; Andy Trott

**Men 2:** Paul Baker; Samson Bekele; Hari Gehlot; Steve Joel; Steve Munson

**Women:** Julie Dean; Sue Hayes; Mary Heffernan; Denise Weller

### Women's British League:

**Team 1:** Rachael Iles; Mia Lakhani; Anna Piercey

**Team 2:** Antonina Bohach; Julie Dean; Mary Heffernan; Jemma Walker; Denise Weller

### Junior British League:

**Boys 1:** Nick Carter; George Driscoll; William Saint; Jamie Woodford

**Boys 2:** Louis Alexander; Matt Ley; Bharath Prasanna Kumar; Sai Prasanna Kumar

**Girls:** Rachael Iles; Mia Lakhani; Anna Piercey

## International honours for Anna and William

**A**нна Piercey and William Saint became the latest international players from the Club when they both appeared for England B in the Senior Schools International in the Isle of Man at the end of June. Both players gained a bronze medal as their teams lost in their respective semi-finals but then won their 3rd/4th playoff matches. Congratulations to both.

The boys' team lost to England A while the girls lost to Ireland but then beat Scotland.



## Bharath is the new Club Champ



The senior events of the 2024 Club Championships are now complete, having been played over three consecutive Thursday evenings in May. Each of the four events provided a different winner but, as the Open Singles was dominated by junior players, it remains to be seen whether the Junior Singles, to be played later, will provide an additional name. Such is the quantity of exceptional young players at the Club presently that any one of about eight players could prevail and this suggests that a fifth different winner is quite likely.

The senior events commenced with the Veterans' Singles, for the over forties, and the Tweenies' Singles for players between junior and veterans' status. The older age group had an entry of twelve players while only three contested the Tweenies in which Michal Garski defended his title from last year with Maciej Burczyk the runner-up.

The Veterans' Singles was more keenly contested with the four group winners being Alan Moss, Bas Mocharrarie, defending champion Maciej Dlugozima and Sue Hayes. While Alan and Maciej were comfortable winners of their groups, Sue took five games to dispose

of Albert Cheung, who also had a five-gamer against Keith Hall, and Bas needed five games to defeat Peter Chipperton, who in turn also needed five to get the better of Marek Kik. While Bas beat Sue comfortably 3-0 in their semi-final, Maciej had to work harder to see off Alan's challenge 3-1. Maciej won the final, defending his title, after three close games against Bas.

The following week it was the turn of the doubles event. Martin Adams and Hari Gehlot put in a rare appearance on this occasion as they were practising for the weekend's VETTS National Masters competition. Martin and Hari duly won their group although runners-up Maciej Dlugozima and Bas Mocharrarie did take a game off them. Rachael Iles and Anna Piercey, the defending champions, also won their group, despite dropping one game to Jarek Skowera and Marek Kik, but the runners-up in that group were the young Prasanna Kumar brothers, Bharath and Sai. The semi-final between Rachael and Anna and Maciej and Bas was a close call with the girls winning in five while Martin and Hari had it slightly easier against Bharath and Sai, winning 3-1. The final was more straight-forward

with the more experienced Martin and Hari winning 3-0.

The final day's play was for the Championship Singles. With only the four group winners going forward into the semi-finals there were bound to be some fancied players left behind. Maciej Dlugozima was one of those as the veterans' champion lost out to 14 years-old Bharath Prasanna Kumar 3-2, 10 years-old Sai Prasanna Kumar, who sensationally won the Maidenhead Closed title a couple of months ago, was another as he lost, also in five, to Troy Williams, while the Tweenies' Singles champion Michal Garski was eliminated by Rachael Iles. Anna Piercey was the other group winner although she was twice taken to a fourth game. The last four standing were therefore all juniors.

Thereafter it was a case of 3-0 victories throughout as Bharath beat Anna and Rachael beat Troy in their respective semi-finals before Bharath sealed the title with a most emphatic win against Rachael.

**Note:** the Junior Singles event will take place on Wednesday 10 July.

## Jyothi and Randall join Committee

Two new members were elected to the Management Committee at the Annual General meeting, bringing the number up to a record thirteen members. All the existing eleven members were re-elected and the two newcomers are Jyothi Puttaswamy and Randall Rodrigues. Jyothi will be well known to Club members as she often assists her son Arjun in his role as Duty Officer at practice evenings. She is also known to weekend visitors to the Club as she is often on hand to provide refreshments, a task which she has been performing at SBL, NJL and NCL days for a couple of years. Randall plays in one of the Club's teams in the Maidenhead League, and a regular at Club practice sessions. We hope they both enjoy an interesting and rewarding time on the Club's Committee.

Two of the existing Management Committee members took on hitherto vacant officer roles. Sue Hayes, a vastly experienced administrator over about three decades, took on the role of Events Officer and will mastermind the Club's programme of open tournaments. Martin Adams, our SBL captain, took on the additional role of Social Officer, a role he has been working towards with his successful organization of social events over the past couple of years.

The meeting also adopted the Annual Report written by Club Secretary Graham Trimming. In the 16-page document, Graham covered all aspects of the Club's activities and paid tribute to the volunteers who assist the club on a daily basis. He reported on the 50th anniversary celebrations last summer, success of many of the Club's teams in various competitions, the continued growth in numbers at practice and coaching sessions and heralded the newly-crowned national Under-10 Boys' Singles champion, Sai Prasanna Kumar.

As Treasurer, Graham also presented the Financial Statements which showed a deficit over the past twelve months of operation.

### Summer shutdown

Please note that the Club will be closed for a period of time in the summer holidays as the light fittings are to be replaced. Exact dates will follow in due course.



Jyothi Puttaswamy



Randall Rodrigues

### Who's Who at Cippenham?

#### The Management Committee:

**Ken Phillips:** Chairman; Coaching Officer; Head Coach; JBL Captain/Secretary; WBL Captain/Secretary; NJL Captain/Secretary; NCL Captain/Secretary; British League Weekend Referee; Weekday Duty Manager; Calendar Sub-Committee; NJL/NCL Duty Officer

**Graham Trimming:** General Secretary; Treasurer; Committee Secretary; Membership Secretary; Press Secretary; Newsletter Editor; Webmaster; Maidenhead League Selection Committee; British League Weekend Organiser; Calendar Sub-Committee

**Elena Tant:** Deputy Chairman; Bookings Officer; Calendar Coordinator/Sub-Committee; Maidenhead League Captain/Secretary/Selection Committee; Club Championships Organiser

**Sue Hayes:** Events Officer; Welfare Officer; Calendar Sub-Committee; Westgate School Liaison

**Martin Adams:** Social Officer; SBL Captain/Secretary; Festive Evening Organiser

**David Tant:** Facilities Manager; Health & Safety Advisor; Maidenhead League Selection Committee

**Randall Rodrigues:** Volunteer Champion; Maidenhead League Selection Committee

**Tim Kiteley:** Westgate School Liaison; Members' Supply Agent; Club Supply Agent

**Steve Piercey:** Catering Liaison

**Keith Hall**

**Elroy Hull**

**Jyothi Puttaswamy**

**Sunjay Thakker**

#### Other volunteers:

**Paul Baker:** VBL Captain/Secretary

**Denise Weller:** WBL Captain/Secretary; VBL Captain/Secretary; VETTS O60 Comp Captain/Secretary

Maidenhead league team captain and Organisers and Referees of open tournaments are yet to be appointed

#### Paid appointments:

**Arjun Prasanna Kumar:** Weekday Duty Officer

## Fee increases for 2024-25

Following the large deficit incurred last season and the growing pain of cost of living increases, which the Club is not immune from (heating, lighting, insurance, equipment, TTE fees, etc), the Management Committee has agreed the following modest increases in fees from 1 September 2024. This is the first increase since 2012!

**Annual membership:** £20 (from £18) with concessions £10 (£9). Family membership remains at £30

**Practice fees:** members £4.50 (£4.00) with concessions £2.50 (£2.00); non-members £6.00 (£5.50) with concessions £3.00 (£2.75)

**MDTTA match fees:** £4.50 (£4.00) with concessions £2.50 (£2.00); registration remains free

**Coaching:** Monday £30 per term (£25); Wednesday £40 per term (£35)

**BL registration:** £48 (£42); match fees remain £5.00

# CIPPENHAM NEWS

## Key Club Contacts

**Chairman, Head Coach & Coaching Officer**  
Ken Phillips : 07951 781151

**General Secretary & Treasurer**  
Graham Trimming : 07903 335367

**Deputy Chairman, Bookings Officer & Maidenhead League Captain**  
Elena Tant: 07946 227098

**Events Officer & Welfare Officer**  
Sue Hayes: 07716 821171

**Volunteer Champion**  
Randall Rodrigues: 07311 137669

## Weekend Diary

Dates for next season will appear here in due course

## Dates for Club Championships

**Wednesday 10 July: Junior Singles**

No prior booking required, just turn up and report for the usual coachind start time

## Weekday Timetable

<b>Mon</b>	18:00	Beginners' Coaching Group ( <i>term time</i> )
	19:45	Advanced Coaching Group ( <i>term time</i> )
<b>Tues</b>	19:15	Maidenhead League matches ( <i>seasonal</i> )
	19:15	Practice tables
<b>Weds</b>	19:30	Elite Coaching Group ( <i>term time</i> )
<b>Thurs</b>	19:15	Maidenhead League matches ( <i>seasonal</i> )
	19:15	Practice tables

## Election Day

Please note that the Club is being used as a polling station on Thursday 4 July and will therefore be closed for practice on that evening.

## Sign up for MDTTA

Anyone wishing to play for Cippenham in the Maidenhead League is invited to complete the sign-up form which can be found on the Club's website.

The responses will be used by the Selection Sub-Committee to formulate the teams that will represent the Club in the League this season, 2024-25, so please all get your responses in by the middle of August at the latest.

## Fees Season 2023-24

	<b>Full</b>	<b>Conc'n</b>
Annual Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£18.00	£9.00
Family Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£30.00	n/a
National Junior League registration	n/a	£12.00
National Cadet League registration	n/a	£12.00
Practice Fees	£4.00	£2.00
British League match fees	£5.00	
Maidenhead League Match Fees	£4.00	£2.00
Coaching Fees (Monday) (per term )		£25.00
Coaching Fees (Wednesday) (per term )		£35.00

## Ordering kit and equipment through Tees Sport

The Club has a new agreement Tees Sport and as part of this members can obtain a discount on table tennis equipment.

This can be bats, clothing (including the official Cippenham shirt) etc.

If you are interested in placing an order, please contact the Club's agent **Tim Kiteley** by email ([tim.kiteley@cantab.net](mailto:tim.kiteley@cantab.net)) or in person at the Club.



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## Cippenham Table Tennis Club

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