

Carmarthen Table Tennis Club

TABLE TENNIS REPORT FOR CARMARTHENSHIRE HERALD



FRIDAY 29TH APRIL 2016 EDITION

Carmarthen Table Tennis Club E are Tudor Jones Cup champions, defeating Division One champions Penlan F 12-7 in the final held at Carmarthen Leisure Centre. The E team trio of John Finnemore, Joe Clayton and Rob Clayton are the fourth Carmarthen TTC winners of the competition, following Carmarthen C who first lifted the trophy in 1996/97, the D team who were champions in 2004/05 and Carmarthen A who lifted the trophy in 2009/10.

In a closely fought contest Penlan F - represented by Tony Holt, Sami Jabar and Colin Towell - were conceding an eight point per game handicap to their Carmarthen opponents. This did not stop the Swansea-based team fighting hard and many games went to 20-20 before being fought out a point at a time.

Going into the eighth game Penlan F remained just four points behind Carmarthen E and needed to win both of the last two sets 2-0 to get a draw and force a doubles play-off. In a close first leg

Tony Holt (Penlan) took the point 22-20 before Joe Clayton (Carmarthen) gathered his composure and won the second leg to ensure Carmarthen E took the match. The third leg also went to Clayton as Holt recognised it was all over. Joe Clayton was the top scorer, winning all three sets for match figures of 6-2.

Carmarthen E's six match winning run in Division One of the Swansea & District League came to an end as they were narrowly defeated 19-21 by Penlan G in their final outing of the season. The E's currently lie seventh and are now certain to avoid relegation, their total of 374 points from 22 contests meaning they can finish no lower than ninth position.

FRIDAY 22ND APRIL 2016 EDITION

Carmarthen E continued their superb run of form in Division One of the Swansea & District Table Tennis League with a 25-12 victory over Betws Rugby Club B, skipper John Finnemore starring with a 9-3 maximum. The E team have turned their season around in sensational fashion, winning six consecutive matches having previously only won one out of their first fifteen, to pull clear of the relegation battle with one match of the 2015/16 season remaining. Carmarthen E currently sit in eighth spot out of twelve teams in Division One and - with the bottom two teams to be relegated to Division Two - should now finish no lower than ninth position.

Title-chasing Carmarthen F were without a match in Division Two and wins for promotion rivals Penlan H and Penlan L saw the F's temporarily slip down to fourth place. However, with between one and four games in hand over the three sides above them, the F team remain favourites to take the Division Two championship.

FRIDAY 15TH APRIL 2016 EDITION

With the Premier Division of the Swansea & District Table Tennis League finished the spotlight falls on Divisions One and Two in which several matches are still to be played.

Carmarthen F continued their march towards the Division Two title with a 30-2 crushing of ninth-placed Penyrheol E. Promotion to Division One now looks a certainty and only Penlan H are still in with a slim chance of preventing the F's from going up as champions in their first competitive season.

Carmarthen E were without a game and currently lie eighth in the Division One table - their highest position of the season - with two matches remaining, and their strong performance over recent weeks means they are increasingly confident of avoiding relegation.

Carmarthen E have also reached the Final of The Tudor Jones Cup which is to be held on Tuesday April 19th at Carmarthen Leisure Centre. The E's opponents are Division One leaders Penlan F. The match starts at 7:30 pm and spectators are welcome.

Even though the 2015-16 league season is drawing to a close Carmarthen Table Tennis Club will still hold weekly club nights between 7 and 10 pm on Thursdays at Carmarthen Leisure Centre throughout the year. New members of any standard are always welcome.

FRIDAY 8TH APRIL 2016 EDITION

The Premier Division of the Swansea & District Table Tennis League saw its closest finish for many years, with just seven points separating the top four teams at the end of the 22 match season. Carmarthen A narrowly missed out on a top-two spot, despite a final day 27-11 win against Carmarthen B, but equalled the club record with a third-placed finish, last achieved by the same squad in 2012/13. The A's ended the current campaign on 501 points, just four behind champions Penlan A and a single point behind second-placed Cam Gears A. Carmarthen B ended the season in a commendable fifth position on 461 points.

Last year's Division One champions Carmarthen C survived their debut season in the top flight, coming tenth on 323 points, a comfortable 49 points above the relegation zone. The C's won their final match 26-9 against a two-man Penlan C, Neil Hulme scoring a 9-1 maximum with wins over Richard Eastwood (3-0) and Jacob Young (3-1). Simon Packer added a 6-3 total via a 3-0 win against Eastwood and a loss by the same score to Young and reserve Ryan Trigg totalled 8-5, losing 2-3 to Young and winning 3-2 against Eastwood. Carmarthen pair Hulme and Packer won the opening doubles set 3-0 versus Young and Eastwood.

Carmarthen D, also making their Premier Division debut following promotion last term, came last with 266 points, eight behind Tata Port Talbot A, with both sides relegated to Division One. The D's were beaten 7-27 by Betws A on the last day of the season, Paul Tansley picking up a 5-6 match score from a 3-0 victory over Darren Beer, a 0-3 loss to Cath Jones and a narrow 2-3 loss to Nigel Stopher (Tansley having led 2-0). Darren Cross lost 0-3 to Jones and Beer and gained a point from a 1-3 defeat by Stopher and Rob Wilkins was beaten 0-3 in all three sets. Tansley and Wilkins lost 1-3 to Jones and Stopher in the doubles.

Carmarthen E continued their excellent late-season form with wins over two of their relegation rivals to make Division One survival a near-certainty, firstly defeating Penyrheol C 21-18 then winning 25-17 against Penyrheol B, in which Joe Clayton took a 9-3 maximum for the E's.

Carmarthen F thrashed Division Two title rivals Penlan H 27-8, Ryan Trigg and Kurtis Marsh both scoring 9-0 maximums and Stephen Lawrance adding a 6-8 score, a result which makes the F's hot favourites to win the division and gain promotion to Division One in their debut league season.

FRIDAY 1ST APRIL 2016 EDITION

Going into the final week of the season, the title race in the Premier Division of the Swansea & District Table Tennis League is the closest it has been for many years, with only seven points separating the top four teams. Carmarthen A are in third place, four points behind leaders Penlan A and three behind Cam Gears A, though Penlan A look to be favourites to retain their title as they play bottom-two outfit Tata Port Talbot A in their final contest whereas Carmarthen A have to negotiate a tricky derby match against fifth-placed Carmarthen B, realistically needing to gain close to a maximum 30 points to stand a chance of a club record top two finish.

In the penultimate round of matches Carmarthen B lost 14-24 to Penlan B. For the B's Micky Marsh scored 5-7, losing to Charles Leg (2-3) and Kevin Gertsen (0-3) but beating Tamlyn Eastwood (3-1). Sven Severeysn totalled 5-8 by beating Eastwood 3-2 and losing 1-3 to both Legge and Gertsen. Stan Eastwood was only able to accumulate 2 points in a 2-9 defeat losing to all three Penlan B players albeit narrowly. Marsh and Severeysn won the doubles set 3-0.

Carmarthen A thrashed Carmarthen C 30-1, Tim Evans, Jason Peckham and David Lloyd each hitting nine point

maximums for the title-chasing A team. Despite the heavy loss, the C's are effectively safe from relegation to Division One, needing just four points from their final match to guarantee safety even if rivals Tata Port Talbot A were to gain a highly unlikely 30 point maximum from their contest against league leaders Penlan A.

Carmarthen D lost 11-27 to title challengers Cam Gears A, Paul Tansley top-scoring for the D's with a 6-8 individual match score from losses to Ceri Higgon (1-3) and Morgan Siddley (2-3) and a 3-2 victory over Martin Jenkins. Rob Wilkins lost to 0-3 to Higgon and Siddley and won 3-1 versus Jenkins for a 3-7 total while Darren Cross lost to Ceri Higgon (0-3), Morgan Siddley (1-3) and Martin Jenkins (1-3).to score 2-9. Wilkins and Tansley lost 0-3 to Higgon and Siddley in the doubles set. The D's are now relegated to Division One but can still catch Tata Port Talbot A and avoid the wooden spoon.

Carmarthen E continued their good recent form in Division One with a 24-20 win versus Cam Gears C, John Finnemore scoring 8-4 and Joe Clayton 8-6 for the E's who are now looking in good shape to avoid the drop back down to Division Two.
