

## Alain Playing With New Year Resolution

The TT Matchplay process got back underway in good style for 2019 at Collyer's on Friday. All 10 tables were in constant use for two hours, one of them allowing young coach and high level junior player, Jacob Evans, to provide an individual training service for clients keen to improve with focussed support. First client Zaib Rehman-Furs had a great and beneficial time although was inevitably tired at the end of his endeavours.

In the competition arena the players were split into two groups. Jude Lane was the star of Group B winning all of his matches although Billingshurst lad Harry Llewellyn took a set off him and debut dad Brian Cort pushed him to five sets before succumbing drawing on racket guile honed in his squash exploits of the past. Cort senior came second out of eight overall to make a positive mark in his new sport whilst son Adam won three to finish fifth. Steve Ledger won four of his five as further indication of his solid progress, only Lane managing to defeat him although Llewellyn pushed him close in another match that went the distance. Llewellyn had to settle for fourth spot win a 43% win rate although, as alluded above, things could have much better for the left hander but for close margin defeats. Leon Lukose won two and Charlie P beat Bilal Rehman-Furs to condemn the latter to table propping-up status for this week.

Group A had some well contested matches too. Alain Shibu had a much better night than his previous outing winning seven out of 10 including some really good scalps. Alain's older brother Aalrin normally vies neck and neck with him but on this occasion he was well behind, only winning two. Ian Ford won all of his matches in straight sets but this masks the fact that he was put under pressure by a number of players. At the moment his tricky serve variations are able to dig him out of holes but it won't be long before this advantage starts to diminish so he should enjoy this edge whilst it lasts. Fellow organiser Tat On Man also won all his games bar the encounter with Ford to finish second, although Rahil Rehman-Furs managed to take him into a deciding third set despite the up and coming youngster having a disappointing night by his standards, only winning two.

Oskar Crook and Matt McAlpine are mates that normally finish close in the standings. On this occasion it was Crook who prevailed with a 38% win rate seeing him through to sixth place whilst Maccer came eight with 25%. Those positions would have been reversed but for Crook winning 2-1 when the two met. Colin McAlpine had a more productive night than his son, winning 4, including household bragging rights for the week with a 2-0 win in the race to the Alpine peak. Chris Goodier continued to show his quality by cutting through all opponents 2-0 aside from the top 2, to finish third. Goodier is also a good tennis player along with his mate Ollie Pepper and the sight of the two playing their TT match is quite a strange one as they both have a tendency for playing two-handed backhands. Pepper struggled in the ping this week only gaining one win over Aalrin but he has more ability than he realises if he can just make one or two small adjustments in his play. Great to see another local tennis star, Zak Bull, making a TT Matchplay showing too but with one win, over Pepper, out of his 8 attempts he also illustrated that the transfer from court to table is not always a straight-forward one to make, although no doubt the Bullster is further up the learning curve as a result of his latest efforts.

SCROLL DOWN FOR RESULT GRIDS

**GROUP A**

	Oskar Crook	Matt McAlpine	Tat On Man	Ian Ford	Rahil Reh-Furs	Chris Goodier	Ollie Pepper	Colin McAlpine	Zak Bull	Alain Shibu	Aalrin Shibu	
Oskar Crook		<b>2-1</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>0-2</b>	-	<b>0-2</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-1</b>	-	<b>0-2</b>	<b>2-0</b>	W3 - 38% 6 <sup>th</sup>
Matt McAlpine			<b>0-2</b>	<b>0-2</b>	-	<b>0-2</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>0-2</b>	-	<b>0-2</b>	<b>2-1</b>	W2 - 25% 8 <sup>th</sup>
Tat On Man				<b>0-2</b>	<b>2-1</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	-	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	W8 - 89% 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Ian Ford					<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	W10 - 100% 1 <sup>st</sup>
Rahil Reh-Furs						<b>0-2</b>	-	<b>2-1</b>	<b>2-1</b>	<b>1-2</b>	<b>0-2</b>	W2 - 29% 7 <sup>th</sup>
Chris Goodier							<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>	W8 - 80% 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Ollie Pepper								<b>0-2</b>	<b>1-2</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>2-0</b>	W1 - 11% 11 <sup>th</sup>
Colin McAlpine									<b>2-1</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>2-0</b>	W4 - 44% 5 <sup>th</sup>
Zak Bull										<b>0-2</b>	<b>1-2</b>	W1 - 13% 10 <sup>th</sup>
Alain Shibu											<b>2-1</b>	W7 - 70% 4 <sup>th</sup>
Aalrin Shibu												W2 - 20% 9 <sup>th</sup>

**GROUP B**

	Charlie P	Adam Cort	Bilal Rehman-Furs	Steve Ledger	Jude Lane	Harry Llewellyn	Brian Cort	Leon Lukose	
Charlie P		<b>0-3</b>	<b>3-0</b>	-	<b>0-3</b>	<b>0-3</b>	<b>0-3</b>	<b>2-3</b>	W1 - 17% 7 <sup>th</sup>
Adam Cort			<b>3-0</b>	<b>1-3</b>	<b>0-3</b>	<b>2-3</b>	<b>0-3</b>	<b>3-0</b>	W3 - 43% 5 <sup>th</sup>
Bilal Rehman-Furs				<b>0-3</b>	<b>0-3</b>	<b>2-3</b>	<b>1-3</b>	<b>2-3</b>	W0 - 0% 8 <sup>th</sup>
Steve Ledger					<b>0-3</b>	<b>3-2</b>	-	<b>3-0</b>	W4 - 80% 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Jude Lane						<b>3-1</b>	<b>3-2</b>	<b>3-0</b>	W7 - 100% 1 <sup>st</sup>
Harry Llewellyn							<b>0-3</b>	<b>1-0</b>	W4 - 58% 4 <sup>th</sup>
Brian Cort								<b>3-0</b>	W5 - 83% 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Leon Lukose									W2 - 29% 6 <sup>th</sup>