

Ron Fosker

for w/b 27.12.09

table tennis

Bocking's hold on the Braintree Table Tennis League title is looking even stronger this week after their two closest rivals cancelled each other out.

Netts A and Black Notley A fought out a draw in which both the Hayden brothers lost their unbeaten records to town champion Paul Davison.

Ian took him the closest, losing out only at 12-10 in the fifth game, while Peter, with a run of 17 wins behind him, had his chance to win in four games but perished 11-9, 5-11, 6-11, 12-10, 11-5.

The Haydens also lost a tight doubles set at 11-9 in the fifth.

Both teams picked up a more substantial haul of points in their next matches.

Netts beat Liberal A 8-2, losing out only in the doubles and Larte Lawson's defeat by Mike Johnston.

Notley went one better, a 9-1 win over Pillar House A where Ryan Pitt was the one to spoil the clean sheet with a win over Trevor Carter.

Rayne A continue to challenge them for the runners-up berth after a 10-0 win over their own C team.

Rayne E extended their lead at the top of division two after a 7-3 win over Notley D despite having to field a reserve. Simon Fleming and Phil Wade accounted for all seven wins.

Second-placed Rayne D had to work harder for their six points against their own F team. Mo Hardy turned out for the second time this season and for the second time this season won his three singles.

Sible Hedingham moved to within one point of Rayne D after an 8-2 win over Netts B. Roy Hooper and Mark Brown were undefeated.

But Netts B managed to get the better of Notley D thanks largely to three wins from Ben Page.

Liberal B could only rustle up two players to take the trip to Great Cornard but between them Trevor Laird and Dave Hardy had too much for Nomads. Barrie Applegate's win over Hardy produced a 6-4 scoreline.

White Lions B turned the division three title race on its head when they racked up an impressive 8-2 win over their own A team.

For the first time this season, Steve Ascott had a better evening than son Stuart, taking his three singles while Stuart and Keith Perrins won twice.

Rayne G could not capitalise against a two-person Notley H. John Breen won his three singles for Notley and took the doubles with Keir Hughes to reduce Rayne's win to 6-4.

Notley E also had only two players to face their own G team but three wins from Will Jackson led them to a draw.