

Players are reminded that entries for the individual championships must be with competition secretary Tim Huxtable by February 7.

After a slow start to the season, White Lions B have hit the home straight with an important win in division three of the Braintree Table Tennis League.

Their victory over erstwhile leaders Pillar House B took them 12 points clear at the top and although Pillar House have a match in hand they will have their work cut out to claw the lead back in their last six matches.

It was Pillar House's first defeat of the season, apart from a match awarded against them for an administrative slip-up, and it also marked the end of Adam Cliff's long unbeaten run.

Cliff won all 20 sets up to Christmas but the new year did not start well for him when he encountered both Steve Ascott and Keith Perrins in good form.

He was, however, the only one of his team to beat Stuart Ascott.

Derek Agent won two singles for Pillar House but two each for the Ascotts led Lions to a 6-4 victory.

At the other end of the table Black Notley G and Rayne H played out a draw. Ian Wallace was unbeaten for Notley.

In division two, it was Richard Whiteside's record that took a dent. Beaten only twice before Christmas and top of the individual ratings, he found 13-year-old Ben Page too much for him in Rayne E's 8-2 win over Netts B.

As the scoreline indicates, Page did not have it all his own way. For the second time this season, he could not find a way through Phil Wade's defences.

Second-placed Rayne D moved a point closer after a 9-1 win over Black Notley D whose consolation was a good win for Helen Barnett over Cec Butcher.

Three wins each for Trevor Laird and Paul Lombardi led Liberal B to an 8-2 win over Rayne F.