

KUTC 2017/18 tournaments

The Kerry Dear tournament was held in November and took its usual form of pairing entrants on a top and tail basis with a view to achieving even pairings. It attracted a large entry of 22 people or 11 pairs, each of whom played three matches of 20 minutes duration against other pairs. The objective was to accumulate as many points (table tennis scoring) as possible over the three matches, with wins or losses being of no account. The winners by a wide margin were Simon Richardson and Alison Phua with 89 points followed by Diona Juriss and Maria Soteris with 75 points and Sarah Wala and Debz Bogner with 74 points. The merit of this simple format is that there is likely to be a winner and runner-up without any play-offs being necessary.

The Val Dickson Cup tournament was held in February. In the past this Cup has been competed for by less experienced players who would be less likely to enter the Rose Bowl Tournament. However, since there were no entries for it in the previous year, the committee decided to hold a tournament similar to Gay's fun tournaments. Pairings for each match were decided by random choice of counters and each match was played out to 31 points. The winner or winners were to be the players accumulating the most points over three matches. After all the matches had been played, only two people, Peter Browne and Maria Soteris, had won all three of their matches, accumulating 63 points each. A play-off would have been problematical with random pairings so the trophy was awarded to Peter and Maria jointly.

The Rose Bowl tournament was held in March. The format is different from the Kerry Dear tournament in that entrants are paired in accordance with names drawn "out of a hat" and the pairs are then assigned a handicap if considered necessary to even out perceived pair strengths. There were 20 entrants with 10 pairs resulting. The objective in this tournament was to win matches (first to 31 with no advantage) with points being not important. Again each pair played three matches with those pairs having three wins playing off for the Rose Bowl and those pairs with two wins playing off for the Murgatroyd Plate.

After three matches, three pairs, Pip Groom and Diona Juriss, Ian Appleton and Debz Bogner, and Susie Tocker and Sara Jones had three wins. By lot, Pip and Diona drew a bye, with Ian and Debz beating Susie and Sara in the semi-final. The trophy final between Pip and Diona, and Ian and Debz, was a close thriller with all the tournament players watching and cheering shots. Ian and Debz finally came home by 31 - 28.

The Murgatroyd Plate similarly had three pairs in contention, being Tim Brosnahan and Gay Monk, Richard Yuschik and Paula Baynes, and Peter Browne and Lesley Cicone. Peter and Lesley drew the bye. Tim and Gay beat Richard and Paula in the semi-final and went on to comfortably beat Peter and Lesley in the final by 31 - 23.

Club Championships and Over 40's Tournaments

In addition to the Midweek tournaments described above, there was participation by members of the Midweek section in both KUTC's Club Championships and Over 40s Championships with some Midweek members having success. In the *Club Championships*, Glenda van Drimmelen won two doubles titles, combining with Janina Pawlak to win the women's doubles and with Rob Taylor to win the mixed doubles. Shelley Best combined with Miett Fear to be runners-up in the women's doubles while Pip Groom combined with Greg Lynch to be runners-up in the mixed doubles plate.

In the *Over 40s Championships*, Glenda combined with Ruth Carruthers to win the women's doubles, and with Kevin Wilson to win the mixed doubles. Diona Juriss and Deb Petersen

were runners-up in the women's doubles plate. Peter Browne combined with Marc Piercey to win the men's doubles plate.