

League Match Secretary Report – End of Season 2020

2020 has been an extremely challenging year for us all and from a tennis perspective very much a On or Off season. The first lock-down came at the end of March ending our hopes of any S & D League competitive team tennis starting on schedule. Maintaining an objective to facilitate some competitive tennis when restrictions permitted and considering some clubs may not be able to field their regular teams. The Executive Committee canvassed all S & D League clubs about a friendly league with a no promotion or demotion format, thus allowing teams to keep their 2019 season position for the 2021 season.

Uptake was positive with 10 clubs out of 20 wishing to take part. The Friendly League was made up of 4 divisions instead of the regular 9. Each division having 8 teams, consisting of 2 men and 2 ladies. The League rules were reviewed to accommodate the temporary changes and a provisional starting date of mid-July was pencilled in.

After a prolonged delay, the Friendly League finally got under way week commencing Monday 10th August. The first few weeks ran smoothly but for several teams failing to verify results or in the odd case fail to enter results completely, resulting in my e-mail box or my phonenumber being busy. I am pleased to report matters did improve. By week 4/5 it became apparent the facility to add unknown player names by individual team captains as well as from the administration side, was not working. This problem remained unresolved, despite Christian Bryan (LPM) making several contacts with the website provider. My thanks to the team captain's patience and assistance in adding names in the comment box for record. The ever-growing list of player names were finally added at week 11. Sadly, during week 10 the government called a 2nd 'lock down' resulting in postponement and any outstanding matches for that week entered as a draw.

At the Executive Committee meeting 20th Jan 2021, owing to the current 3rd 'lockdown' the decision to abandon the Friendly League was agreed. Prizes will be awarded at the planned annual 2021 Presentation Night, details yet to be confirmed and of course subject to restrictions. Based on the results at week 10, please see the table below for winners and runners' ups.

	1 st	2 nd
Division 1	Mawdesley 1	Aughton 1
Division 2	Argyle 3	Argyle 2
Division 3	Hillside 2	Ormskirk 4
Division 4	Formby 4	Hillside 4

Jeanette Heague

League Match Secretary.