



Empire Newsletter

JULY 2019

Welcome to another update from the Club, highlighting upcoming events and news.

Coming up

Wellington Open

This is the big event on the local calendar for our players, plus there is a good chance there will be players from outside of our region competing also. To be a success for Wellington, we need support and hope to see you there, either as a player entering one or more events or as a spectator. As usual the Empire catering service will operate - toasted sandwiches, rolls, fruit and of course - slices (already in preparation in the freezer!). This revenue is useful to us, in terms of covering our costs and hopefully working towards a surplus at the end of the year.

Important information is this will be held on **Saturday 27th July and Sunday 28th July at Empire**. The following link provides all the details you need to know as far as playing is concerned and there will be entry forms available at the Club. [2019 New World Wellington City Table Tennis Wellington Open Championships](#)

Winter Interclub Series Two

This is coming up soon - with play expected to start Tuesday 6th August for Premier and Division Two and Wednesday 7th August for Division One and Three.

Premier players, like last year, there is a return to the three player format teams, preferably club based. Division One, Two and Three can you please advise if you would like to keep the same team for the next round - this can be good for consistency.

If you would like to play please email us by Monday 29th July, either as a team or an individual interclub@empirett.org.nz. If you know there are dates when you are not available to play please advise these too as it helps us to decide on 3 or 4 player teams, where there is a choice.

Membership and Subscriptions

To date this year our membership and subscription payment is up on last year. However we always welcome new members and returning members. There are a few players who are still attending club sessions from time to time who haven't as yet rejoined - hopefully they will.

Junior numbers on Friday nights have been slightly better, but there is definitely room for more players. We had two players representing us in Division Three Interclub in the first season and we are hoping for more this time. Let us know if you might be interested.

For more information on membership, remember to also direct people to our Website. and keep an eye on this yourselves! <http://www.empirett.org.nz/to-play.html>

Sometimes always never - Empire at the Movies

After a slow start with selling tickets, we ended up selling several at the last minute. However by then we were committed to the 45 seat theatre so two sales ended up being donations - thank you. It was a shame not to be able to move up to a larger theatre as we had plenty of time to sell this year and with that, the potential to raise more

funds. A big thank you to those who did support the event as every little bit in our Building Fund helps. And the movie by and large I think people enjoyed it - fairly slow moving though. However I think I can safely say that Bill Nighy did not disappoint.

Interclub

Series One of the Winter season has finished! We had a good number of Empire players in all grades - Premier to Division 3. A round robin was played in Premier to begin with and then the top 4 teams made Premier 1 and the other 6 Premier 2.

Premier 1. The UwU team of James Harter and Hui Ling Vong (Titan) came out top in the results from the final Round Robin, even though they lost the last match to the Titan Dreamers 3-2. Well done James and Hui-Ling, now proud possessors of the Brian Hearfield Cup! The second place team in the end was the Titan Tarantulas not the Dreamers as they had a better win /lose game ratio. An interesting season.

Premier 2 This round robin had two teams with 2 wins so far in the round robin and they were playing to determine the Winner. This battle between our Enforcers team of Depak Patel and Daniel Rosner against Titan Tomatoes saw the Enforcers emerge as clear victors - in fact they only lost 2 matches in the final 3 weeks of competition.

Premier grade champs had a good turn out with 12 players attend, 6 from Empire. After the initial Round Robin there was a top group, which saw Hui Ling beat Depak in the final. The consolation final had Harry Chen beat Titan's Michelle McCarthy in the final.

Division 1. At the end of the Round Robin, the Empire Enigmas team of Tony Rutledge, Simon Jung, Om Thakur and Ian Grace were in the top place. Their last game was against the young Titan Target team and Empire came out on top 8-3. In the final they were also up against this team again, with everyone being a week older and the Titan boys came out "firing on all cylinders" and won 7-4. An amazing effort from them and they now have the Chris Williams Cup. There were 7 players enter the grade champs in Division 1, with the consensus on the night to play the event as one round robin. Another hard fought competition with 1st place going to Tony Rutledge and 2nd to Michael Onganon.

Division 2. Right from the beginning one team shone out and that was the Waterloo Wolves. They finished top of the Round Robin and faced Karori Komets in the final. Karori gave it their best but lost 9-2. The grade champ night for this grade saw youth win out again. There were 8 players in the competition, 4 from Empire with Pete Lowe making the top four, finishing third (others all young players!). In the Consolation Maggie Dyer beat Graham Sole to take this.

Division 3. We had one team in this grade the Empire Echoes of Jake Turner and Storm Newton. They did well in their first season of interclub, but came up against some very strong opposition. They finished 4th this season.

Tournament Results

Wanganui Open

We had a couple of people travel to the Wanganui Open in May and they met with some success.

Open men's doubles: Winner -James Harter (with Sean Hansen)

Open women's singles: Runner-up - Lisa Yue

Open women's doubles: Winner - Lisa Yue (with Fiona (Ye) Zhai)

North Island Championships - Wanganui

And *hot off the press*...a good contingent of players from Wellington travelled up to Wanganui last weekend for the North Islands, including several Empire players. Congratulations to all our winners and it looks like a great effort from all players. Their results are as follows:

Over 50 mixed doubles: Gold- Heath Murdoch (with Sabine Westenra)
Over 50 men's doubles: Gold - Darrell Brown and Heath Murdoch
Over 50 men's singles: Gold- Depak Patel; Silver - Heath Murdoch
Over 40 men's singles: Gold - Depak Patel; Silver - Heath Murdoch
Over 40 men's doubles: Gold - Depak Patel and Daniel Rosner ; Silver - Darrell Brown and Harry Chen
Over 30 men's singles : Silver - Daniel Rosner
B grade doubles: Silver - Depak Patel and Daniel Rosner
D grade doubles: Silver - Andrew Maguire and Paul Solt
Under 13 boys' singles: Gold - Yufeng Wang
Under 13 boys doubles: Gold - Yufeng Wang (with Aaron Lan)

Other notable results from the weekend were:

Open men's singles - Depak Patel in the last 8 - beaten as a quarter finalist
Under 15 boys singles - Yufeng Wang in the last 8 - beaten as a quarter finalist
Over 30 men's doubles - Darrell Brown and Harry Chen - beaten semi-finalists
Over 40 men's singles - Zhidong Yu - beaten semi-finalist
Over 40 men's doubles - Heath Murdoch (with Larn Sweeney) - beaten semi-finalists
Over 50 men's singles - Zhidong Yu - beaten semi-finalist; Darrell Brown and Harry Chen beaten quarter-finalists
Over 50 men's doubles - Depak Patel and Zhidong Yu - beaten semi-finalists
B grade men's singles - Daniel Rosner - beaten semi-finalist; Heath Murdoch and Depak Patel - beaten quarter-finalists
D grade men's singles - Paul Solt - beaten semi-finalist

Thanks everyone for reading - remember this is also your space, so if there is some news you would like to share, let me know and I'll include in the next instalment.

In the meantime enjoy your table tennis!

Maggie Dyer

Membership and Communications