



## **Chippenham & District Mixed Tennis League**

A very difficult year for the mixed teams caused in many ways by a loss of a number of first and second team regular ladies. This meant that everybody had to step up a division or 2. However the season has seen a number of new ladies join which will certainly bode well for next season.

The only real success was the amazing performance of the Mixed A team in being able to secure a place in the Leagues Mixed knockout competition final. On a bitterly cold wet day Chippenham almost overcame a 35 game handicap and only just lost out by a handful of points to a very generously handicapped side from Urchfont.

The Mixed A team also somehow managed to maintain their place in Div 1 for next season which seemed very unlikely after 2/3rds of the season. With only 5 games left, rooted to the bottom of the table and with 4 of the last 5 games left being against the top 4 clubs the position appeared hopeless. However the team took up the cudgels and performed so well that winning 3 and drawing 2 meant that they managed to climb out of the relegation places. In fact the drive for safety was so strong that they only finished 7 sets behind the team in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Hope for next season.

Unfortunately the picture for the other teams was particularly gloomy. The B team unfortunately were relegated from Div 2, the C Team were relegated from Div 3. The D team managed to buck the trend by achieving a respectable and comfortable finish in Div 4. Finally as they say the newly formed E team were the strongest team in all the leagues as they were propping everybody up at the foot of Div 5. The only way as they say is up!!

### **Ted Daszkiewicz**

#### **Mixed 'B' report**

We had an enjoyable season with several new men in our club joining the team ably supporting the dwindling ladies! We didn't do very well points wise but certainly enjoyed the tennis and fabulous suppers.

My thanks to Ted (Mixed 'A' captain) and Ben (Mixed 'C' captain) for their support and encouragement, then Mark later on. There were often difficulties finding players and I would spend Sunday nights ringing one or all of the above. One of them commented "Sundays wouldn't be the same without Sue ringing" (To borrow players).

I haven't mentioned the weather; I think I'll just say that we had lots of it! Especially the wet stuff.

### **Sue Pulleyblank**