

DARWIN TABLE TENNIS WEEKLY

Volume 12 Issue 10 | Darwin Table Tennis Association Inc. | 2020 Season Two Competition

Round 10 · Results

A Grade		
Golden Pen Grippers	4 · 7	Void
Benfica	4 · 7	CDU
TAB 2	7 · 4	Rainbow 6

B Grade		
Jabiroos	6 · 5	Kea
Dragonflies	8 · 3	Giants
Mojo On	6 · 5	MIC

C Grade		
Sizzlers	8 · 3	3 Amigos
Grizzlies	7 · 4	River Rats
Thunder	8 · 3	Ring Ins

Round 10 · Report

A Grade

In the final round of the regular season, two teams faced off in a cut-throat contest, with *CDU* taking the final semi-final spot after crushing the hopes of a brave *Benfica* on Wednesday night. **TY Lee** starred in the must-win match, clinching three singles rubbers. He also assisted in both vital doubles three-set victories, which ended up being the difference between the two sides. **Graham Symons** found some form after outgunning the experienced **Joe Abrantes**, 7-11, 11-7, 11-4, 11-2.

In another match, *Void* finished the regular season on top of the ladder, besting the gallant *Golden Pen Grippers*, 7-4. **John Pudney** was instrumental in the win, claiming three singles. For the losing team, **Junfei Chen** had found the form that saw him become a formidable opponent last season, with five-set wins over **Brodrick On** and **Martin Feng**.

TAB 2 are looking ominous after they ended *Rainbow 6's* season. An improved **Zakelli Xie** was best-on-ground, winning three singles, including a fiery contest with **Sebastian Lai**, 11-3, 11-8, 8-11, 7-11, 11-6.

B Grade

Jabiroos have primed themselves for a finals assault after edging *Kea* in a competitive final round on Thursday night. **Michael Yaxley** won three singles in the 6-5 contest, taking out both **Katherine Pinzon** (9-11, 11-1, 11-7, 6-11, 11-9) and **Viqar Ali Khan** (11-7, 2-11, 7-11, 11-3, 11-5) in the process. Mick combined with **Shino Joy** to snatch a crucial doubles rubber over Katherine and Viqar, 11-9, 8-11, 11-9.

Dragonflies enjoyed a comfortable victory over the *Giants* to close out their regular season. **Jordan Lai** clinched three singles wins for the first time, which included outgunning **Bo Remenyi** (who beat him earlier in Round 5) in straight sets.

Mojo On survived a scare as they held off *MIC* and kept them winless after the final round. **Mo Zhong** was the superstar, digging deep to overcome **Jeremie Langlois** in a pivotal rubber, 11-13, 11-13, 11-7, 11-6, 11-7. **Ian Stimson** (*MIC*) signed off his season with three singles wins.

C Grade

Thunder have stormed to a commanding 8-3 win over *Ring Ins*, which propelled them into the semi-finals next week in the process, on Tuesday night. While **Graeme Perkins** won three singles, it was **Luca Lobo** who shocked all with three singles wins of his own, including an upset victory over top C Grade player, **Eric Catalbas**, 7-11, 4-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-9.

Sizzlers have wrapped up the minor premiership with a devastating win over the *3 Amigos*. The favourites for the trophy had a great warm-up for the semis, with **Zac Howe** and **John Juan** winning three singles each.

Lastly, the *Grizzlies* have knocked the *River Rats* out of the finals race with a comprehensive victory. **Rammani Phuyal** won a crucial rubber over **Rehan Palamattom** to end the contest, 11-9, 15-13, 4-11, 10-12, 11-9.

SEMI-FINALS NIGHT PREVIEW

All Grades, Wednesday 11th November 2020, from 7:30 pm

A Grade: Void v Golden Pen Grippers [Table 1]

Head-to-head this season: 2-0; Last meeting: Round 10 – Void won 7-4

Minor premiers, *Void*, meet the *Golden Pen Grippers* in the semi-finals, having just beaten them in the last round of Season Two. The favourites will look to repeat the final round result, with **John Pudney** a key player in this encounter. The doubles will be crucial for the underdogs, as **Pedro Lay** will be relying on the support from his comrades in what would be an uphill battle for the fourth-placed side. However, anything can happen as a certain fourth-placed team from last season, featuring Pedro, had an interesting result at this stage...

TAB 2 v CDU [Table 2]

Head-to-head this season: 0-2; Last meeting: Round 9 – CDU won 7-4

TAB 2 are a competitive team, where they have been in the top two on the ladder for the majority of the season. **TY Lee's CDU** have struggled to string together match wins, but have recently got themselves into the final four. Interestingly, two of the five wins *CDU* has had this season have been against their semi-final opponent. Watch out for *TAB 2's Zakelli Xie*, an improved junior who will be a critical player in this contest.

B Grade: Dragonflies v Jabiroos [Table 3]

Head-to-head this season: 2-0; Last meeting: Round 9 – Dragonflies won 7-4

Dragonflies have, for the majority of the season, been the team to beat. They come up against the *Jabiroos*, who have had a rocky ride of results, but came through against *Kea* in the last round. This contest may come down to the doubles, which the *Dragonflies* won both the last time they met. *Jabiroos* playmaker, **Shino Joy**, will look to emulate his singles form from their last meeting. It will be close, with both previous meetings going down to the wire.

Mojo On v Kea [Table 4]

Head-to-head this season: 1-1; Last meeting: Round 8 – Mojo On won 7-4

Kelvin On's Mojo On had a tremendous end to their regular season, having won the last four rounds. Meanwhile, *Kea* has been a consistent force, with **Katherine Pinzon** steadily improving and **Viqar Ali Khan** finding his form in the latter stages of the season. *Mojo On* won their last encounter and will start slight favourites. Can *Kea* overcome their opponents or will *Mojo On* motor on into the grand finale?

C Grade: Sizzlers v Ring Ins [Table 5]

Head-to-head this season: 2-0; Last meeting: Round 8 – Sizzlers won 7-4

A red-hot *Sizzlers* will go into their semi-final with *Ring Ins* as the heavy favourites. It has been unfortunate for **Eric Catalbas'** team, who slipped up in their last round where they could have avoided the top side. With **Zac Howe** and **John Juan** looking to tear it up in the singles rubbers, this will likely only lead to one outcome: a *Sizzlers* victory!

Grizzlies v Thunder [Table 6]

Head-to-head this season: 2-0; Last meeting: Round 9 – Grizzlies won 8-3

Grizzlies' **Jeremie Langlois** has been unstoppable in the singles, and this will most likely be significant to his team's chances against surprise semi-finalists, *Thunder*. With two 8-3 wins against their opponents throughout the season, *Grizzlies* are on course for a grand final spot. Can **Graeme Perkins'** underdog team conjure up a miracle or will it be the status quo for the second-placed side?

SUPER-SATURDAY SESSIONS!

The table tennis club will be opening up this Saturday afternoon, in two session blocks: 3-5 pm and 5-7 pm.

The hall will be open to the public, as well as our existing club members. Sessions cost \$10 per person, or \$20 per table (up to four players) per session. Current registered members do not need to pay anything further.

This would benefit those who would like additional practice as well as preparation for this season's semi-finals.

The club's long-term goal is to provide table tennis sessions 7 days a week and we'll like to get started this Saturday afternoon.

We'll see you there!



CHOOSING A BAT Pt. 2

By Graham Symons

In our second article of a two-part series, *Graham Symons* will discuss about the blade and rubber separately.

Selecting Blade & Rubber Separately

Experienced players may wish to tailor their bat more specifically to their preferred style of play by selecting a blade and rubbers separately, although this generally is more expensive. Blades can cost anywhere between \$45 and \$500. Rubbers can cost between \$15 and \$150 a side. It is highly recommended that only the very skilled (and/or very wealthy) players should contemplate spending more than \$70 for a blade and \$55 a side for rubber. Remember, a more expensive bat is not necessarily better for your game.

Blades are rated as “all-round”, “offensive” or “defensive”. Defensive blades are slower and generally provide the greatest control, while attacking/offensive blades provide the greatest speed and the least control.

The most commonly used **rubber** is “pimples in” (smooth/inverted). These rubbers allow the player to generate spin with the amount of spin depending on the particular rubber. “Pimples in” rubbers can be used by both attacking and defensive players, but defensive players will generally want a rubber which generates less spin for better control. Pimples-in rubbers are available in a wide range of speeds – fast for attacking players and slow for defensive players. A fast rubber will allow you to generate more speed but also means that your opponent’s ball will react more quickly from your rubber, reducing your control.

“Pimples-out” rubbers vary greatly in their effect. Short pimples are usually used by attacking players who play close to the table as the rubber is good for counter hitting and reacts less to the opponent’s spin. The resulting trajectory of the ball is flatter than that generated by “Pimples-in” smooth rubbers.

Long pimples are used by defensive players, either to block close to the table or to chop back from the table. Generally, such players will use these long pimples on the backhand only. Long pimples require the development of particular techniques and are recommended only for very experienced players. These rubbers absorb speed, “reverse” the spin on the ball, and produce a different trajectory.

The majority of players use “Pimples-in” rubber on both sides of the bat, although they may select a slower rubber for the backhand if they attack predominantly with the forehand and use the backhand more for the control. Some players have different types of rubber for the forehand and backhand e.g. Pimples-in on the forehand and Pimples-out on the backhand. This complicates life for opponents, but also requires the player using the rubber to develop different techniques for the backhand and forehand shots.

The thickness and quality of the sponge matters. The sponge is usually attached below the top-sheet of the rubber (pimples/smooth). Generally, a thicker sponge can help generate more spin but provides less control. Harder sponges generate more speed, while softer sponges allow for more control and dwell on passive strokes.

The best way to experience the effects of different blades and sponges is to try them – find out what bats other people use within the club and ask if you can try them. Your club may be able to arrange for other players to allow their bats to be briefly “trialled” at practice sessions.

Remember, technique is more important than the bat you use!

A Grade Individual Ladder

Player	Rubber		Game		Rubber
	W	L	F	A	W %
TY Lee	25	2	76	19	92.59
Pedro Lay	24	6	80	30	80.00
TT Lee	22	8	73	39	73.33
John Pudney	21	3	67	24	87.50
Rodney Hee	21	9	74	46	70.00
Elfrida Kalich	19	8	68	28	70.37
Zakelli Xie	19	11	68	50	63.33
Brodrick On	15	12	59	48	55.56
Martin Feng	14	16	58	63	46.67
Graham Symons	12	9	46	38	57.14
Eugene Laoc	12	15	48	55	44.44
Joe Abrantes	12	15	48	60	44.44
Junfei Chen	10	20	44	72	33.33
Anhtai Lee	9	18	42	64	33.33
Renee Li	8	22	36	74	26.67
Jui Kai Lark	8	22	36	76	26.67
Steven Burlinson	6	24	37	80	20.00
Michael Yaxley	3	6	13	22	33.33
Robert Ho	3	9	15	31	25.00
Sebastian Lai	3	24	24	73	11.11
Ramez Mikhail	2	4	10	13	33.33
Shino Joy	2	4	8	16	33.33
Mo Zhong	0	3	1	9	0.00

B Grade Individual Ladder

Player	Rubber		Game		Rubber
	W	L	F	A	W %
Robert Ho	26	4	85	28	86.67
Kelvin On	24	6	79	42	80.00
Michael Yaxley	23	7	76	42	76.67
Viqar Ali Khan	21	9	77	33	70.00
Shino Joy	20	10	69	43	66.67
Mo Zhong	19	11	66	47	63.33
Brandon Porter	18	6	62	29	75.00
Katherine Pinzon	18	12	67	47	60.00
Maricor Sarceda	13	5	42	26	72.22
Rick Gibson	12	15	50	55	44.44
Iian Stimson	11	13	44	49	45.83
Jordan Lai	10	20	41	70	33.33
Khalid Khan	9	3	30	13	75.00
Jeremie Langlois	9	9	37	34	50.00
Roy Anderson	8	13	35	45	38.10
Joseph Juan	7	17	32	58	29.17
Matt Schobben	6	12	23	40	33.33
Bo Remenyi	6	15	29	49	28.57
Michael Ndukwe	4	5	15	19	44.44
Arion Magnoli	4	26	24	83	13.33
Graham Kwong	1	2	6	6	33.33
Eric Catalbas	1	14	10	42	6.67
Christian Lai	0	30	10	90	0.00
Graeme Perkins	0	3	1	9	0.00

C Grade Individual Ladder

Player	Rubber		Game		Rubber W %
	W	L	F	A	
Eric Catalbas	25	5	82	24	83.33
Jeremie Langlois	24	0	72	3	100.00
Zac Howe	24	6	78	33	77.78
Graeme Perkins	23	4	72	18	85.19
Steve Howe	20	10	65	38	66.67
John Juan	20	10	64	40	66.67
Joe Howe	19	8	65	31	70.37
Peter Thomas	14	10	49	36	58.33
Luca Lobo	14	10	50	40	58.33
David Allen	14	16	51	57	46.67
Michael Calwell	11	16	43	59	40.74
Tomas Zachar	10	14	38	49	41.67
Garv	9	6	32	23	60.00
Dirk Botha	9	9	33	34	50.00
Rehan Palamattom	7	20	28	66	25.93
Tyler Tran	5	10	20	36	33.33
Amy Zhao	5	22	25	72	18.52
Rammani Phuyal	5	25	29	79	16.67
Sujata Timilsina	4	23	19	75	14.81
Alex Brachon	3	0	9	3	100.00
Margie Howe	3	9	13	31	25.00
Dallas Graetz	1	2	5	6	33.33
Zoe Perkins	1	26	12	80	3.70
Christine Marshall	0	3	3	9	0.00
Ashleigh McFarlane	0	3	2	9	0.00
Zac	0	3	0	9	0.00

2020 Season 2 Team Ladder

A Grade							
Team	Match		Rubber		Game		Game %
	W	L	W	L	F	A	
Void	7	3	64	46	219	181	121
TAB 2	6	4	62	48	218	179	122
CDU	5	5	58	52	198	186	106
Pen Grippers	5	5	53	57	186	202	92
Benfica	4	6	50	60	190	205	93
Rainbow 6	3	7	43	67	169	227	74

B Grade							
Team	Match		Rubber		Game		Game %
	W	L	W	L	F	A	
Dragonflies	9	1	62	48	208	166	125
Mojo On	7	3	64	46	208	184	113
Kea	6	4	61	49	225	162	139
Jabiroos	5	5	59	51	195	190	103
Giants	3	7	48	62	172	207	83
MIC	0	10	36	74	144	234	62

C Grade							
Team	Match		Rubber		Game		Game %
	W	L	W	L	F	A	
Sizzlers	9	1	68	42	224	148	151
Grizzlies	6	4	62	48	198	165	120
Thunder	4	6	53	57	175	187	94
Ring Ins	4	6	52	58	177	196	90
River Rats	4	6	48	62	171	201	85
3 Amigos	3	7	47	63	164	205	80

Legend

W = Win; L = Loss; F = For; A = Against; % = Percentage

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