No let-up in fixtures backlog

THE backlog of fixtures for Wellow Tennis Club continues to grow due to the persistent wet weather, yet incredibly the club has managed to complete nine fixtures over the last two weeks. Of those nine matches Wellow won four and drew one.

Wellow's mixed A team remain top of Southampton & District Division 2 following a good win at home to South Hants 3-1. Wellow's Kevin Stansfield and Judy Wallis won both their rubbers whilst Ben Wallis and Cathy Tarvin narrowly failed to complete a clean sweep losing to the South Hants first pair in a championship tie-break.

Lymington conceded their away match to Wellow. This was Wellow's last match and the two points gained ensured Wellow's promotion to the top division. Bassett B could still claim the top spot if they win their final match. In Division 3 of the men's league Wellow's A team drew 2-2 against a strong Lyndhurst team with Stuart Martin and Kevin Stansfield winning both their rubbers. Second pair Ben Wallis and Gordon Taylor missed the opportunity to gain the victory losing out narrowly in a championship tiebreak.

In the same division Wellow's B team of Symon Blowers, Alex Danson-Bennett, Adam Johnson and Paul Lawrence scored a fine win 3-1 at home to Totton & Eling B. This win leaves the B team in mid-table having completed all their matches. Bizarrely the A team who have two matches left sit in one of the relegation spots but one win would see them overtake and potentially relegate the B team.

In the top division of the ladies league Wellow continue to find the going tough losing two matches 3-1 to David Lloyd West End and Swanmore. They have one match left to try and open their account but relegation to Division 2 is now a certainty.

In the top Division of the Sarum League Wellow's B team continued their fight to avoid relegation with a fine win by seven sets to one against Pythouse A. Wellow's team of Mark Patience, Symon Blowers, Rita Hampson and Clare Skinner were too strong for their opponents. This win moved the team into fourth place.

In the Portsmouth and District Master league Wellow's ladies had an excellent win against Division 2 leaders Swanmore 2 by three rubbers to one- a win which leaves them lying second with one match left and a high chance of promotion. Wellow's mixed team of John Moret and **Mescal Harper and Mike Bevan** and Diane Henderson in the top division made the long trip to play Ryde Lawn 1 and were comprehensively beaten by a very strong team 0-8 - a defeat which confirmed the team's relegation to Division 2 for next winter.