

Players defy the weather

DESPITE the storms, gales, rain and sub-zero temperatures Wellow tennis club has managed to complete eight matches in various leagues over the last two weeks with mixed results.

In the top division of the Sarum League, Wellow's B team of Mark Patience, Jose Dignomo, Clare Skinnner and Fran Bradford entertained the Wellow A team and despite some great efforts could not prevent a whitewash 0-8.

The strong A team of Ben Wallis, Paul Goodman, Abby Whatley and Judy Wallis are currently top of the table ahead of Andover A. The B team remain fifth with two matches against bottom of the table Pythouse A likely to be crucial for their survival hopes.

In Division 3 of the Sarum League Wellow's C team travelled to Winchester and encountered an exceptionally strong Winchester B team who justified their top of the table position with a convincing 7-1 victory. Sheridan Easton and Mescal Harper gained a great draw 6-3, 5-7 against the Winchester first pair. Second pair Laurent Watremetz and Diane Henderson struggled and went down 6-1, 6-3.

Both Wellow's men's A and B teams are in Division 3 of the Southampton and District Men's League and are finding it hard going. The B team of Adam Johnson, John Turner, Rich Perkins and Symon Blowers gained a valuable point in a 2-2 draw with Littleton. The B team then visited a strong Lyndhurst team with Sheridan Easton replacing Rich Perkins but came out a clear second best going down 0-4.

The men's A team fared no better when they travelled to Swanmore with Wellow's team of Ben Wallis, Stuart Martin, Gordon Taylor and Mark Patience also losing 0-4. This leaves the A team lying in one of the two relegation places just behind the B team.

In the Southampton and District Mixed League Division 2 Wellow's A team lie third following a very good away win 3-1 against Riverside B. Gordon Taylor and Judy Wallis won both their rubbers and Paul Goodman and Sandra Peckham almost completed the whitewash.

Wellow's mixed B team in Division 4 are in mid-table following a 3-1 win away to Glebians A with Adam Johnson and Elaine Pickering winning both their rubbers. Then followed a reverse 1-3 away to David Lloyd Nursling A with Symon Blowers and Clare Skinner gaining Wellow's only victory.

Wellow's ladies in the top division of the Southampton and District League are still looking for their first win after a 0-4 defeat at home to Winchester A.