

# Ripponden win inaugural “League in an Afternoon.”



This took place at Heckmondwike on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June on a very warm afternoon. The newer, smaller clubs/groups in West Yorkshire were reluctant to enter the existing West Yorkshire League as the 6 clubs in that league were big well established clubs with a few Yorkshire county level players in their ranks.

So a competition was devised to bring them to one venue and play an afternoon that featured pairs and triples to simulate the league format. There are 20 places to play in West Yorkshire.

Heckmondwike, Huddersfield, Mirfield, Shelley, Honley, Kirkburton, Thurstonland, Slaithwaite, Ukranian club Huddersfield and Brockholes are all in Kirklees MBC.

Wetherby, Leeds, Horsforth, Thorner, Calverly, Bond Court are in Leeds MBC. Ilkley & Addingham are in Bradford MBC. Lightcliffe & Ripponden in Calderdale MBC. Ingbirchworth were also invited. Not every place to play has a club attached. Harrogate is in the league.

Teams were invited to bring a pair and a triple and there would be a pairs league and a triples league. Once completed teams would score 4, 3, 2 & 1 points according to their position in the final league table and the two leagues points would be combined to produce an overall winner. There was no entry fee and no cash prizes were on offer.



On the day 4 teams turned up (one withdrew 3 days before) and the leagues were drawn and play started. In both leagues three teams won 2 games and one team didn't win any. Because of the low number of games (3 in each league) it was a very close call. Positions were decided by Points difference and then as it was still unresolved by Points scored.





Ripponden Squad

Pairs														
	Team	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Wins	Diff	Pts For	Position
A	Ilkley	B	13	4	C	13	7	D	5	13	2	7	31	2
B	Kirkburton	A	4	13	D	11	13	C	6	13	0	-18	21	4
C	Ripponden	D	13	7	A	7	13	B	13	6	2	7	33	1
D	Shelley	C	7	13	B	13	11	A	13	5	2	4	33	3
Triples														
	Team	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Wins	Diff	Pts For	Position
A	Ripponden	B	13	7	C	7	13	D	13	9	2	4	33	2
B	Ilkley	A	7	13	D	13	10	C	13	11	2	-1	33	3
C	Shelley	D	13	6	A	13	7	B	11	13	2	11	37	1
D	Kirkburton	C	6	13	B	10	13	A	9	13	0	-14	25	4

Ripponden won the Pairs League with Ilkley second. and Shelley won the Triples league with Ripponden second.

When the scores were added together Ripponden won with 7 points out of the 20 on offer. Shelley and Ilkley had 6 and 5 points respectively. Kirkburton had 2 points.

	Pair	Triple	Total
Ripponden	4	3	7
Ilkley	3	2	5
Shelley	2	4	6
Kirkburton	1	1	2

There were some small issues which didn't affect the result but may lead to changes in format if this is repeated next year. One team brought 8 in their squad and re-arranged their pairs and triples completely after every game so we had some teams of 3 playing in the pairs league. The tie breaker mechanism of using points scored after points difference wasn't listed in the original format but was needed because of the closeness of the competition.



The Ilkley squad.

Highlights of the day; Shelley Triples scored 6 in one end. Heckmondwike providing iced orange juice in the afternoon. Lowlights; Shelley Pairs with a win on the ground knocked their own winning boule away and lost.

Overall a good afternoon out and although most of the players had little experience of a competitive event (in fact some had only been playing for a few days) they were helped by Heckmondwike members who umpired the games and gradually raised the level of play. Feedback was good. It's possible it could be repeated next year.