

## Super Series Jan 2019

Despite other events in the region on Sunday there was still a good turn out for the season's fourth installment of the Ipswich Britannia Senior Super Series of Table Tennis at the Britannia Table Tennis Club in the town.

Seven new faces to the event made it more interesting and this included a number of the high profile players with a brand new winner of this event.

Groups of four and five players determined either band one or two status for the final stages for the players, with the top two in each group going through to band one.

In group one Stephen Gray seeded six gave top seed Richard Carden a real run for his money and led 2-1 in games before losing out 11-4 in the final set, all other group matches were won 3-0 with no seeding upsets with Cedric Felder beating Kelly Yuengyonpaknan into third place.

In group two second seed Ugur Saqlik was unbeaten winning all his games 3-0 and in the battle to qualify for band one with him Matt Emery came from a game down to beat Andrew Holmes 3-1, the only seeding upset was Chris Bonniface beating Ashley Marsh in the battle for fourth and fifth.

The top two seeds in group three were unbeaten until they faced each other in their final match, and it was Rory Scott's variation in backspin with quick attacks off the serve that saw him home against Erin Gozcu 3-1, Gavin Price, Kit Marsden and Najam Sheraz got one win each with Price third, Sheraz fourth and Marsden fifth on countback.

In group four Aris Kapsanakis gave Andrew Warner a real scare going 2-0 up before the 4th seed recovered to win 11-8 in the final set, However in his final group match Warner got off to a bad start against the all out attacking Hungarian Zoltan Barabas going 0-2 down but recovered to level, however Barabas took the final set in a seeding upset to come top of the group with Warner coming second, Kapsanakis beat James Pettigrew to come third.

In the first quarter final top seed Richard Carden faced third seed Erin Gozcu as Gozcu had come second in his group, a very close first end saw Gozcu win 16-14, the next two sets were also close with Carden winning them both however with his tail up the top seed romped home, in the second quarter final Matt Emery took on Zoltan Barabas and in a fluctuating match it was Emery that won the deciding set 11-5, in the fourth set Rory Scott faced Stephen Gray, Scott took the first but trailed the second set before a spirited come back saw Scott nick it with Scott then taking the third set to progress. In the fourth quarter final, second seed Ugur Saqlik trailed Andrew Warner 5-9 in the first before a combination of power shots saw him steal it, Warner never gave up but couldn't quite keep up with the number two seed losing 3-0,

In the first semi final Richard Carden faced Matt Emery and an entertaining game saw Carden go 2-0 up before Emery showed some nice touches to pull a game back, with Carden winning the fourth set to go through, in the second semi final Ugur Saqlik took on Rory Scott and a very close first set just went the way of Saqlik, in the second and third sets Saqlik showed a master class of how to play combination bats running out an easy winner.

The final was between the top two seeds Richard Carden and Ugur Saqlik, the first set saw Saqlik lead all the way before his opponent showed resolve to take it, again in the second set Saqlik moved ahead, doing better in the rallies, and at 9-5 up looked poised to take it,

but again Carden showed his character to keep the ball in court and forced mistakes to win, the third set mirrored the second set and Saqlik had a set point before (frustratingly for the crowd who wanted the match to continue) Carden won the next three points to deservedly take his first title in this series

Scores from the dome

Band one

Quarter finals

Richard Carden beat Erin Gozcu -14 8 10 2

Matt Emery beat Zoltan Barabas 8 -8 -7 7 5

Rory Scott beat Stephen Gray 7 10 8

Ugar Saqlik beat Andrew Warner 11 7 7

Semi Finals

Richard Carden beat Matt Emery 6 10 -5 8

Ugar Saqlik beat Rory Scott 9 6 3

Band one

Final Richard Carden beat Ugar Saqlik 9 10 11

3rd / 4th Rory Scott beat Matt Emery -6 6 9 8

5th / 6th Andrew Warner beat ErinGuzco 4 5 7

7th / 8th Stephen Gray beat Zoran Barabas 8 -5 8 11

Band two

Final Cedric Felder beat Gavin Price 4 8 3

11th / 12th Aris Kapsanakis V Andrew Holmes W/O

13th / 14th Najam Sheraz beat Kelly Yuengyonpaknan 4 6 6

15th / 16th Kit Marsden beat Chris Boniface 8 8 -9 -7 7

17th / 18th Ashley Matsh beat James Pettigrew 10 6 9