

Week 21 report

With just one week to go in the league season, a few issues have now been decided.

In the Premier Division, the Staff of Life secured the title with a 7-0 win over the Honeypot. Whilst challengers the Out of Town and Heanor Labour Club have been throwing points away, The Staff have remained consistent to win the league with a game to go. The battle for runners-up goes down to the last game with Labour Club at home to the Out of Town, and the Ripley team needing just 2 points to edge out their rivals, following their 5-2 win over Jacksdale SC and Labour Club going down 5-2 at the Travellers Rest, for whom Matt Thompson scored a 12. That win gives the Travellers the advantage in the battle for survival, as they face their rivals Honeypot next week, needing 2 points to send Honeypot down and seal their escape. Carnfield Club guaranteed another season in the Prem with a 5-2 win over the Village, and in the other game Red Lion beat the Gate 5-2. Despite a recent revival, Jacksdale SC are relegated and will finish bottom.

The Division 1 title was also decided this week. Sunnyside Club won 7-0 against French Horn to secure the title, despite 2nd placed Boot & Slipper also winning 7-0, at the Black Bulls Head. The Boot were already guaranteed 2nd place. 3rd place is still up for grabs, with Heanor rivals, the Conservative Club and Jolly Colliers both winning 7-0 at the Keys and Station respectively, leaving HCC 4 points ahead. At the bottom, Alfreton Town SC are relegated, following a 5-2 defeat against local rivals The Victoria, who are now safe. Ben Sykes scored a 13 for ATSC. The final relegation place is between The Keys and the Black Bulls Head, following their 7-0 defeats this week. The Keys have a 3 point lead, so need 5 points to be sure of staying up.

The Division 2 title is therefore the only one going to the last game. Having been head to head for so long, Somercotes Snooker Club have taken a vital 2 point lead going into the last game, as they beat Thorn Tree 7-0, whilst rivals The White Hart lost the last leg to the Moulders Arms to win 5-2. SSC scored 208 pins this week, a season's best in Division 2, and Terry Sutcliffe followed last week's 27, with a 29, including a 14 pin stick-up. 3rd and 4th placed Beehive and Crossings Club both won 7-0 against Devonshire and Kings Arms, but neither can catch the top 2. In the final match, the George beat bottom club Eclipse 6-1.

The first cup winners were also decided this week, as Staff of Life beat Honeypot 4-2 to lift the Sunday Cup. In front of a good crowd, in bright sunshine and excellently hosted by the George on Lowes Hill, Honeypot took a close first leg, but the Staff recovered to comfortably take the last 2 legs and lift the season's first trophy.

Congratulations to Staff of Life and Sunnyside on their championship wins, and looking forward to some big games at both ends of the Premier League, the bottom of division 1 and top of division 2 next week.