

Snooker

BRIGHTON HOVE AND DISTRICT BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER LEAGUE Division one

	P	W	L	Pt
Shoreham Club	24	19	5	81
Castle Club A	24	15	9	74
St Matthias C	24	14	10	67
St Matthias A	24	13	11	62
NARC A	24	13	11	59
St Matthias B	24	5	19	41
Castle Club B	24	5	19	34

Results: Castle Club A 5, St Matthias B 0; Shoreham Club 4, Castle Club B 0; NARC A 3, St Matthias A 2. **Highest break:** Jamie Lashmar (Shoreham Club) 105.

Division two

	P	W	L	Pt
Portslade Spts A	24	20	4	81
Castle Club D	24	17	7	79
Castle Club C	24	13	11	64
Preston Club A	23	10	13	52
Champion Hse A	23	11	12	50
Champion Hse B	24	11	13	47
Annunciation	24	2	22	39

Results: Portslade Sports A 3, Castle Club D 2; Champion House A 3, Preston Club A 2; Annunciation 2, Champion House B 3. **Highest break:** Roger Whitely (Champion House A) 52.

Division three

	P	W	L	Pt
Southwick A	24	20	4	87
*Hove DS Ang A	24	15	8	66
Goldstone A	23	14	9	62
Riley Club A	24	11	13	61
*Castle Club E	24	9	14	48
Champion Hse C	24	7	17	47
NARC C	23	6	17	42

* Includes one draw

Results: Riley Club A 1, Southwick Sports A 4; Champion House C 3, Hove DS Anglers A 2. **Highest break:** Lee Shepherd (Southwick Sports A) 64.

Division four

	P	W	L	Pt
Castle Club G	24	19	5	80
St Matthias D	24	19	5	76
Castle Club F	24	17	7	74
Riley Club B	24	13	11	60
Goldstone B	24	5	19	51
Brighton T/Lab	24	7	17	49
NARC B	24	4	20	34

Results: Castle Club G 3, Riley Club B 2; St Matthias D 3, Castle Club F 2; NARC B 1, Goldstone Ex Servs B 4. **Highest break:** Tony Simmonds (Goldstone B) 47.

Division five

	P	W	L	Pt
Castle Club J	24	18	6	84
Castle Club K	24	19	5	75
Moulsecobomb A	24	14	10	64
Portslade Spts B	24	10	14	58
Hove DS Ang B	24	8	16	46
Champion Hse D	24	8	16	46
Portslade Legion	24	7	17	46

Results: Castle Club K 2, Portslade Sports B 3; Portslade Legion 3, Castle Club J 2; Hove DS Anglers B 2, Champion House D 3. **Highest break:** Glenn Dartnell (Castle Club K) 44.

Division six

	P	W	L	Pt
Portslade Spts C*	24	22	2	89
Southwick B	24	14	10	71
Moulsecobomb B	24	12	12	59
Preston Club B	24	10	14	55
Goldstone C	24	9	15	50
Portslade Spts D*	23	8	15	45
Castle Club H	23	8	15	43

Results: Southwick Sports B 3, Portslade Sports C 2, Preston Club B 4, Moulsecobomb B 1. **Highest break:** Simon Mackenzie (Portslade Sports D) 28; Sam Pullen (Moulsecobomb B) 28.

Billiards

	P	O/Pts	S/Pts
Annunciation A	19	10589	255
NARC	19	10098	243
Champion House	19	10022	232
Moulsecobomb A	19	10369	227
Moulsecobomb B	19	10300	227
Annunciation B	19	9858	215

Results: Moulsecobomb A 12/569, Annunciation B 10/400; Annunciation 14/583, Champion House 11/508; NARC 12/526, Moulsecobomb B 13/562. **Highest break:** Mick Lott (Champion House) 61.

This week's highest break (snooker): M.Coles (NARC A) 64; J.Lashmar (Shoreham Club) 60 and 32; J. Gillard (Castle Club A) 55. **Billiards:** R Barrett (Annunciation A) 42 and 34; G Randall (Annunciation A) 30.

Jolyon Palmer crosses the line for victory in Bahrain and, inset, on the winners' podium



Palmer confident flying start can be maintained

by STEVE HOLLIS
Motorsport reporter
stephen.hollis@theargus.co.uk

JOLYON PALMER is confident of sustaining a challenge for honours in the GP2 Championship this season after making a flying start to the campaign.

Palmer, from Southwater, holds a ten point lead in the overall standings after an impressive weekend in Bahrain on his debut for French team DAMS.

The 23-year-old – who is the son of former F1 driver Jonathan Palmer – fought his way up from sixth on the grid to win the sprint race on Sunday.

The previous day he had to settle for third in the feature race despite qualifying in pole position for the second time in his career.

Palmer said: "The car feels great. On qualifying pace we are there and we showed that in pre-season testing also."

"I was surprised on Saturday that we didn't quite have the race pace but on Sunday I think we proved we've found a big step and hopefully now we'll be very strong for the European season."

TRAINER Ronnie Davies says Brighton fighter Chris Eubank Junior is a good bet for a world title in the next few years.

Eubank Jr fights tonight at The Copper Box in Hackney Wick, in an eight rounder

against two-weight Hungarian champion Sandor Micsko, knowing a standout victory will place him on the brink of title contention.

Davies, 67, who trained former two-weight world champion Chris Eubank senior to

glory, reckons junior is something special too.

He said: "In addition to his father, I've trained a lot of other quality fighters like Tony Oakey, Gilbert Eastman, Neil Linford and Henry Castle.



Rob Haines, champion Mark Pope and Rob Barnes with their trophies

Palmer made a slow start in the feature race but recovered well to finish third behind Stoffel Vandoorne and Julian Leal.

It was a different story in the sprint race as he made a brilliant start to climb from sixth to second at the first corner before overtaking Simon Trummer at the end of lap one and comfortably defending his lead for the 23-lap race.

Palmer also picked up points for setting the fastest laps in both races meaning he will head to Barcelona

next weekend with a significant lead in the standings.

He added: "On Saturday it was first to sixth in one lap and on Sunday it was sixth to first! We definitely made up for Saturday and I'm absolutely delighted."

"We did a lot of homework overnight on the starts and on tyre degradation and we nailed them both."

"After the start it was just a case of managing the race. I had the two guys behind me and it wasn't easy but I'm really happy with the job we did."

Mark Pope held off the challenge of fellow Sussex driver Rob Haines to win the Winter Banger League at Wimbledon Stadium.

Pope started the 16-week series as favourite after claiming the track championship at Aldershot raceway but Haines was also fancied after his second spot in the Arlington Stadium League.

Haines only trailed by 20 points going into the final round but Pope only needed to cross the line close to his rival to ensure he won the title.

Haines finished fourth in the first heat but Pope was fifth, and Haines' eighth in the next was matched by Pope a place behind.

With the title challenge over, Haines wanted a big finish but was forced to retire in the final and Pope bashed his way round.

Newcomer and rising star Craig Hook joined the contest halfway through and consistently showed why big things are expected of him this coming year as he finished sixth in the rankings.

Arlington regulars Mark Almeida, Steve Anscombe, Rob Barnes, who came third, and Arlington Champion Darren Terry also competed throughout the winter at the Plough Lane raceway.

Davies reckons Eubank's a banker for world glory

"But I work with Christopher Jr six days a week and, trust me, the kid's exceptional. He's got everything. So far the public have only seen half of it. There's loads more in the bank."

"If I could get a bet on for

him to win a world title in the next three years, I'd put a good few quid on it."

● Watch Eubank Jr tonight live on BoxNation (Sky Ch. 437/HD 490 and Virgin Ch. 546). Join at www.boxnation.com