

A season of much fluctuation ended with the league title returning to Black Notley A, who won it in 2008. Or more accurately returning to the Hayden-Hayden-Carter combination, who won it in 2007.

Peter and Ian Hayden and Trevor Carter moved from Cressing, their home for three years, to Notley after the BNCA team who had won the title in 2008 (Ian Brown, Steve Kerns, Ken Lewis and Gary Young) departed en bloc at the end of last season.

They were augmented, as last year, by Terry and Scott Dowsett, a squad that eventually proved strong and consistent enough to wrest the title from last year's winners Bocking.

Not that it looked likely at one time.

After nine matches, Bocking had a lead of 20 points and were in the driving seat.

But their position was not as comfortable as it looked.

It was boosted by a walkover awarded against Notley who got their dates mixed up and had only one player available.

And Bocking had yet to face Netts A, who had taken 11 points from their two matches against Notley.

Their season unravelled further when Nigel Hodder became unavailable for a lengthy period.

After nine wins out of nine, Bocking lost to Netts A 6-4 and then, in perhaps the most surprising result of the season, were held to a draw by bottom team Rayne C.

Then came their second match against Notley when it was their turn to suffer from availability difficulties. It was the first match their leading player Kevin Gowlett had missed all season and they tackled their rivals with only two players.

Their 8-2 defeat brought the two teams within a few points of each other and a 7-3 Notley win in their third encounter more or less settled the issue.

Final tables:-

Division 1

	P	W	D	L	P
B Notley A	21	17	2	2	154
Bocking	21	15	1	5	143
Netts A	21	15	3	3	128
Rayne A	21	13	1	7	125
Liberal A	21	7	0	14	86
B Notley B	21	5	2	14	82