

“This is a tale of a wife of Fives . . .”

As told by Athene Fenn to mark Mike Fenn's retirement as Secretary of the EFA:

This is a tale of a wife of Fives
Who is married to Mike, he is married to Fives
His day starts early when he gets from the bed
Turns on the computer to see what is said.
PA to the secretary of the EFA
And Ipswich Fives for many a day
To qualify you must be aware
Of Magazine, Blue Book and who plays where.
You are expected to know why Richard Black
Hasn't arrived in Zuoz from Paris, how slack
Phone numbers, addresses, match managers too
If scores aren't reported there's quite a “to do”
Everything kept in its rightful place
Statistics, past match scores all hard to replace

I've been taken to view courts near and far
Had chats with players, no idea who they are
Tried to sound excited at the latest plans
Of right handed buttresses, games that are planned
Spent many an hour watching Fives in the cold
Not a spectator sport I was told
Do I wish that he'd never started playing the game?
Not at all as his life wouldn't have been the same
Is he saying “Goodbye” to this wonderful sport?
Of course not, but he won't get so fraught
We've made some great friendships through the EFA
Which we will continue for many a day
Thank you all for your understanding
Of his passion for Fives including his handling
Of magazine, rules, lost scores and such
He will organise me now, but not quite as much

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