

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLS NEWS REPORTS

Bowls Northamptonshire

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7TH APRIL, 2019.

BOWLS REPORT

1. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN 'FRIENDLY' versus MIDDLESEX – RESULT

The men of the Northamptonshire Indoor Bowling Association entertained their counterparts from Middlesex to a friendly match on Wednesday, 3rd April, 2019, at Daventry IBC, and against a strong side the County played very well to win by 15 shots. The County won on 3 rinks, draing on 1 and losing on 2, and the highest scoring for the home team was shared by President John Haines' rink and Mick Worthington's rink, which both won by 20 shots, although John's rink won 16 ends compared to Mick's winning 13 ends. The Final score was Northamptonshire 140 shots – Middlesex 125 shots. Rink details as follows, Middlesex skips only:

Rink 1. Rick Hayes, Malcolm White, Trevor Spear & Norman Gibb 22 shots – Andy Knott 23 shots

This was a match with undulating scoring, where the visitors were ahead on 5-2 shots after 5 ends, then the County men got going well and zoomed up to 16-6 shots after 13 ends, and then Middlesex took over the scoring in picking up 17 shots to none conceded, on the next 5 ends, which included a big 6 to retake the lead at 23-16, with 3 ends to play. Norman and his men almost snatched a win as they picked up a single and a 4 but could manage just 1 shot on the last end for the narrow defeat.

Rink 2. Dougie Cooper, Tony Warren, Bob Tingle & Mick Worthington 29 shots – Eric Prior 9 shots

The County started well, winning the first 3 ends, but at 5 ends were just in front on 4-3, but the 6th end was very good for Mick and his men, for they collected a big count of 6 to go ahead 10-3, and over the next 6 ends they outscored the visitors 8-2 to keep a good lead. After 18 ends the County was 24-8 ahead and in picking up 5 shots to 1 conceded on the last ends, they maintained their superiority. Interestingly, although Middlesex won 8 ends of this encounter, they were restricted to seven singles and one double.

Rink 3. Tony Dicks, Terry Chapman, Geoff Allen & John Haines 35 shots – Andy Docker 15 shots

After dropping a 2 on the very first end, President John and his men scored 14 shots on the next 6 ends, including a massive count of 7 shots, and as the scoring was level on the next 5 ends, the County kept a good lead at 19-7. After 15 ends of play the visitors had reduced their deficit a little to 10 shots, but a good count of 4 followed by a single, reinstated a good lead, and after dropping a 3 on the 18th end, John and his men hit back with a big count of 5, followed by a 2 and a single for a very good win.

Rink 4. Kip Frankson, Peter Kitchener, Dave Stewart & George Warren 21 shots – Steve Gibson 21 shots

This was a very even match at different stages, with firstly Middlesex taking a 6-2 lead after 5 ends, then the County levelling at 6 each, the visitors went 12-6 ahead in the next 3 ends, only for George and his men to pick up a big count of 5 to close the gap. The visitors then collected 6 shots on the next 2 ends for a lead of 18-11, but then George and his men tied things up again at 18 each with 4 ends to play, so it was no surprise that the match was tied with the County collecting a single on the last end.

Rink 5. Gordon Morris, Bernard Spreadbury, Dougie Ainsworth & Terry James 5 shots – Rod Smith 36 shots

Oh dear, what a score! Such a defeat does not happen very often for a rink skipped by Terry, but on this occasion it was not his day or his men's day. After scoring a single on the first end, the County was stuck on that single for 13 successive ends of play to be 1-33 adrift. The last 7 ends of play were pretty equally shared, with the County rink collecting just 1 more shot than their opponents where a single was scored on each end.

Rink 6. Roger Summers, Larry Lawrence, Colin Barnes & Tony Weston 28 shots – Richard Kirk 21 shots

There was some unusual scoring in the early stages of this match, with the visitors picking up a big 5 on the 2nd end and the County immediately replying with a 5 of their own on the next end, and after 6 ends Tony and his men were just adrift at 7-8. Middlesex increased their lead with a 4 on the 7th end, but Tony and his men struck back very firmly in collecting 12 unanswered shots over the next 5 ends, including another 5, for a 19-12 lead. From that point on the scoring was pretty equal as each rink posted 7 shots to make the final decent win for the County.

2. COUNTY COMPETITIONS – OF INTEREST THROUGHOUT COUNTY

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

COUNTY FINALS

COUNTY FINALS

COUNTY FINALS

The two remaining Men's County Finals were held during the week as follows:

TRIPLES – Played at Desborough IBC on Wednesday, 3rd April, 2019.

Scott Johnson, Mark Corbyn & Neil Corbyn, Wellingborough BC beat Mick Spear, Ray Castle & David Walker, Kingsthorpe BC 22-9 shots.

The Wellingborough trio started off very well in scoring 6 shots without loss in the first 3 ends, and 5 ends later they had increased their lead to 12-3 shots. After dropping na double to Kingsthorpe on the 9th end, Neil, his brother Mark and Scott, scored a massive 6 shots on the next end for a 13 shots lead with a potential 8 ends left to play. David and his men did pick up 4 shots on the next 2 ends but with a pair of doubles on the following 2 ends, Wellingborough took the title as Kingsthorpe conceded after 14 ends of play.

PAIRS - Played at Kingsthorpe BC on Thursday, 4th April, 2019.

Mick Spear & Ray Castle, Kingsthorpe BC beat David Walker & Andrew Manton, Kingsthorpe BC 19-6 shots

This was a closely contested match between the Kingsthorpe players, but although few shots were being scored, Mick and Ray were scoring better for a 7-1 shots lead after 7 ends. All players were drawing well, but Mick was particularly good and they increased their lead steadily to be 16-3 shots up after 13 ends. David and Andrew reduced their deficit by 3 shots on the next 2 ends, but when Mick and Ray returned the compliment with 3 shots of their own, David and Andrew called it a day and the title was with Mick and Ray.

3. ENGLISH BOWLS YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SCHEME REGIONAL FINALS

Melton & District IBC, Melton Mowbray, was the venue on Sunday, 7th April, 2019, for the ‘**Regional Finals**’ of the 18th ‘School of Excellence’ under the auspices of the **English Bowls Youth Development Scheme**, when 32 young bowlers under 18 years of both gender, having qualified from their respective Counties, determined to show just how well they can bowl. In this desire they were certainly successful for those privileged to be there in support, whether family, friends, county and national officers, or just spectators, were, as usual, treated to a marvellous exhibition of bowls at its best.

The School of Excellence has two age groups, 8-14 years and 14-18 years, and 16 young bowlers in each category were taking part, including 8 from our own County who had qualified for the Regional event from the County event in February 2018.. These included the following:

Junior Section (Under 14 years)

Erin Tripp & Alex Tripp, Desborough IBC, who were the top winners in the Junior Section at Northampton., plus the following who scored highly and have also been invited: Adam Elsayed, and Abbie Wilson, Desborough IBC. Gracieana Milgate Northampton & District IBA

Senior Section: (14-18 years)

Thomas Manderson & Shannon Swift, Northampton & District IBA, who were the top winners in the Senior Section at Northampton, plus Emma Muir, Desborough IBC

The morning was devoted to short 7 end matches played on a ‘round robin’ basis in groups, with 10 points awarded for a win and 5 points for a tie, all the accrued points going forward to be added to points obtained in the afternoon’s ‘skills tests’ These tests included ‘Jack Delivery’, ‘Line Bowling’, ‘Controlled Weight’ & ‘Beat the Shot’ with each player delivering 4 bowls for each discipline in each direction on the green, with a total of 60 points available for all disciplines.

The County players had mixed fortunes, with both age sections doing very well in the matches, **Adam Elsayed** in particular doing well in the Junior Section, winning his 3 matches and being one of only 4 in his section that did so. In the Senior Section none of the players taking part managed 100% in the matches, but **Thomas Manderson** and **Shannon Swift** did well in accruing 20 points each, with just 1 player in that section bettering them with 25 points.

The afternoon skills exercises were where proficiency was going to pay dividends, for each one of the 4 exercises had a total of 96 points available to add to the match points, and some of these are particularly difficult. In the Junior Section the highest score by any player was 51 points and in the Senior Section it was 64 points.

Adam Elsayed was able to score 38 skills points to add to his 100% playing points, for a total of 68 points, and this put him in **3rd place overall in his Junior group – a very good performance**

Shannon Swift was able to score 51 skills points to add to her 20 playing points for a total of 71 points, and this put her in **4th place overall in her Senior Group – another very good performance.**

At the conclusion of the day’s play the players were presented with a Certificate of Participation by the President of Melton & District IBC, and the day concluded with the announcement of the winners of each section – they being Ellie Marie Hamblett in the Junior Section, with a total of 81 points, and Alice Atkin in the Senior Section with a total of 82 points.

The National Finals of the EBYDS School of Excellence will be held on Sunday, 20th October, 2019, at Melton & District IBC. There is no certainty, but in coming 3rd & 4th respectively, there is a possibility of Adam Elsayed & Shannon Swift being invited to attend.

4. NATIONAL BOWLS NEWS

BOWLS ENGLAND NEWS

1. Tickets on Sale for 2019 Atlantic Championships

Tickets are now on sale for the **2019 Atlantic Championships**, which will take place in Wales next month. The elite level sporting event will be hosted at four venues across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan between **10th and 23rd May, 2019**, with a record-breaking number of international teams entered to participate.

The greens at Barry Athletic, Dinas Powys, Penarth Windsor and Penylan will all be utilised, with the full schedule available to view on the Welsh Bowls website.

Spectator tickets start from just £5 per day and offer the opportunity to experience the excitement of world-class live bowls. Day tickets allow you to visit any of the four venues to watch any match on the date of that ticket. A 14-day Tournament Pass, priced at £50 (a saving of £30) is available for total flexibility and access to any game at any venue throughout the tournament - including playoffs and finals.

Bowls England will be represented at the Atlantic Championships by the following players:

Men's Singles: Jamie Walker (Northamptonshire)

Men's Pairs: Steve Mitchinson (Essex) & Jamie Walker (Northamptonshire)

Men's Triples: Ian Lesley (Devon), David Bolt (Durham) & Sam Tolchard (Devon)

Men's Fours: Steve Mitchinson (Essex), Ian Lesley (Devon), David Bolt (Durham) & Sam Tolchard (Devon)

Women's Singles: Natalie Chestney (Devon)

Women's Pairs: Rebecca Wigfield (Northamptonshire) & Natalie Chestney (Devon)

Women's Triples: Jamie-Lea Winch (Leicestershire), Lorraine Kuhler (Sussex) & Sian Honnor (Kent)

Women's Fours: Jamie-Lea Winch (Leicestershire), Rebecca Wigfield (Northamptonshire), Lorraine Kuhler (Sussex) & Sian Honnor (Kent)

To purchase your ticket/s, or for more information, visit: <https://www.welshbowls.co.uk/atlantic-rim-2019>

2. National Facilities Strategy Launched

Bowls England has launched its first **National Facilities Strategy** to provide robust evidence regarding the quality, adequacy, security and ownership management profile of all bowls clubs across the country.

Information gathered will enable Bowls England to support clubs and county associations more effectively over the coming years, particularly with facility-related enquiries, negotiations with local councils and grant funding applications. The research project is wholly funded by Sport England and supported by the Bowls Development Alliance.

Tony Allcock MBE, Bowls England Chief Executive, said: "The survey is very comprehensive in its scope, taking about 30 minutes to complete. We appreciate this represents a significant amount of time for volunteers, but we are confident that this investment will be an invaluable contribution to the future of bowls in this country and prevent many of the 'ad hoc' requests for information currently submitted to clubs and county associations regarding their clubs and members from various sources."

There is also an indoor project running concurrently which means this research will provide the most comprehensive information on flat green bowls ever gathered in England.

To access the survey, visit https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Bowls_England_Survey, however we would advise all bowlers to liaise with their Club Secretary in the first instance to avoid duplication of their clubs data.

The information gathered will enable Bowls England to support clubs and county associations more effectively over the coming years, particularly with facility-related enquiries, negotiations with local councils and grant funding applications.

County Clubs are urged to complete the survey.

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact Richard Boardman at 4global by e-mail: research.team@4global.com

3. Official World Bowls Magazine ‘Inside Bowls’ April, 2019.

Here is your link to the April 2019 edition of Inside Bowls, the official publication of World Bowls: <http://online.fliphtml5.com/hpdf/ycmr/>

ENGLISH INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION NEWS

Fantastic 5’s Entry Date Closing Soon.

The closing date for the Fantastic 5's entries is Tuesday 16th April, if you require further details, [click here](#)

5. OBITUARY

1. Lil GREENWOOD, Daventry IBC

With reference to my notice in last week’s Report, Lil’s Funeral is at Rugby Crematorium on the 18th April, 2019 at 3pm and following at Daventry Town Bowls Club.

2. Michael GOSLING, Daventry IBC

Michael died suddenly and unexpectedly on Friday, 1 March.2019.

His funeral is to be held at 12 noon on Wednesday 17th April 2019, at the Holy Cross Church, Church Walk, Daventry NN11 4BL

The Committal for Family only to follow at The Counties Crematorium, Northampton

Family flowers only but if you wish to pay your respects with a donation please visit

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mtgosling>

Donations are for the benefit of the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust Charitable Fund because of the speed, professionalism and commitment of the paramedics who attended.

6. COUNTY CLUB NEWS – OF INTEREST ACROSS COUNTY

INDOOR CLUBS

INDOOR CLBS

INDOOR CLUBS

DAVENTRY IBC

Match Report:

Daventry Eagles won on Thursday, 4th April, 2019, at home against Kingsthorpe BC 118-75 shots

After a good start Daventry took the lead, and although Kingsthorpe put up a good fight, at the end Daventry had five winning rinks and an overall lead by 43 shots. Captain John Sach presented the highest winning rink to Janet Collins, John Dunkley and skip Alan Davies. Rink details as follows, Kingsthorpe skips only:

- Rink 1:** John Shanahan, Jennie Mercer and Margaret Stevens 25 shots - Ray Hill 12 shots
Rink 2: Rosemary Dunkley, Debs Sach and John Sach 13 shots - John Harrison 14 shots
Rink 3: Grahame Akers, Doug Crane and Peter Mercer 16 shots - Richard Leather 15 shots
Rink 4: Barbara Jalland, Colin Brown and Chris Jalland 20 shots - Eugene Hamilton 17 shots
Rink 5: Janet Collins, John Dunkley and Alan Davies 30 shots - Roger Caswell 4 shots
Rink 6: Hazel Wallage, Mary Gillard and Judy Hicks 14 shots - John Churchman 13 shots

Fixtures:

13.7.19. Club plays its Junior/Adult Easter 'Fun Pairs' competition and its 'Streeter Trophy'

KETTERING LODGE BC (Indoor Section)

Fixtures:

11/12/13/14.4.19 Club plays its competition Finals.

RUSHDEN TOWN BC (Indoor Section)

Fixtures:

11.4.19. Club plays Wellingborough BC away at 2.0 p.m.

13.4.19. Club holds its end of season 'Gala Day' at 10.0 a.m.

WELLINGBOROUGH BC (Indoor Section)

Fixtures:

11.4.19. Club plays Rushden Town BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

OUTDOOR CLUBS

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CORBY SEAGRAVE HOUSE BC

13.4.19. Opening of Green – Club holds its 'Opening Day' and Social

ST. CRISPIN BC

Life Member Honour:

Colleen Campling, a founder member of the Ladies Section of the Club, has been given the honour of **Life Member** of the Club. . Colleen also represented her County at Leamington on three occasions, including twice in 1996 in the Triples and Fours, where she was a member of the winning County Team, and in 2002 when she was a County winner in the Fours. She was also a Runner-up in the County Benevolent Triples in 1999, and a member of the Club's 'Top Club' title winning team in 2001. She also won many of the internal competitions at St Crispin BC, one year she won everything she entered apart from one competition.

John G Church, MBE

Northamptonshire Bowls Press Officer