

KENT TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION BOWLING NEWS

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35th Year

SUCCESS for KENT TEAMS at the COUNTY FINALS BRONZE MEDALS for The MEN at the REGULAR Inter-Counties & the LADIES at the SENIOR EVENT



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The Men's Team, with their bronze medals, at the Regular Inter-Counties in Nottingham.

From left to right:-

Keith Hodge, Adrian Conner, David Ross, Nathan Clark, John Hinch, Alan Haley & Steve Williams.

Photograph by Paul Clark.

A full report of the Tournament appears on Page 4.

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TWO ASPECTS of the COUNTY SCENE

SELECTION of the "KENT" TEAM

Letter from Dave Ross

In the last issue of KTBA's Bowling News you asked for more input from the 'bowlers'.

I would like to suggest a method for selecting the Kent Bowling Squad/Team, which would provide a fairer and more equitable formula.

Currently, the squad is formed by selecting the top 13 qualifiers from the County Roll-Off, which is held in a single centre over six games with two wildcards. This method is unlikely to produce a squad containing the top bowlers in the county as holding the qualifiers over a single event allows for 'freak' results (both good and bad). In addition there is an advantage for the people whose centre is being used for qualification, which is presumably why there are two wildcard choices available to the KTBA or captain.

My suggestion is that the qualification process should be held, at say, three different centres. At each centre there would be a total of six games played changing lanes after three games. Points would be awarded on the basis of finishing in the top 15 of each event with the person in first place getting 15 points, second 14 points going down to fifteenth place where one point would be awarded.

When the points are totalled for the three events the top 15 people would form the squad (with no wildcards).

The Kent Team should then be formed from the top six or seven people in the rankings (depending on the number being taken to the Inter County Championships) and in the event of unavailability then the next person in the rankings would be asked to join the team.

This method is not only transparent but is much more likely to produce a squad of the top bowlers as qualification is over 18 games and three centres. It would also encourage more people to attend the qualifiers, as they would know that if they did well enough they would get into the team.

Perhaps a trophy could be awarded to the first place at each event. When the KTBA next meet perhaps they would consider the above suggestion.

Dave Ross

Editors Note:

This letter was discussed, in detail, at the recent Council Meeting. In an ideal world, this selection process would be very fair, but in practical terms Council agreed that it is not feasible because:-

- [1] There is insufficient time available to fit in three separate tournaments in the National Tournament Calendar.
- [2] The overall cost of three tournaments would be prohibitive thereby reducing the overall entry and encouraging only those who could afford to enter to then qualify to bowl for the County.
- [3] The Rules of the Inter-County Tournament require that there must be an equal opportunity for all members to represent their County.

INTER COUNTY THINK TANK

HUNTINGDON - Sunday, October 29th, 2000

By Alan Petherick

The meeting opened with the Inter County Secretary - Bob Blaber - explaining why the meeting had been called. He said that he had experienced many problems with the new format, mainly with counties affirming participation and then dropping out and counties who were late with registration. Also there were problems in running the qualifying rounds with the 'no home advantage' rule. The fact that the groups had been drawn prior to counties registering their teams created problems.

Comments were invited from the floor. After a long discussion it was proposed that the 'no home advantage' rule be scrapped - carried unanimously.

Middlesex then proposed that the present format is retained and the draw not made until after all the counties have registered their teams at 31st January. This was then put to the vote and was carried ten votes to nine. Kent voted against.

I then initiated a discussion on the present scoring system asking Bob Blaber if the present system made any difference to teams qualifying over the old. He said he didn't think so but the weaker teams who did not win many games at least could see some points on the board. After a short discussion I proposed that the old system of two points for a win be reinstated. It was proposed from the floor that a postal ballot be sent to all area secretaries. This was carried.

It was then suggested that all ladies teams should be fours (as the seniors) as there are far fewer teams being entered than the men. This was put to the vote and carried by majority. Linda Buckland said that in her opinion the Senior Tournament should be run under separate rules as there were less teams entered and only four or five games were being played in qualification in some cases. It was decided that two rounds will be played in regional groups and that ten teams will go to the finals. The same scoring system will apply to both adults and seniors.

I then asked if both bowls and hotels could be chosen that had parking facilities and was told it was dependant on which centres are willing to hold the tournament.

I enquired why at qualifying, bowlers are not allowed to bowl without BTBA cards whereas at the finals then can bowl by paying the current membership fee. I was told by Pat White that the rule was introduced so those bowlers at the finals who had not joined after August 31st would be given the chance to do so. I also asked why bowlers must register individually at finals and was told that this rule is changed to allow team managers to register their teams.

All of the above proposals and recommendations are subject to ratification by BTBA executive council.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association will be held at

THE THREE MARINERS public house

Lower Rainham Road, Gillingham

On Saturday 10th FEBRUARY 2001

At 7.00 pm

If you are interested in furthering the support of Ten-Pin Bowling within the County of Kent, why not stand for election as a Council Member. Forms will shortly be available from your League Secretary, or from the Area Secretary, Rosemary Moll [Tel. No. 01634-366891]

COAST to COAST

The Coast to Coast Scratch and Handicap Re-entry Doubles was, in its tenth year, cancelled due to lack of entries.

It is difficult to know why after so many successful years bowlers should decide not to enter. Entries locally were sparse as were those from other areas and yet there appears no logical reason for this.

Bowlers have decided with their lack of entries that this tournament has no future and it is unlikely that this tournament will ever run again. To those who entered in the past I give a vote of thanks, in spite of the hiccups now and then I always enjoyed running the tournament and meeting up with bowlers I might see only once a year.

John Boulton

Tournament Manager.

KTBA MIXED DOUBLES

This Tournament was also cancelled due to lack of interest. Two weeks before the scheduled date of the Tournament only 12 entries had been received and in the next week or so only two further enquires were received. The decision to cancel was taken in fairness of the proprietors who make every effort to assist KTBA in running Tournaments. The format of this Tournament and proposed date is being reviewed.

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36th AMF World Cup

Lisbon Portugal

A view from ringside

by John Boulton

Some five years ago, Nick Cayzer, a local bowler at Cliftonville, moved to the Isle of Man. This year he qualified to represent the Island in the World Cup and asked me to go as his coach. After 38 years bowling this was my first opportunity to see this event first hand and to see in action bowlers who to me were just names in magazines.

After all the preliminaries Nick found out that for the first 24 games he would be bowling with Tomas Leanderson from Sweden, one of the "greats".

Nick's first eight games included a 255 and 257 but his average of 205.6 was only good enough for 34th place. His second set included a 227 and 233 but he dropped to a 201 average and 37th. His third set included a 231 and his final total gave him an average of 197.6 which was only good enough for 43rd place, just inside the top half of the bowlers. To make the top 24 who would go on to play a further 16 games you needed a 211.6 average, very tough and Nick's quest was over.

The highlight for me was a magic hour when Domenco Righi from San Marino put in a 297 followed moments later with a 299 from Tomas Leanderson from Sweden, evidently Tomas had his eye in as he followed

this up with a 300, not to be outdone Tore Torgenson from Norway then rolled his own 300. I understand that Tomas's 299 backed up with a 300 is the highest two game total in the history of the tournament. The ladies had their own heroine in the shape of Diane Buchanan from Canada who also rolled a 300 game.

To get into the ladies top eight you needed a 210 average over the 40 games and for the men it was a 216, it's very tough at the top. England's Kirsten Penny and Steve Thornton both made it but Steve went out in the Quarter Finals and Kirsten in the Semi Finals.

In the Men's Final it was Tomas against Tore which Tomas won 247 to 226 and 209 to 201, a worthy winner. In the Ladies it was Mel Isaac from Wales against Clara Juliana Guerro from Colombia, Mel was the eventual winner though not so clear cut, scores 150 to 203, 207 to 178 and 215 to 180, again a worthy winner.

The organisation by AMF was superb, anyone who wishes to see bowling at its best should see this tournament if they get the opportunity, mind you as a spectator you need the stamina of the competitors as it can be early to rise and late to bed, mind you it's worth it to see bowling at this level.

DRAMA at INTER-COUNTY FINALS

The Barefoot Contessa and The Damsels in Distress

Report by Alan Petherick

The weekend didn't start too well at the Intercounty finals at Nottingham. Lucy Percival opened her bowling bag only to find she had left her shoes at home.

I was instantly reminded of Corporal Jones - DON'T PANIC! Husband David was immediately blamed and dragged off to the Pro Shop to purchase a new pair.

Sunday morning found Emma Drury unable to get out of the bathroom - DON'T PANIC! Mum Beryl having the TV on and being a bit 'mutton' didn't hear her at first and wondered what all the banging was, help was summoned and after twenty minutes she was released a wee bit hot and bothered but otherwise none the worse for wear.

Jan Hodge was seen hobbling around and it transpired that she had done her knee in dancing on Saturday night - DON'T PANIC! - she wasn't actually bowling, just helping out at the audit. I wonder what happened to the Failure Club?

After all that excitement you'd be excused for thinking the bowling might be a bit mundane. Not a bit of it. Both Kent teams won their first two games, the men beating Dorset with their highest game of the tournament 1019 by over 100 pins and the ladies over Hampshire by just 10. In the second game both teams bowled against 'the old enemy' Essex, the men won by eight and the ladies by 42. Both teams lost the third game but the men's form returned and they won the last two games of the day. The ladies finished the day winning three and losing two and were in fifth place.

On Sunday the men won four and lost two, however, in the game against Surrey there was a very rare happening, Keith Hodge, the anchor man, needing to convert the 4-7 then hit a five for a win, hit the gutter a foot in front of the pins mumbling something about his thumb. We lost by six (another Failure Club job?). Kent men finished in third place for a bronze medal. The ladies alternated winning and losing to the end,

finishing in eighth place. Congratulations to both teams for their fine bowling and team spirit.

Five counties managed to qualify both mens and ladies teams, Kent, Surrey, Essex, Somerset and Yorkshire.

Men.

The final positions of all the teams was:-

	Won	Points
Sussex	9	129.33
Yorkshire	7	122.53
KENT	8	119.27
Middlesex	7	118.20
London	6	117.83
Lincolnshire	5	114.66
Northumberland	5	113.98
Surrey	5	111.30
Somerset	5	110.73
Essex	3	109.41
Dorset	2	106.08
Derbyshire	4	105.41

The individual performances of those representing Kent were:-

	G.	Ave.
Keith Hodge	11	198.9
David Ross	10	191.0
John Hinch	8	190.2
Adrian Conner	9	184.7
Steve Williams	11	183.2
Nathan Clark	5	175.2
Alan Haley	1	152.0
Overall Average		187.7

Ladies

The final positions of all the teams was:-

	Won	Points
Yorkshire	9	115.50
Surrey	8	114.21
Berkshire	7	112.46
Hampshire	5	109.70
Staffordshire	7	109.26
Durham	6	109.13
Buckinghamshire	7	107.54
KENT	6	106.52
Essex	4	103.05
Northamptonshire	3	100.25
Somerset	3	100.09
Warwickshire	2	90.24

The individual scores of those who represented Kent were:-

	Games	Ave.
Lucy Percival	10	182.0
Alex Reed	11	174.3
Emma Drury	8	173.3
Elaine Hinch	9	168.5
Chris Conner	10	168.2
Laure Sutherland	7	161.8
Overall Average		171.9

Carole Lakin was also selected but was unable to attend due to ill health.

Editors Note.

As reported elsewhere in this issue, changes are being considered in the format for the Inter-Counties Tournaments.

One of the proposals being put forward by Kent is that the scoring system should revert to the original one where points were awarded purely for winning games and pinfall should only be considered in the event of equal points. Had this system been in force at this year's finals the Kent men would have finished in second place and the ladies in seventh.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Bexleyheath - Olympic League

Dear Jerry

As captain of the Rookies bowling team, I wanted to add a few additional points that were overlooked in the September edition of "Bowling News".

The rookies team, as stated, did win the Olympic League,

[a] because it was the most consistent team in the League, and

[b] that out of a possible 21 points we managed to take 17 points from the strongest team in the League, Mean Machine.

I also hope that by winning the League it will provide a greater incentive to other less individually gifted teams, as the members of our team consist of the same players who used to bowl for fun on a Sunday morning.

John Scott.