

KENT TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION BOWLING NEWS

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36th Year

“KENT MESSENGER” to SPONSOR the INTER-CENTRE TOURNAMENT

The “Kent Messenger” Newspaper was involved in the initial Inter-Centre Tournament way back in the 1960’s when they presented a trophy for the tournament in the days of the South Eastern Bowling Association [SEBA].

Following recent discussions with the Kent Messenger Group Newspapers, they have kindly agreed to sponsor the forthcoming Inter-Centre Tournament to be held at

AMF MARGATE Bowl

on

Sunday 15th July

Contact has been made with every Bowl in the County and Council are hopeful that teams are entered from all centres namely:-

ASHFORD
BEXLEYHEATH
CHATHAM
CLIFTONVILLE
GRAVESEND
MAIDSTONE
MARGATE
ORPINGTON
TUNBRIDGE WELLS
WHITSTABLE

If you are interested in bowling in this tournament to find the best Bowl in Kent and there is no information available at your Bowl contact your Bowl Manager or Local Council Representative.

Should we have entries from all ten centres, there should be a great atmosphere in Margate Bowl. Even if you are not bowling, why not come along and support your team.

Bowling will start at 10.00am and should finish at about 4.30pm.

Bexleyheath will be defending their title. Who will take away the “Kent Messenger” trophy this year?

FORTHCOMING TOURNAMENT

**Bert & Vicky Timms Memorial
Mixed Doubles Tournament**

Sunday 28th October 2001

AMF Bowl

WHITSTABLE

Look out for Entry Forms later this year.

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STEVE WHITE wins the MEN'S MASTERS for the first time CHRIS CONNER retains the Ladies Title

The 2001 Masters Tournament was held during the Area Championships at Bexleyheath Megabowl in May.

The format was the same as last year with all participants bowling five games with the six highest scores then bowling a further two games with scores being carried forward. The top four then take part in single knockout games to determine the Masters champion for the year.

All participants were presented with a commemorative medal and introduced to the public before bowling started.

Ladies

The Ladies invited to bowl were:-

Linda Allerton	Carole Lakin
Chris Conner	Doreen Lodge
Beryl Drury	Janet May
Emma Drury	Lucy Percival
Allison Higgs	Margaret Shrimpton
Elaine Hinch	Sylvia Thomas

After the first two games the defending Champion, Chris Conner, was in the lead with 422 [games of 208 & 214] from Linda Allerton on 393 [second game of 202] and Lucy Percival with 191. Lucy Percival took the lead on 626 after a 237 third game ahead of Chris Conner [600] and Sylvia Thomas on 570. Sylvia had rolled a 212 game and Elaine Hinch a 210 to move up to fourth. Lucy retained the lead after Game four having a 203, Chris stayed second with a 209 game and Elaine moved into third spot with a 202 game. Janet May from Bexleyheath, bowling in her first Masters, moved into fourth spot ahead of Sylvia Thomas and Allison Higgs. In the crucial fifth game Chris Conner regained the lead to total 995 from Lucy Percival on 982. Elaine Hinch consolidated third place on 977 with Allison Higgs moving up to fourth on 871. Janet May was in fifth spot on 866 with Doreen Lodge claiming the sixth place with 861 just one pin ahead of Emma Drury.

Games six and seven saw a desperate fight for the fourth place with Janet May claiming a semi-final slot with a 201 game in the last qualifying game.

The first semi-final saw Chris Conner beating Janet May 168-142 and in the second semi-final Elaine Hinch defeating Lucy Percival 175-153 to set up a repeat of last year's final between two sisters.

With Chris Conner opening with a turkey, Elaine never had a chance to give Chris a serious challenge and Chris ran out the winner 190 to 147.

The averages of the leading players on the day were:-

Chris Conner	189.3
Lucy Percival	185.6
Elaine Hinch	182.6

Men

The Men invited to bowl were:-

Andy Allerton	David Percival
Steve Brough	Michael Rich
Nathan Clark	Chris Smith
Iain Goulding	John Smith
John Hinch	Steve White
Keith Hodge	Steve Williams

John Hinch opened up with games of 248 & 192 to take the lead after two games from Michael Rich, bowling in his first Masters, who had games of 202 & 224. In third place was Steve White [219 & 194] and Steve Williams [194 & 219]. John Hinch retained the lead in Game three with a 202 to give him 642 ahead of Michael Rich [629] and Steve White [615].

In Game four Michael Rich moved into the lead on 842 from John Hinch [815] and Steve White [797] but Game five saw Steve White move into second place ahead of Steve Williams with Keith Hodge fourth, John Hinch fifth and Nathan Clark on sixth gaining the last qualifying place ahead of Iain Goulding by a single pin.

The most dramatic change in games six and seven saw Keith Hodge rolling a 258 game to move up from sixth to fourth place in the last game.

In the semi-final Keith Hodge then lost narrowly to Steve White 206 to 213 and in the other semi-final great excitement was experienced as John Hinch opened with nine strikes in a row against Michael Rich. As usual a hush fell over the Centre as John bowled his tenth frame to leave a solid ten pin, but he converted the spare to

win the game 278 to 222. The effort of the semi-final seemed to have an effect and Steve White ran out an easy winner in the final by 212 to 174.

Steve White has graced the Masters for several years and we offer heartiest congratulations on his first win in this prestigious event.

The averages of the leading players on the day were:-

John Hinch	206.3
Michael Rich	204.3
Keith Hodge	203.2
Steve White	200.5

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JUNIOR COAST to COAST

by John Boulton

Bugsy's 8th Annual Junior Coast to Coast Handicap Doubles Tournament sponsored by Coca Cola this year attracted 80 entries from around the County and adjoining Counties.

Held over two Sundays in April it was not until the second Sunday that the Tournament really came alive. Local duo John Venables and Gareth Simpson from Cliftonville rattled in a score of 1228 handicap total and nervously left it to other teams to try and beat their score.

Watching is never as easy as playing and so it was for this pair, ultimately they could stand it no longer and with strong teams entered from Whitstable they decided to re-enter in the last squad as there were still vacancies. The noise in the centre during the last squad was tremendous so obviously a lot was going on. In the end the only pair to beat our duo's score was themselves. They upped their score to 1295 and were never beaten, Cliftonville sisters Nikki and Kelly Lewis bowled extremely well but with a 1210 total could not catch up and finished runners-up. The Prize winners were as follows.

1 John Venables/Gareth Simpson	1295
2 Nikki & Kelly Lewis	1210
3 Daniel Ritchie/Adam Terry	1208
4 Ben Frost/Andy Wraight	1206
5 Hannah Croft/Nico Joiner	1202
6 Barry Maydom/ Martin Chappell	1198
7 Jake & Josh Plewis	1193
8 Nico Joiner/James Gadd	1189

EMMA DRURY bowls in EUROPEAN GOLD CUP

BTBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS CHELMSFORD

The National Championships are divided into three Divisions depending on entering average.

Emma Drury, from Bexleyheath, was entered in Division "B" [average below 170] and had an excellent tournament.

She finished third in the Singles, sixth in the Doubles partnering her mother, Beryl Drury, and was part of the Iffy Sox Squad team that finished in third place. But best of all, she won the All-Events with a score of 1660 [ave. 184.4] and automatically qualified to represent Team England in the European Gold Cup in Dublin.

Report on the Dublin Tournament

by Emma Drury

Little did I know where it would all end when I entered the Nationals this year. After my last game I was really pleased to find I was first in the B division All-Events, but I was completely surprised when Jerry Lodge told me that the final winner of the B division qualified as the England representative at the European Gold Cup – the only European handicap tournament.

I'd wondered why everyone kept trying to gee me up - they obviously knew about it but I didn't have a clue!!

I couldn't believe it, there was still one weekend of the Nationals to go so all I could do was wait.

Fortunately I flew off on holiday to Florida the next day which made the waiting slightly more bearable but I think I drove my sister nuts going on about it!! I kept ringing home the following weekend to find out what had happened and I was in Disney MGM when I finally found out that I'd stayed in the lead. Everyone must have thought I was mad when I started dancing round the telephone saying "I've won, I've won!"

Six weeks later I was on the plane to Dublin with Lee Wills, the men's qualifier, his dad Mark, my mum Beryl, Meg Jordache and Pat White. I didn't want to lose sight of my bowling balls which meant I had to carry them all round the airport - anyone who knows me will understand why, I'm a disaster

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area when it comes to going abroad, boats and planes catching fire etc....

We landed an hour later and set off in a coach across town to our hotel. The coach driver didn't seem to know where he was going, he stopped in a car park for five minutes to pick someone else up - we were still there nearly an hour later, and a couple of times he nearly crashed into a lamppost or a parked carso we finally arrived four hours later!!

The next morning practice started early at 8.30am. The tournament was split into two squads because of the record number of entries this year - 24 countries. Lee and I were drawn to play our six games with the team from Malta - Patricia Swift and George Ferris, who I'd like to thank for being really good fun, it certainly helped to bowl with such friendly people.

Lee and I both started with 176 scratch, combined with our handicap of 18 this put us into seventh position. Belgium took the lead with 428 scratch plus a handicap of 71. In the second game Lee bowled his personal best of the weekend (221) and we moved up into fifth position. Israel went up into second with 477 scratch plus 37 handicap. Then disaster struck - we both bowled below our averages and slipped down "quite a few" places. At the halfway stage Belgium were still in the lead with Sofie averaging 189 and Wim 178. Israel were in second (1253), closely followed by the Netherlands (1225) and Greece (1219)

In the fourth game Lee and I bowled better. Greece went up into second with a 401 scratch plus 45 handicap and Italy took third place with 482 the highest scratch score in the doubles event. The top three didn't change in the fifth or sixth games but Lee and I managed to move up into ninth finishing with a total score of 2200 plus 98 handicap. Belgium came first (2560) with Sofie holding the highest ladies average of 179 - their high scores combined with 71 handicap per game proving impossible to beat. Greece were a close second on 2519 with Stavros holding the high men's scratch average of 213 and Italy were third on 2461.

The next morning saw the start of the singles event. Poor Lee had to be on lanes again by 8.30am but I

managed a sneaky lie in (sorry Lee!) and then the ladies start was postponed because the coach had forgotten to pick up six players and another coach had to be sent out to collect them from their hotels!! Over the first set of six Lee averaged 175 placing him 19th with 1098 and I finished my first set in 19th also on 1057. The second set of games proved equally tough with Lee slipping into 21st and me managing to hang on to 19th position.

At the end of the first day Sofie from Belgium led the ladies division (2557) followed by Martha from Greece (2415). Stavros from Greece led the men (2753) with Italy second (2644) and Belgium third (2642).

The next morning in his final set of six Lee bowled 187 on average, which took him back up into 19th position. Lee has spent most of the day before and this morning reapplying his new skin -his new finger grips were really giving him grief. I bowled better too, averaging 177 which pulled me up into 14th (and there were only 29 pins between me and 11th i.e. only three spares but then you can always say that!!)

Once again Belgium and Greece were the top two teams in both divisions - Belgium first in the ladies and Greece in the Mens. The top eight went forward into a round robin and the competition was fierce. Patricia Swift from Malta missed the final cut by only 12 pins and so it was Belgium, Greece and Italy that went through for the ladies. The same countries made the cut in the mens but Italy were first, Greece second and Belgium third.

Despite leading right through the round robin Sofie lost the final two games to Barbara from Italy. In the mens event the final winner was from Belgium.

That evening there was a party at our hotel and everyone joined in the dancing which was quite a sight to see. I thoroughly enjoyed myself the whole time and will certainly be entering the Nationals next year. I'd like to say a huge thank you to my mum, Lee and Mark Wills, Meg and Pat and everyone else at Tallaght Bowl for all their support and making it such a memorable event.

AREA CHAMPIONSHIPS at BEXLEYHEATH

This year's Area Championships were held at Bexleyheath Megabowl over three Sundays in May. It attracted a record entry with 38 Teams competing and one late entry not being accommodated. We were pleased to welcome four teams from Tunbridge Wells who picked up some of the prize money.

As will be seen from the results, there was the usual variance in the scores with some bowlers adapting to the conditions better than others.

In the Regular Division Singles there were only six series over 600, but Chris Skudder finished well clear of the field with a scratch 699.

REGULAR DIVISION

Singles - Handicap

118 Entries

1	Chris Skudder	744
2	Sean Purcell	732
3	Neil McNally	685
4	Pete Williams	682
5	Ryan Adlem	671
6	Peter Williams	667
7	Alex Hoskins	663
8	Ashley Rich	659
9	Steven Gore	656
10	Keith Wilson	649
11	Keith Porter	642
12	Steve Carnall	641
13	Phil Eldridge	640
	Dave Button	640
15	Martin Boyd	637
	Dave Clinker	637
	Malcolm Geddes	637
18	Nathan Clark	634
19	Steve White	631
20	Peter Myhill	630

Singles - Scratch

63 Entries

1	Chris Skudder	699
2	Sean Purcell	687
3	Steve Carnall	638
4	Pete Williams	634
5	Michael Rich	608
6	Nathan Clark	613
7	Steven Gore	599
8	Steve White	598
9	David Percival	593
10	Keith Porter	579
11	Keith Wilson	577

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12	Keith Hodge	576
	John Hinch	576
14	Alex Hoskins	573
15	Melvin Allerton	560
16	Jerry Moll	559
	Dave Button	559

An extremely close result in the Regular Doubles with the outcome not being settled until the last day with Steven Gore and Nathan Clark from Whitstable taking both the Scratch and Handicap Sections.

Doubles - Handicap

68 Entries

1	Steven Gore/Nathan Clark	1353
2	Pete Williams/David Ross	1351
3	Vic Butler/Annette Hickson	1306
4	Steve Clark/Phil Eldridge	1303
5	Phil Packman/Dan Costello	1292
6	Tony Gamble/Colin Johnson	1282
7	Peter Wilson/Andy Baker	1274
8	Jerry Moll/David Pitt	1265
	Janet Smith/Bob Smith	1265
10	Kevin Snook/Glenn Snook	1263
11	Ryan Adlem/Mat Seal	1260
12	Paul Clark/Ron Lovett	1259
13	Gary Seal/Alan Schofield	1254
14	James Middleditch/Frank Weston	1234
15	Phil Palmer/Roland Pentlow	1233

Doubles - Scratch

35 Entries

1	Steven Gore/Nathan Clark	1275
2	Pete Williams/David Ross	1267
3	Bob Potts/Chris Smith	1240
4	Chris Skudder/Steve Carnall	1181
5	Steve White/Keith Hodge	1172
6	Tony Gamble/Colin Johnson	1165
7	Steve Clark/Phil Eldridge	1150
8	Kevin Snook/Glenn Snook	1128
9	Vic Butler/Annette Hickson	1111
10	Jerry Moll/David Pitt	1097

With an entry of 28 Teams in the Handicap Section, some teams only entering the Scratch Section, the Mean Machine from the Home Centre posted a score on the first day which was never seriously challenged and their Scratch Score saw them finish well clear in first place.

Team - Handicap

28 Entries

1	Mean Machine	3207
	Steve White	
	Jeffrey White	
	Clive Mitchell	
	Stephen Letchford	
	Keith Hodge	
2	Helmsmen	3152
	Kevin Snook	
	Glenn Snook	
	Brian Snook	
	Peter Williams	
	Sean Purcell	
3	Tunbridge Wells 1	3123
	John King	
	Brian Moore	
	Darren Moore	
	Ian Goulding	
	Michael Rich	
4	Proshop	3106
5	Highwaymen	3094
6	Whitstable Rejects	3051
7	Alpha Omega	3034
8	Six Of One	3020
9	Famous Five	3017
10	Raiders	2998

Team - Scratch

14 Entries

1	Mean Machine	3018
	Steve White	
	Jeffrey White	
	Clive Mitchell	
	Stephen Letchford	
	Keith Hodge	
2	Highwaymen	2821
	Chris Skudder	
	Phil Eldridge	
	Alex Hoskins	
	Alan Jones	
	Steve Carnall	
3	Helmsmen	2783
	Kevin Snook	
	Glenn Snook	
	Brian Snook	
	Peter Williams	
	Sean Purcell	
4	Six Of One	2762
5	Reactive Raisons	2734