

BOWLING NEWS

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... FOR BOWLERS

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Executive Officers of the KTBA

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31st Year

CHRIS SKUDDER joins the exclusive "300" CLUB.

Bowling in the Olympic League at Bexleyheath on Thursday, 29th August, **CHRIS SKUDDER** of the Highwaymen opened up with twelve strikes in a row to score a perfect "300" and join the exclusive club of only three bowlers who have scored 300 games in Kent, the other two being Pat Duggan, who bowled his game at the original Bexleyheath Bowl and Mike Luckhurst at Cliftonville

This was also the first 300 game to be bowled at Bexleyheath Superbowl since it opened in 1989, much to the delight of the shortly departing General Manager, Gary Manser. Chris Skudder has been bowling at Bexleyheath since 1963 when the original Bowl opened. He now bowls in just this one League every week.

Curiously, if you look on Page 5, you will not find his name in the list of Averages but last Season he finished on 179.4, just below the cut-off point.

Talking to Chris after the game, he was full of praise for all his team-mates who kept him going throughout the game with their own special brand of humour. Starting on Lane 22, Chris said the first five balls on that Lane were in the pocket, but the first four on Lane 21 were all Brooklyn, but the final three found the pocket.

It may not be surprising to fellow bowlers, but Chris did not make a 700, having games of 300, 204 & 148. Never mind, he has achieved a feat that all bowlers strive for and many will be envious of his success.

Many congratulations, Chris.

Chris Skudder is also a current member of the Kent County Team and the following Sunday saw him at Watford striving to reach the Finals this year. Success was achieved !!

KENT MEN are through to the INTER-COUNTY FINALS.

The qualifying rounds of this year's Tournament was held at the Spectrum Bowl, Guildford on Sunday 2nd. June and Hollywood Bowl, Watford on Sunday 1st September..

There were seven teams in the South East Group: Bucks, Hertfordshire, Kent, London, Middlesex, Surrey & Sussex, with six games played at each Centre to decide the two Teams from the Group to progress to the Finals. The scoring system was two points for a win, plus one per-cent of total pinfall.

In the first round, the Men got off to a good start by with a victory over London scoring 950 and then bowling consistently all day to average 975 and finish in third position. New man in the team was David Percival who finished with the top average of 214 on the day bowling four consecutive games over 200. The team had three wins and were only kept from second place by just one pin behind Bucks.

The same Team was picked to play at Watford and they started off with a 1034 game to beat the eventual winners, Sussex, but then dropped to their lowest score of the day (837) losing to London. However, they then recovered to win all their remaining games to finish in a comfortable second place and earn the right to compete in the Finals at Nottingham on 9th/10th November.

The provisional results for the Men's Teams were declared as follows:-

Team	W	Pts	Pinfall	Total
Sussex	9	18	11649	134.49
Kent	8	16	11534	131.34
Middx	6	12	11291	124.91
Bucks.	5	10	11248	122.48
Surrey	5	10	11474	124.74
Herts.	5	10	11330	123.30
London	4	8	10928	117.28

The total scores and averages for the individuals in the Team were:-

	Pins	G	Ave
Keith Hodge	2441	12	203.4
Steve Carnall	2425	12	202.0
David Percival	1190	6	198.3
Steve White	1145	6	190.8
John Hinch	1125	6	187.5
Chris Skudder	1610	9	178.8
Mike Luckhurst	1598	9	177.5

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J.C. (Jerry) Lodge

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KENT LADIES reach FINALS of the inaugural "SENIOR Inter-Counties".

Inter-County Tournament.

Continued from Page 1.

In the first round, the Ladies had four wins and finished in third place, just fractionally behind Surrey, also on four wins, with Sussex in the lead with five victories.

In the second round at Watford, the Kent Ladies started with the only victory against the eventual winners, Sussex, by nine pins. This was followed by defeats at the hands of London and Surrey, who were to eventually have a very close battle for the second qualifying place. Kent won their final three games to end up with a total of eight wins, one more than Surrey, who finished one place above Kent due to their superior pinfall.

This method of scoring has been introduced for the last two years and gives the auditors a tremendous headache. It also seems to destroy the original concept of head-to-head matchplay, where the element of pinfall is only introduced to separate Teams who finish with an equal number of victories. Maybe, it is time for another re-think!!

Provisional results are as follows:-

	W	Pts	Pinfall	Total
Sussex	10	20	10752	127.52
London	8	16	10792	123.92
Surrey	7	14	10899	122.99
Kent	8	16	10500	121.00
Bucks.	3	6	10250	108.50
Herts.	4	8	9947	107.47
Middx.	2	4	10005	104.05

Sheila White bowled consistently well throughout both rounds and their were creditable performances from the other bowlers. Jackie Playford was only available for the first round and was replaced by Rosemary Bentley in the second round.

Individual Averages for Kent were:

	Pins	G	Ave
Sheila White	2305	12	192.0
Christine Conner	1965	11	178.6
Jackie Playford	1052	6	175.3
Elaine Hinch	1910	11	173.6
Lucy Cudmore	1379	8	172.3
Sandy Knapp	1166	7	166.5
Rose Bentley	295	2	147.5
Lesley Pateman	428	3	142.6

The Inaugural Senior Inter-Counties was organised this year by Sue Megson of Hollywood Bowl, Keighley inviting Counties to enter Teams of Bowlers who have reached the age of 50. A Handicap system was used with one pin being added to the scratch score in every game for each year of age over 50 for each member of the team.

The Ladies Section was decided by having Teams of Three Bowlers and the Mens Section Teams of Four.

Qualifying rounds were held at different Centres around the country and the one in the South-East area was held at Bracknell in July.

Ladies.

Three of the Teams from the Seven competing were to progress to the Final. The Isle of Wight entered two teams, but only one Team from each County could qualify for the Final, with a Round Robin of a single game against each Team.

Kent had a bye for Game 1 followed by two comfortable wins over Middlesex and Surrey. The Isle of Wight then inflicted two losses to the Kent Ladies, the second by only 25 pins, but the Ladies came back with victories against Berkshire & Essex to finish in top position on equal points but superior pinfall from Isle of Wight "A". Middlesex were the third qualifier narrowly edging out Essex. The Ladies representing Kent were all from the Double TT's League at Bexleyheath and their scratch scores and averages on the day were:-

	Pins	G	Ave.
Doreen Lodge	1089	6	181.5
Peggy Hammond	486	3	162.0
Beryl Drury	632	4	158.0
Sandy Knapp	616	4	153.2
Jeannette Bartram	141	1	141.0

Doreen Lodge recorded the second highest individual average of the day.

The Ladies go forward to the Final at Wellingborough to be held over the weekend, 5th/6th October.

Men

In the Men's Event, two teams were to qualify by right and one extra team from all the venues around the country would go through to the final, decided on highest pinfall. The same counties competed with Surrey having two teams, which meant that the Men bowled a total

of 7 games. Kent started well with wins against Essex & Middlesex, but then lost to Surrey "A" in a high scoring game. A comfortable win over Isle of Wight "A" was followed by a nail biting four pin win over Isle of Wight "B". The home county, Berkshire, then beat Kent easily before a last game saw Kent come back with a victory over Surrey "B".

Essex & Surrey "A" qualified for the Final, each losing only one game, Essex having lost their only game to Kent in the first match. Kent finished in third place with five wins, although Berkshire with four wins had a superior pinfall, which prevented Kent from progressing to the Final. The team representing Kent, with their scratch pinfall and averages was:-

	Pins	G	Ave.
Mike Luckhurst	1455	7	207.8
Eric Frankland	860	5	174.0
John Boulton	873	5	174.7
Alan Petherick	831	5	166.2
Jerry Lodge	322	2	161.0
Ron Lovett	644	4	161.0

The scoring in the Tournament was high with Mike Luckhurst finishing in third place in the individual scores behind two Essex bowlers, Len Lazarus who bowled a single game of 215 and Bobby Mansfield who averaged 209.0 over 7 games. John Whiffen and Peter Cornwall from Surrey both had averages over 200.

For the 1997 event, the Seniors who will represent Kent will be selected from the County Roll-Off, which will incorporate both the Regular and Senior Tournaments.

"BOWLING NEWS"

Past Issues.

We are trying to find some old Issues of "Bowling News." If anybody has been collecting them, the Copies we are missing are:-

42, 117, 120,
133, 135 & 143.

If you have any of these issues, please contact the Editor, so we can arrange to copy them and bring our files up-to-date.

FROM THE DESK of the AREA SECRETARY.

Christine Conner, 12 Braesyde Close, Belvedere, Kent, DA17 5HL
Tel. No. 01322-438351.

SO WHAT DO I GET FROM THE BTBA?

This is without doubt the most frequent question that I have to answer as Area Secretary, especially at this time of year when BTBA membership is up for renewal.

The answer lies in two simple words **RULES** and **RECOGNITION**.

By becoming a BTBA member each individual is agreeing to abide by a standard set of **RULES**. So whether you play in Inverness or Cliftonville as long as your league is sanctioned, you have the same rules. You will both play ten frames, you both obey the same foul rules, you both have a ball that is within the specified limits etc. So when those two players compete at a tournament against each other, each is sure that their average has been arrived at under the same system of rules.

The next cry I hear is, but I don't play tournaments so that doesn't matter to me! However, every week your league plays on that same set of rules and each person in it obeys them. This ensures fair play and everyone starting with an equal chance of success.

Most of you never encounter problems with the rules being broken, but should you do so BTBA, via your local organisation KTBA, provide you with an independent body to settle any rule disputes within the league or between individuals. But generally a simple referral to the Rule Book is sufficient to settle arguments.

The second point for BTBA membership is **RECOGNITION**. The ultimate being to represent your country, but for the majority of us that is just a dream. However that recognition runs from the highest level to the newest bowler, when you achieve high scores of your own and these are recorded with free badges etc.

BTBA along with other countries bowling organisers are fighting for Ten Pin Bowling to be recognised as an Olympic sport, for Commonwealth recognition * and for funding from the Sports Council etc. I am sure most members would love to see a British gold medallist at the Olympic Games

and would enjoy arriving at work the next morning to be greeted by words such as "You play that bowling seriously too, don't you!", I'm sure you would feel some pride at being part of the organisation which is trying to take this sport we love seriously.

Finally I would like to develop that last point. By becoming a BTBA member you are showing that you like this sport, you want to enjoy it competitively and you want to compete fairly. You are also showing your commitment to the organisation that is fighting to get the sport taken seriously as opposed to its current image as a leisure time game. After all how much does this commitment cost £8.00 a year, that's only 15 pence a week!

* **STOP PRESS:** The sport of Tenpin Bowling has been made a full medal sport for the next Commonwealth games in Malaysia in 1998.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1997

England are due to host the European Tenpin Bowling Championships from 18th to 29th June 1997. The venue will be the AMF centre in Nottingham and BTBA are looking for people who may be able to help with the tournament.

At this stage it is anticipated that numerous marshals and scorers will be needed. Anyone with the ability to speak a second language will be especially welcome.

If you are interested in helping out or would like more details please contact the Tournament Manager, Bernie White through BTBA Head Office on 0181 478 1745.

LEAGUE OFFICERS VIDEO

BTBA have recently issued to Area Secretaries a video showing the role and duties of league officers. It is designed to interest new officials or those contemplating taking on the role and concentrates mainly on the role of the league secretary.

If anyone is interested in viewing the tape please contact the Area Secretary to make suitable arrangements.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE

This BTBA Sub-Committee has lapsed in recent years but is now being revived. Its purpose to promote the women's game throughout the country and to encourage more participation of women in our sport, both at league and tournament levels.

They are currently looking for new people to serve on the committee throughout the region. At present we do not have any one from this area representing our interests.

If there is any local lady who would be interested please contact the Area Secretary who can provide more details. Initially your commitment would be to attend approximately four meetings in the first year.

AREAS QUESTIONNAIRE

At this year's KTBA Annual General Meeting the Council were asked by a league delegate to canvas the opinions of our bowlers on the format of the KTBA Area Championships. At present we hold a five person team competition as part of this annual event, which is the BTBA imposed format. However we can apply to change this if bowlers would prefer to drop to a four person event.

A circular has been sent to all league secretaries to allow you to express an opinion on this question, and if you haven't yet seen it you should ask them for the form. Alternatively please write in to the Council via the Area Secretary to express your opinions.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP - A REMINDER

The reduced rate of membership for junior members is only applicable to juniors who participate solely in junior leagues! If a junior joins an adult league they must upgrade to full BTBA membership, otherwise high score both for the individual and for the team may be refused. It could also invalidate your league sanction

So league secretaries beware!

FORTHCOMING TOURNAMENT.

Bert & Vicky Timms Memorial Mixed Doubles Championships.

Sunday 13th October 1996.
at Pentagon Bowl, Chatham.

Entry Forms are available from Christine Conner, Area Secretary.

NEWS of the JUNIORS in the COUNTY.

1996 Junior "Coast to Coast"

by Steve Milham

Saturday and Sunday 29th & 30th June saw Top Ten Bowl Cliftonville hold its 4th Annual "Coast to Coast" Handicap Doubles Tournament. A total of 91 Teams took part over the two days, with teams from Cliftonville, Margate, Whitstable, Bexleyheath, Chatham, Bexhill, Beckton, Basildon, Airport and Worthing taking part.

At the end of Day One, Chris Adams and Kevin Blake of Basildon were the clear leaders with a total of 1273, but they were finally overtaken in the very last squad of the Tournament by Simon Draper and Paul Anderson of Beckton, when they notched up a total pinfall of 1301 to take the top prize of over £300. A total of £773 prize money was shared between the top nine placed teams. Individual Handicap Medals were awarded as follows:-

Boys Hi-Series went to Simon Draper (Beckton) with 682 and the girls was won by Carina Machin (Bexleyheath) on 632. Boys Hi-Game was taken by Philip Press (Bexleyheath) with 364 and the girls Hi-Game went to Dawn Webster (Bexleyheath) with 238. A total of 16 200+ games were bowled over the weekend and the final Tournament Average was 135.1. A special "well done" to Samantha Dennis and Edmund Leach, two of Cliftonville's youngest bowlers, who came in 13th in the Tournament. Congratulations to all our winners and well done to everybody who took part.

- 1st. Simon Draper/Paul Anderson (Beckton) 1301
- 2nd. Chris Adams/Kevin Blake (Basildon) 1273
- 3rd. Chris Stevens/Keith Rowell (Bexleyheath) 1258
- 4th. Daniel Castle/Stephen Austin (Chatham) 1250
- 5th. Scott Hanshaw/Michael Harvey (Beckton) 1241
- 6th. Stephen Letchford/Philip Press (Bexleyheath) 1221
- 7th. Kevin Franks/Andrew Wraight (Whitstable) 1208
- 8th. Michael Joy/Michael Davenport (Margate) 1202
- 9th. Matt Game/David Sains (Beckton) 1199

TOLWORTH FOURS.

Results from the Tolworth Junior Fours held in June, show that one of the Bexleyheath Teams finished in second place overall, the Team being Martin Pateman, Alex Reed, Daniel French and Jeffrey White.

Anne Perkins from Whitstable was third in the Under-15 Girls Singles and Annalisa Edwards from Bexleyheath finished third in the Girls All-Events Section.

ENGLISH OPEN Burton-on-Trent

Ian Abrol [500] & Stephen Letchford [451] finished second in the Division 2 Doubles Event. The Bexleyheath Team of Martin Pateman [488], Stephen Letchford [490], Alex Reed [441], James Pateman [478] & Jeffrey White [459] finished fifth in the Team Event and Ben Frost, from Whitstable, came fourth in the Division 4 Singles.

JUNIOR INTER-COUNTIES.

The following Teams have been selected to represent Kent in the NAYBC Junior Inter-Counties to be held at the Megabowl in Coventry on 7th/8th September.

Boys.

Tim Beale [Whitstable]
Daniel Harman [Cliftonville]
Ben Marsh [Margate]
Daniel Marsh [Margate]
James Pateman [Bexleyheath]
Andrew Senior [Whitstable]
Jeffrey White [Bexleyheath]

Girls.

Jennifer Beale [Whitstable]
Samantha Cooper [Whitstable]
Annalisa Edwards [Bexleyheath]
Anne Perkins [Whitstable]
Helen Perkins [Whitstable]
Alex Reed [Bexleyheath]