NATIONAL INDOOR BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS AT NOTTINGHAM

26 March to 2 April, 2016

DAY FIVE - WEDNESDAY, 30 MARCH

INTERNATIONAL REUNION IN NOTTINGHAM



Today saw the start of the national Women's Over 60 Pairs championship

Women's Over 60 Pairs

The star-studded cast that turned up for the final stages of the national women's Over 60 Pairs championship this morning included a number of ex-England players - and more than a few former winners of the open (no-age-limit) pairs title.

It was good to see such luminaries as Mary Price, Brenda Brown, Liz Tunn, Sue Mart, Pam Cutts, Carole Baker and Ann Hill in action, but there was a sigh of disappointment when it was announced that Pauline Clark and Doreen Hankin had conceded before the first bowl rolled.

Price, who won the premier pairs title with Ann Erridge in 1993, and with Lorraine Woodley two years later, teamed up with another Desborough clubmate Eileen Devonald-Batt, and edged home, 21-19, against a Cumbrian duo who have had scant practice since their green was flooded before Christmas.

Colchester duo Tunn and Brown, who won the premier title in 1989 and 2000, played well to beat Hornsea, 19-14, but survived a potential mid-game disaster when they dropped a treble and a six in successive ends.

The host club's heroes Mart and Cutts, who were pairs champions in 2008 and 2013, were all square with Chawton Park at 12-12 after 14 ends, but went on to win, 24-15. Mote Park's Ann Hill, who won the pairs with Sandy Hazell in 2004, skipped Jane Turner to a 21-10 victory over Arun, and 2013 singles champion Baker steered her Norfolk BC clubmate Elsie Elvin to a 25-14 win over a Hounslow pair.

The most dramatic win of the day was achieved by Catherine King and Jan Roberts, from Exmouth's Madeira club, who trailed Lincoln's Sheila Plaskitt and Lin Mountain, from Lincoln, 12-16, with three ends to play, but who conjured up a 17-16 victory when skip Roberts ditched the jack for a match-winning count on the last end.

In the quarter finals, the Taunton Deane duo of Sue Evans and Di Routley pulled off an audacious win, beating the twice former champions Mart and Cutts 19-10 on their own green. Mary Price showed she still cuts the mustard, skipping Devonald-Batt to a 23-18 win over Turner and Hill.

King and Roberts raced 13-0 ahead of regular qualifiers Gill Cliff and Chris Grigg, and withstood the anticipated comeback to win, 23-13, while Elvin and Baker defeated Tunn and Brown, 20-13.

Women's Over 60 Pairs - results

Last sixteen:

Gill Cliff & Chris Grigg (Bromsgrove) w/o, Pauline Clark & Doreen Hankin (Egham) conceded;
Catherine King & Jan Roberts (Exmouth Madeira) bt Sheila Plaskitt & Lin Mountain (Lincoln) 17-16;
Liz Tunn & Brenda Brown (Colchester) bt Sue Cotton & Di Jones (Hornsea) 19-14;
Elsie Elvin & Carole Baker (Norfolk) bt Tricia Green & Teresa French (Hounslow) 25-14;
Jane Turner & Ann Hill (Mote Park) bt Chris Hobbs & Betty Spicer (Arun) 21-10;
Eileen Devonald-Batt & Mary Price (Desborough) bt Sheena Kirkpatrick & Cindy Edmondson (Cumbria) 21-19;
Sue Evans & Di Routley (Taunton Deane) bt Marilyn Oram & Hilary Sharpe (Kingsthorpe) 23-11;
Sue Mart & Pam Cutts (Nottingham) bt Beryl Collier & Margaret Leppard (Chawton Park) 24-15.

Quarter finals:

King & Roberts bt Cliff & Grigg 23-13; Elvin & Baker bt Tunn & Brown 20-13; Devonald-Batt & Price bt Turner & Hill 23-18; Evans & Routley bt Mart & Cutts 19-10.

MEN'S OVER 60 PAIRS



The national men's Over 60 Pairs championship was run in tandem with the women's event

Men's Over 60 Pairs

The field for the men's event included such notables as former Commonwealth Games silver medallist John Evans (from Torquay United), and England stalwarts Bill Hobart (Barwell) and Graham Standley (Angel, Tonbridge), and the games ranged from close encounters to one-sided affairs.

Two matches were tied, and needed extra time to determine the winner, Colchester's Bryan Whiteley and Derek Wheeler finally getting home, 18-17, against Hobart and John Cooper, from Leicester's Barwell club, and Lynnsport duo Andy Sayer and Richard Bunton pipping Hornsea's Pete Oliver and Jim Moulds by the same score.

At the other end of the scale, Harlow-based Tye Green's Barry O'Connor and Jim Oakes threw in the towel with seven ends left to play against Mario Fosso and Bill Ward, from Welford-on-Avon, who were 20-6 ahead after 14 ends.

Torquay United's Bob Condon and John Evans romped to a 26-7 win over Warwick Brown and Doug Rumble, from Weymouth-based Moonfleet 2000, and Charlie Bailey and Barry Starks outplayed Louth's Jeff McCue and Allan Dent, 27-13.

Dick Discombe and Alan Whittock, from top Somerset club Clarrie Dunbar, led 16-14 at 15 ends, but were set back on their heels as West Berks (Newbury) duo Richard Kozlowski and Derek Parsonson compiled a 1-3-4-1-1-4 sequence to win, 27-16.

In the quarter finals, Sayer & Bunton had the better if the second half against their more fancied opponents, Condon and Evans, and, with Sayer in particularly good form at lead, came out on top, 20-14. The Lynnsport duo will play Mario Rossie and Bill Ward, from Welford-on-Avon, in tomorrow's semi finals.

Bedford Borough's Mark Curtis and Graham White took an early 21-2 lead and held on grimly as Richard Kozlowski and Derek Parsonson. from West Berks, hit back strongly, scoring seven ends on the trot, only to run out of ends. The final score was 21-17.

In tomorrow's semi finals, Curtis and White face Charlie Bailey and Barry Starks, from Portsmouth Victory, who beat Colchester's Bryan Whiteley and Derek Wheeler, 22-11.

Men's Over 60 Pairs - results

Last sixteen

Mark Curtis & Graham White (Bedford Borough) bt Richard Barnett & Chris Cranham (Camberley) 20-10; Richard Kozlowski & Derek Parsonson (West Berks) bt Dick Discombe & Alan Whittock (Clarrie Dunbar) 27-16; Bryan Whiteley & Derek Wheeler (Colchester) bt Bill Hobart & John Cooper (Barwell) 18-17 (after extra end); Charlie Bailey & Barry Starks (Victory) bt Jeff McCue & Allan Dent (Louth) 27-13; Mario Rossi & Bill Ward (Welford-on-Avon) bt Barry O'Connor & Jim Oakes (Tye Green) 20-6; Ray Gall & John Wills (Cumbria) bt Terry London & Graham Standley (Angel, Tonbridge) 20-18; Bob Condon & John Evans (Torquay United) bt Warwick Brown & Doug Rumble (Moonfleet 2000) 26-7; Andy Sayer & Richard Bunton (Lynnsport) bt Pete Oliver & Jim Moulds (Hornsea) 18-17 (after extra end).

Quarter finals:

Curtis & White bt Kozlowski & Parsonson 21-17; Bailey & Starks bt Whiteley & Wheeler 22-11; Rossi & Ward bt Gall & Wills 24-17; Sayer & Bunton bt Condon & Evans 20-14.