NATIONAL INDOOR BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS AT MELTON MOWBRAY

25 March to 1 April, 2017

FREE RESULTS AND ROUND-UP SERVICE

(images may be available on request)

This service is provided on behalf of the EIBA by David Rhys Jones, who has been tasked with emailing bulletins and updates to media outlets, once or twice a day during the above championships. Results are presented in a print-friendly form, but are also available on the EIBA website <www.EIBA.co.uk>. Comments, queries or requests for pictures should be sent to David...

Email him on DRHYSJ@AOL.COM

DAY SIX

Thursday, 30 March

UPDATE

This UPDATE - see attached - rounds up the day (THU)

Goodnight all!

HUNTINGDON & SWALE WIN EIBA PAIRS TITLES

Palmerston lift the Vivienne Trophy (scroll down)

WOMEN'S PAIRS - THE FUTURE REALLY IS ORANGE!



Best friends Sandy Hazell and Wendy King defeated Banbury's Carole Galletly and Kath Hawes in the women's final.

There is a new name on the national women's indoor pairs trophy tonight (THU), after Swale overpowered Banbury Cross to take a 10-0 lead, then swept to a 21-6 victory in the final.

Swale's Sandy Hazell, leading for her best friend, clubmate and England colleague Wendy King, has actually won this title once before - but that was thirteen years ago, when she won it with Ann Hill, when she and Hill were members of the Mote Park club in Maidstone.

Now members of the Sittingbourne-based club, which has emerged as the Chelsea or Liverpool of the women's game of bowls in England, the dynamic duo have combined to win so many other national titles, that it came as a surprise to discover that they have never won the pairs together - indoors or out!

This morning (THU), they were involved in a classic encounter with Nottingham's twice former winners Sue Mart and Pam Cutts, and it was fitting that, at 13-13 after 17 ends, everything depended on the very last end. The final delivery from Cutts was spot on target - but the jack found its way to a Swale bowl, and the Kent duo won, 14-13.

In the other semi final, Carole Galletly and Kath Hawes, who recently moved from Oxford and threw their lot in with Banbury, were involved in an intriguing battle with Taunton Deane duo Sue Evans and Kirsty Hembrow, who put out the holders, Sue Kearsley and Janice Gower yesterday (WED).

The Banbury pair led throughout, but could never escape the clutches of the Somerset duo, who actually held a match-winning lie on the 18th ends, when Hawes sent the jack out of bounds with her final delivery. On the replay, Galletly and Hawes picked up two shots, and got home, 18-14.

In the final, Swale struck early with a six on the third end that stretched their lead to 9-0, and kept up the pressure to lead 16-12 after nine ends - the halfway stage. Banbury rallied briefly, but the game had already slipped from their grasp, and they threw in the towel with three ends still to play.

"We've won triples and fours, but never the pairs," said Hazell, the England team captain. "We love coming to the nationals every year - it's a great privilege to do so, and to win the pairs title together for the first time is beyond belief."

England President Mike Andrew admitted he had found it hard to be impartial during the final. Proud to be a member of the Banbury Cross club, he found himself willing 'his girls' on, but conceded that, on the day, Hazell and King played beautifully, and fully deserved their victory.

RESULTS...

Semi finals

Carole Galletly & Katherine Hawes (Banbury) bt Sue Evans & Kirsty Hembrow (Taunton Deane) 18-14; Sandy Hazell & Wendy King (Swale) bt Sue Mart & Pam Cutts (Nottingham) 14-13,

Final

Hazell & King bt Galletly & Hawes 21-6.

MEN'S PAIRS - BLACKPOOL BOROUGH TO PLAY HUNTINGDON



Huntingdon duo Lewis Baker (centre) and Nick Brett, defeated Blackpool's Dawes brothers, John and Mark, in the men's pairs final

Lewis Baker and Nick Brett defeated John and Mark Dawes, 20-9, in the men's pairs final, but the final score does scant justice to the standard of play - at least for the first half of a gruelling contest.

After ten ends, the scores were level at 9-9, but eight ends later, Baker and Brett were uncatchable at 20-9, so the Dawes brothers were forced to concede, leaving Brett, the WBT world number two, celebrating his fifth win in the event.

Brett had previously won the title with Matt Marsden in 2004, and with Greg Harlow in 2011, 2012, and 2013. Those successes came when he was a member of the City of Ely club, but he recently moved to Huntingdon, which is nearer to where he lives, and teamed up with Baker.

Baker himself is no stranger to the EIBA winners' podium, having helped three St Neots clubmates to the four title in 2015, and he gave Brett good support throughout the event.

The Huntingdon's run-in form 9-9 was steady rather than dramatic, and it has to be said that Dawes, in trying to chase shots, had some unfortunate results. Baker and Brett scored on seven ends in succession, compiling a 2-1-2-1-1-2-2 sequence that left the Blackpool Borough duo for dead.

Earlier, spectators were treated to a couple of outstanding semi finals in the national men's indoor pairs championship this morning (THU): both matches could have gone either way, and, just like the final, the scorelines hardly reflected the closeness of the contests.

The records show that Baker and Brett defeated Doug Rumble and Martin Puckett, from the Weymouth-based Moonfleet 2000 club, 17-9, and that the Dawes duo beat Hartlepool's Carl Higgins and Paul Hartley, 21-13.

However, the Moonfleet duo actually led 9-8 after 13 ends, when Huntingdon broke free with a five, two singles and a double. The Hartlepool pair, for whom lead Higgins, the EIBA's Director of Competitions, was in particularly good form, were all square with Blackpool after 12 ends, before the Lancastrians scored three trebles on the last four ends.

Ironically, John and Mark Dawes, who both learnt to play bowls at the crown green code, were runners up in this event in 2012, when they lost in the final to Brett and Harlow.

RESULTS...

Semi finals

John & Mark Dawes (Blackpool Newton Hall) bt Carl Higgins & Paul Hartley (Hartlepool) 21-13; Lewis Baker & Nick Brett (Huntingdon) bt Doug Rumble & Martin Puckett (Moonfleet 2000) 17-9.

Final

Baker & Brett bt Dawes & Dawes 21-9.



FINE VIVIENNE VICTORY FOR PALMERSTON



The Palmerston (Fareham) team that defeated Lincoln in the Vivienne Trophy final - with EIBA President Mike Andrew

Ben Garden a keen member of the Egham club, donated this trophy to the EIBA in memory of his first wife Vivienne, and stipulated that it should run in tandem with the premier Yetton Trophy, and should be played for by teams of emerging players, or those whose best achievements are behind them.

The Vivienne gives a chance to 'fringe' players to experience what it's like to take part in a major national competition, and to hone their competitive skills - and it has become a very popular event.

In this year's final, Lincoln, a large club with a reputation for being competitive, faced Palmerston, who were making their very first appearance on the national stage. Formed in Fareham (Hampshire) a mere twenty years ago - not a long time in the sport of bowls - Palmerston brought with them a lively contingent of supporters, and a good time was had by all.

"This was the first time any of us have played at this level, and the first national title to come to our club," said a delighted Palmerston supporter, and there were hints of a few tears being shed when the presentations were made by EIBA President Mike Andrew.

Although they are a fairly new club, Palmerston have already hosted the men's under 25 home international series. They are a flourishing club with 800 playing members and 250 social members, and it was good to see a number of the club's Yetton Trophy team in Melton to support their 'B'team.

Maggie Evans, Sylvia Austin and Marilyn Williamson led the winning charge for Palmerston with a 19-11 scorecard. Their clubmates skipped by Janet Chinn and Maureen Holloway weighed in with narrow wins, and Lincoln's only winning card was posted by Norma Melton's triple.

RESULT...

National inter-club championship (Vivienne Trophy) -

Final: Palmerston bt Lincoln 61-55 - Rink scores (Palmerston names first): Marilyn Haynes, Daphne Blackburn, Janet Mudd 12, Pat Lynn, Jenny Whattam, Norma Melton 17;

Maggie Evans, Sylvia Austin, Marilyn Williamson 19, May Patteson, Frankie Wootton, Viv Lewis 11; Daphne Walton, Wynn Small, Janet Chinn 17, Pam Burke, Jean Brown, Sue Simpson 16; Jill Cook, Mo Browne, Maureen Holloway 13, Jean Scrafield, Ann Marie Staples, June Mills 11.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE - Friday, 31 March

1000hrs - Women's Singles - last sixteen.

Louise Haladij (Northampton) v Sue Evans (Taunton Deane); Michelle Barlow (St Neots) v Amy Banes (Swale); Diane Double (King George Field) v Emma Cooper (Adur); Lauren Mosley (Hartlepool) v Penny Strong (Lincoln); Barbara Lewis (Barwell) v Barbara Bellamy (Torquay United); Bex Field (Norfolk) v Nicole Rogers (Loddon Vale); Janet Williamson (Atherley) v Devon Cooper (Riverain); Elaine Score (Tilbury) v Marcia Hartley (Clarrie Dunbar)

1300hrs - Men's Singles - last sixteen

Sam Tolchard (Torquay United) v Glen Adams (Herga); Rob Paxton (Taunton Deane) v Martin Heitzman (Ipswich); Russell Thompson (Bedford Borough) v Glenn Skip (Hartlepool); Duncan Hanmore (Angel Tonbridge) v Daniel Seabourne (Acle); Keith Beckett (Isle of Wight) v Josh Grant (Nottingham); Shaun Jones (Malvern Hills) v Paul Maynard (Foxhill); David Hubbard (Adur) v Taylor Monk (Cyphers); Stan Thompson (North Cave) v Martin Spencer (Spalding).

1700hrs - Men's and Women's Singles - Quarter finals

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