

NATIONAL INDOOR BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS AT MELTON MOWBRAY 23-31 March, 2018

DAY ONE Friday, 23 March

ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS GET UNDERWAY

at Melton Mowbray



Today (Friday) the men's and women's two-bowls singles championships were played to a conclusion. The programme for the next eight days is as follows...

24/25 March - Men's and Women's Fours
25 March - Men's Under 25 inter-county championship final
26/27 March - Men's & Women's Triples
27 March - Men's Over 60 inter-county championship final
28/29 March - Men's & Women's Pairs
29 March - Women's inter-club (Vivienne Trophy) final
30/31 March - Men's & Women's Singles
31 March - Women's inter-county championship (Atherley Trophy) final

TODAY'S PLAY - MEN'S TWO-BOWL SINGLES

Graham Smith, who helped England retain the British men's team title in Paisley less than a week ago, became the winner of the English national men's two-wood singles title Tom Bishop, when he defeated for World Outdoor Champion of Champions winner, 21-16, in a high quality final.

"I had to work really hard for that, because Tom played very well," said the 46-year-old from Spalding in Lincolnshire. "In fact, it was a hard day, with four games to play.

Earlier, Smith had beaten Chawton Park's Adam White, 21-6, and in-form Martin Puckett, from Weymouth-based Moonfleet 2000, 21-15, before reaching the final with a 21-14 victory over WIBC world Under 25 indoor champion Ed Elmore, from the famous City of Ely club.

Smith always seemed to have the upper hand in the final, but Bishop, who plays alongside legendary Anglo-Scot Andy Thomson at the Cyphers club in Beckenham, stayed in the hunt until the very end - and bowls more than a foot from the jack had little chance of counting.

TODAY'S RESULTS (FRI)...

Last 16

Graham R Smith (Spalding) bt Adam White (Chawton Park) 21-6; Martin Puckett (Moonfleet 2000) bt Paul Gandey (Adur) 21-2; Jonathan West (Boston) bt Ben Sharpe (Kingsthorpe) 21-15; Ed Elmore (City of Ely) bt B J Byles (Whiteknights) 21-7; Norman Coad (Bodmin) bt Perry Martin (Swale) 21-11; Jason Horwood (Watford) bt James Austin-Mills (Wymondham Dell) 21-18; Martin Heitzman (Ipswich) bt Paul Hartley (Hartlepool) 21-18; Tom Bishop (Cyphers) bt Jack Bird (Scarborough)

Quarter finals:

Smith bt Puckett 21-15; Elmore bt West 21-16; Horwood bt Coad 21-6; Bishop bt Heitzman 21-16.

Semi finals: Smith bt Elmore 21-14; Bishop bt Horwood 21-6.

Final: Smith bt Bishop 21-16.

TODAY'S PLAY - WOMEN'S TWO-BOWL SINGLES

Teenager Nicole Rogers, from the Loddon Vale club in Basingstoke, showcased her talent at Melton, when she became the first ever winner of a new national event - the women's two-bowl championship.

Rogers, who will not be twenty until October, swept through her opening game, allowing Gail Barnes, from White Oak, only two shots, then accounted for three England internationals - Welford-on-Avon's Amy Walters, Blackpool Newton Hall's Janice Gower and Norfolk's Bex Field - to win the title.

How did she feel after that barn-storming performance? - "It's kind of weird," she ventured. "But don't get me wrong - it's a good feeling!"

Field, who started the final as favourite, said: "I just couldn't find it at all, but Nicole was superb. She beat me to the jack time after time, and thoroughly deserved to win."

There was much talk about ages during the day, and general agreement that bowls is neither an old person's game or a young person's activity. While Rogers, who is only nineteen took the honours, praise was also heaped on Clevedon's Margaret Dyer, who reached the quarter finals, and took Gower to 21-20 before the Lancastrian booked her place in the semis. Dyer is 86.

TODAY'S RESULTS (FRI)...

Last 16

Devon Cooper (Riverain) bt Gail Barnes (White Oak) 21-3; Rebecca Field (Norfolk) bt Sandra Jones (Camberley) 21-13; Ruby Hill (Spalding) bt Louise Woodrow (Dorchester) 21-8; Michelle Coleman (St Neots) bt Donna Knight (West Berks) 21-4; Margaret Dyer (Clevedon) bt Jacquie Edgar (Sudbury) 21-16; Janice Gower (Blackpool NH) bt Emma Cooper (Adur) 21-7; Amy Walters (Welford-on-Avon) bt Barbara Bellamy (Torquay United) 21-14; Nicole Rogers (Loddon Vale) bt Jackie Yelland (South Forest) 21-2.

Quarter finals:

Field bt Cooper 21-19; Hill bt Coleman 21-20; Gower bt Dyer 21-20; Rogers bt Walters 21-18.

Semi finals: Field bt Hill 21-18; Rogers bt Gower 21-12.

Final: Rogers bt Field 21-10.

EIBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE AND DRAW

24/25 March - Men's and Women's Fours

Men:-

David Bristow, Richard Barnes, Paul Roberts, Trevor Bannister (Sleaford) v Andy Manton, Connor Cinato, Neil McKee, Jamie Walker (Kingsthorpe)
Darren Mudge, Dave Parr, Gary Frost, Tim Phillips (Newquay) v Steve Mahoney, Adam Clifford, John Stewart, Neil Jackson (Essex County)
Jason Norris, Jonathan Goodall, Dom McVittie, Mark Dawes (Blackpool NH) v Matt Pownall, Callum Height, Paul Broderick, Darren Childs (Wellingborough)
Jack Fairhall, Paul Gandey, Ollie Ovett, Richard Moses (Adur) v Bradley Prowle, Glenn Williams, Jamie Claydon, Tony Webb (Riverain)
Adam Watts, Clive Derry, Mark Turner, Peter Wilkinson (County Arts) v Robbi Hayes, Louis McCubbin, Darren Griffith, Travis Meller (Isle of Wight)
Tom Bishop, Taylor Monk, Michael Cheeseman, Andy Thomson (Cyphers) v Sam Watts, Ray Gaskins, Scott Edwards, Mark Charlett (Oxford City & County)
Jamie Lockwood, Doug Rumble, Darren Nutman, Martin Puckett (Moonfleet 2000) v Matt Whyers, Graham Smith, Martin Spencer, Matt Orrey (Spalding)
Phil Dixon, Mal Peach, Kris Storf, Gary Farquhar (South Shields) v Sean Coyle, Ian Honnor, Lewis King, Perry Martin (Swale)

Women:-

Rhoda Young, Angela Frankland, Lina Harman, Jo White (Bounds Green) v Sue Evans, Ruth Jones, Di Routley, Kirsty Hembrow (Taunton Deane)
Sally Williams, Ann Warner, Julie Leake, Penny Cresswell (Dolphin) v Val Hobart, Gill Wannacott, Jamie-Lea Winch, Barbara Lewis (Barwell)
Imogen Jenner, Paige Dennis, Sandy Hazell, Wendy King (Swale) v Jane Baldwin, Kathy Snitch, Dina Barlow, Nicky Verlander (Huntingdon)
Emma Cooper, Sandra Godfrey, Linda Gray, Lorraine Kuhler (Adur) v Rachael Skinner, Janis Wilton, Bev Lynch, Lauren Mosley (Hartlepool)
Kirsty Mann, Valerie Clarke, Tracey Knights, Anne Hawkins (Beccles) v Mary Johnson, Jayne Taplin, Judith Moody, Olive Wells (Horncastle)
Carrie Southgate, Charlotte Aspinall, Cassidy Lenton, Harriet Stevens (Torquay United) v Julie Burch, Julie Spice, Isabel Morey, Stella Utteridge (Ipswich)
Joan Surman, Margaret McColl, Maryan Pye, Pauline Gunn (MidGlos) v Janet Swift (sub), Linda Warren, Shannon Swift, Billie Swift, Joyce Porter (Northampton)
Eileen Devonald-Batt, Helen Jones, Lorraine Woodley, Mary Price (Desborough, M) v Isobel Morton, Ann Rapley, Kylie Hampton, Doreen Hankin (Egham)

25 March - Men's Under 25 inter-county championship final

Yorkshire v Devon

26/27 March - Men's & Women's Triples

Men:-

Craig Down, Zach Kidd, Ryan Whitlock (Torquay United) v Tony Stanley, David Bristow, Paul Roberts (Sleaford) Luke Nicholls, Liam Creaser, Stan Thompson (North Cave) v Jack Burch, Lea Blackham, Martin Heitzman (Ipswich) Mel Biggs, Ian Jefferies, Neil Smith (Westlecot) v Craig Doughty, Russell Francis, Graham Shadwell (Clarrie Dunbar) Tom Segolo, James Segolo, Wayne Willgress (Norfolk) v Bill Hobart, Chris Moore, Joe Dawson (Barwell) Chris Dawson, Kieran Moss, Joe Kelly (Thanet) v Jonathan Forcer, Colin Boston, Paul Mosley (Hartlepool) Jack Fairhall, Paul Gandey, Ollie Ovett (Adur) v Andy Manton, Neil McKee, Connor Cinato (Kingsthorpe) Jody Bright, Conor Rabey, Martyn Wise (Atherley) v Bradley Prowle, Glenn Williams, Tony Webb (Riverain) Simon Leader, Lewis King, Nick Brett (Huntingdon) v Barry Jenkins, Ian Jenkins, Steve Tuohy (Egham)

Women:-

Jenny Whitlock, Barbara Colby, Mary Sutton (Yeovil) v Sue Kearsley, Lesley Waddington, Janice Gower (Blackpool NH)

Pat Sussex. Kylie Hampton, Doreen Hankin (Egham) v Sue Kemp, Dawn Howard, Brenda Bowyer (Essex County) Liz Munro, Pauline Marples, Jean Baker (South Forest) v Paige Dennis, Sandy Hazell, Wendy King (Swale) Holly Baxter, Katy Baxter, Dani Martinson (Hornsea) v Carrie Southgate, Cassidy Lenton, Harriet Stevens (Torquay United)

Lisa Smith, Yvonne Pick, Amy Walters (Welford-on-Avon) v Joan Surman, Maryan Pye, Pauline Gunn (MidGlos) Robyn Hall, Rebecca Moorbey, Rachel Tremlett (St Neots) v Devon Cooper, Shirley Page, Heather Stapleford (Riverain)

Jackie Watts, Margaret Moffat, Kath Patrick (Portsmouth Victory) v Val Philipe, Maureen Willard, Lorraine Kuhler (Adur)

Jayne Croston, Katy Smith, Lucy Smith (Westlecot) v Carole Baker, Suzanne King, Rebecca Field (Norfolk)

27 March - Men's Over 60 inter-county championship final

Norfolk v Surrey

28/29 March - Men's & Women's Pairs

Men:-

Rob Elmore & Ed Elmore (City of Ely) v Lee Croad & Ben Paulley (Bournemouth)

Andrew Harding & Simon Pettingel (Grattons) v Les Gillett & Chris Rodgers (Melton Mowbray)

Carl Higgins & Paul Hartley (Hartlepool) v Andrew Rodger & Josh Pounds (Swale)

Ray Hills & Paul Smyth (Cheshunt) v Jonathan Goodall & Mark Dawes (Blackpool NH)

Russell Francis & Graham Shadwell (Clarrie Dunbar) v Paul Field & Andy Thomson (Cyphers)

Mick Hawkins & Andy Walters (Welford-on-Avon) v Richard Summers & Wayne Willgress (Norfolk)

Dom Warren & Phil Last (Ipswich) v Michael Knight & Rob Newman (Whiteknights)

Danny Brown & Billy Jackson (Lincoln) v Simon Broom & Nathan Farrant (Exonia)

Women:-

Anne Patten & Jayne Croxall (South Forest) v Sandy Hazell & Wendy King (Swale)

Carole Baker & Rebecca Field (Norfolk) v Katy Smith & Lucy Smith (Westlecot)

Sara George & Stef Branfield (Clevedon) v Joanne Denny & Sarah Seymour (City of Ely)

Kylie Hampton & Helen Tuohy (Egham) v Sue Davies & Amy Walters (Welford-on-Avon)

Sarah Gove (sub for Katherine Rednall) & Anna Chalk (Ipswich) v Ruby Hill & Chelsea Tomlin (Spalding)

Cassidy Lenton & Harriet Stevens (Torquay United) v Chris Hobbs & Betty Spicer (Arun)

Sue Kearsley & Janice Gower (Blackpool NH) v Sue Duck & Sylvia Bloonfield (Tye Green)

Sue Evans & Kirsty Hembrow (Taunton Deane) v Julie Leake & Lyn Howard (Dolphin)

29 March - Women's inter-club (Vivienne Trophy) final

Arun v Colchester

30/31 March - Men's & Women's Singles

Men:-

Glen Adams (Herga) v Mikey Titcombe (Westlecot)

Adam White (Chawton Park) v Trevor Roberts (Egerton Park)

Peter Wilkinson (County Arts) v Connor Cinato (Kingsthorpe)

Jordan Philpott (Spalding) v Jack Bird (Scarborough)

John Stewart (Essex County) v Graham Shadwell (Clarrie Dunbar)

Ryan Whitlock (Torquay United) v Rob Elmore (City of Ely)

Paul Hartley (Hartlepool) v Kevin Rands (Lincoln)

Marc McCaughan (Folkestone) v Paul Coleman (Wey Valley)

Women:-

Rebecca Field (Norfolk) v Janet Eames (South Forest)

Janice Gower (Blackpool NH) v Kylie Hampton (Egham)

Kath Hawes (Banbury) v Zoe Eagles (York) or Barbara Lewis (Barwell)

Sarah Gove (Ipswich) v Kirsty Hembrow (Taunton Deane)

Devon Cooper (Riverain) v Elizabeth MacDonald (Bromley)

Teresa King (Clarrie Dunbar) v Rebecca Moorbey (St Neots)

Amy Walters (Welford-on-Avon) v Julie Leake (Dolphin)

Clare Stevens (Adur) v Carrie Southgate (Torquay United)

31 March - Women's inter-county championship (Atherley Trophy) final

Lincolnshire v Dorset or Sussex