



PRESS RELEASE ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE ENGLISH INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL INDOOR BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS
AT NOTTINGHAM

DAY SIX - Thursday, 12 April

MEN'S OVER 60 PAIRS
JOY FOR THE TWO JOHNS



John Andrews & John Stewart (Essex County) - winners of the Men's Over 60 Pairs receive their trophy from EIBA President Margaret Allen

Essex County duo John Andrews and John Stewart proved to be worthy winners of the National Men's Over 60 Pairs title at Nottingham today, when they defeated Portsmouth Victory pair Charlie Bailey and Barry Starks, 15-6, in a low-scoring final.

Andrews, 72, used to work in the City of London, and Stewart, who is 63, is a retired police officer, and they play at the Essex County indoor bowls club in Westcliff-on-Sea. Andrews was part of the winning Over 60 fours team in 2009, and Stewart, who won the 'open' triples in 2012, is the reigning National Over 60 Singles champion.

"It would have been nice to have earned the chance to defend my singles title, but I'm chuffed to bits about winning what is my third national title," said Stewart.

Despite the scoreline, the final was a closely contested affair in which shots were so hard to come by that, over seventeen painstaking ends, there was never a three recorded on the scorecard - only 13 singles and four doubles.

At 7-4 to Essex County, it could have gone either way, but the eventual winners pulled away to lead, 11-4 after 12, and, when they were 13-6 adrift with only two ends left to play, the Victory duo went for broke, and tried to force the jack off the rink. The 18th end was surplus to requirements.

Earlier, the Essex County pair admitted they had been outbowled by the semi final opponents Alan Vowles and Malcolm Lewars, who, though they represent York & District indoor bowls club, were born in West London and Northumberland respectively.

"They definitely played better than we did," said Stewart, who is the holder of the Over 60 singles title. He was speaking after he and Andrews had somehow turned a 7-13 deficit into a shock 21-17 victory. "It's just that we played the 'big' bowls that made a difference at crucial times," he explained.

Trailing 11-17 with only four ends left to play, the Essex County duo compiled a 2-3-3-2 sequence to clinch a place in the final against Charlie Bailey and Barry Starks, who formed 50% of the Portsmouth Victory quartet that won the Over 60 fours title last year.

Bailey and Starks looked confident as they raced into an 11-4 lead over Lee Cooper and John Godfrey, from the Southwick-based club, Adur. But the Sussex duo hit back, and got to within one shot at 11-10 after 12 ends, before Bailey and Starks regained control to win, 18-11.

WOMEN'S OVER 60 PAIRS

ALDERSON ROLLS BACK THE YEARS



Kath Delacoe and Beryl Alderson - winners of the Women's Over 60 Pairs receive their trophy from EIBA President Margaret Allen

Sixteen years have gone by since Beryl Alderson won her last National title. Now 82, the Redcar marvel skipped a Thornaby-on-Tees quartette to the fours title in 2002, before she moved to play at the Redcar club - but she proved today that she has retained her skill - and her fighting spirit.

Not only did she play extremely well underpressure, delivering some telling bowls at the right times, but she was fighting against a rheumatic condition that was giving her a lot of pain throughout the four matches she played in two days.

"I was on tablets and was using a spray, but it was a case of carrying on, and doing my best," she said. "And it was worth it, because this is up there with anything I have achieved in bowls."

To everyone's astonishment, she insisted on following every bowl up the rink, and must have covered several miles over the two days, but, as she explained: "It's my natural way of playing, and keeping moving was probably a good idea!"

With loyal lead Kath Delacoe giving Alderson good support, and plenty of encouragement, Redcar looked on course for a straightforward victory when they opened up a 9-2 lead against Lincoln's Sheila Plaskitt and Lin Mountain over the first nine ends of a fascinating final.

But Lincoln had shown character in plotting their way to the final, and has escaped from some tight corners along the way, none more so than the way they overcame the defending champions Jen Arnaud and Joan Halliwell in the semi finals.

Scoring ten shots to two over the next eight ends, Lincoln went into the last end only two adrift, and had chances to tie the game - or even win it - as the end developed.

However, Mountain could not find a way of removing Redcar's shot bowl, and a single gave Delacoe and Alderson a famous 15-12 victory.

An extra end was required to separate Lincoln from Bournemouth in the semi final, after the defending champions Jean Arnaud and Joan Halliwell (Bournemouth) had looked home and dry against Sheila Plaskitt and Lin Mountain (Lincoln).

Bournemouth led, 8-3, after seven ends, and were still 14-8 in front after fourteen, when Lincoln picked up a double and treble to get within one shot at 14-13 with two ends to play. A treble for Bournemouth seemed to have sealed victory - but a last-end four earned Lincoln a tie at 17-17, and a brilliant bowl from Mountain on the extra end was enough to see them through to the final.

In the other semi final, Redcar's Kath Delacoe and her 82-year-old skip Beryl Alderson, who played for England from 1987 to 1999, kept their noses in front for eighteen ends, though Betty Ottaway and Avril Harland, from the Herts club in Watford, were always snapping at their heels.

In fact, on the very last end, the Herts duo were holding two shots that would have taken the game into extra time, when Alderson showed her class by drawing the shot to clinch a 17-14 victory, and a place in the final for the second time in four years.

National Men's & Women's Over 60 Pairs Championships

Men:-

Last sixteen:

Mick Allen & Roger Manning (Riverain) bt Bob Condon & John Evans (Torquay United) 21-16;
Charlie Bailey & Barry Starks (Portsmouth Victory) bt Gerry Magan & Steve Tate (Coventry) 16-13;
Fred Edwards & Barry Attwood (Great Aycliffe) bt Gordon Knapper & Brett Long (Desborough, M) 20-15;
Lee Cooper & John Godfrey (Adur) bt Colin Endesby & Andy Nightingale (Cambridge Chesterton) 20-13;
Mike Scarborough & Roger Barnbrook (Diss) bt Roger Cooper & Dave Wilson (Leicester) 21-18;
John Andrews & John Stewart (Essex County) bt Alan Fallows & John Mildren (Nottingham) 19-14;
Martin Griffiths & Martin Smith (Malvern Hills) bt Norman Pervoe & Alan Binns (Croydon) 19-16;
Alan Vowles & Malcolm Lewars (York) bt Bob Shields & Ron Sydney (Bromley) 21-12.

Quarter finals:

Victory bt Riverain 19-11; Adur bt Great Aycliffe 19-15;
Essex County bt Diss 19-10; York bt Malvern Hills 15-11.

Semi finals: Victory bt Adur 18-11; Essex County bt York 21-17.

Final: Essex County bt Victory 15-6.

Women:-

Last sixteen:

Sheila Plaskitt & Lin Mountain (Lincoln) bt Yvonne Williams & Rita Barwick (Honiton) 25-14;
Sue Walter & Janette Noyes (Wealden) bt Carole Goodyear & Pam Harris (Malvern Hills) 18-9;
Margaret Craig & Maureen Hill (Wey Valley) bt Joyce George & Pam Reynolds (Wellingborough) 19-14;
Jean Arnaud & Joan Halliwell (Bournemouth) bt Liz Tunn & Brenda Brown (Colchester) 25-9;
Moirra Parsons & Yvonne Pick (Welford-on-Avon) bt Angela Sydney & Marion Johnson (Bromley) 21-14;
Betty Ottaway & Avril Harland (Herts) bt Sue Evans & Di Routley (Taunton Deane) 17-16;
Val Hobart & Barbara Lewis (Barwell) bt Lynn Cannel & Geraldine Reeve (Acle) 16-12;
Kath Delacoe & Beryl Alderson (Redcar) bt Sue Allum & Daphne Jacob (Rivermead) 19-12.

Quarter finals:

Lincoln bt Wealden 21-4; Bournemouth bt Wey Valley 21-13;
Herts bt Welford-on-Avon 18-17; Redcar bt Barwell 15-12.

Semi finals: Lincoln bt Bournemouth 18-17 (after extra end); Redcar bt Herts 17-14.

Final: Redcar bt Lincoln 15-12.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S OVER 60 INTER-CLUB DOUBLE RINK SEMI FINALS



This was the colourful scene at the Nottingham Indoor Bowls Centre tonight

A lot of emphasis is placed on how bowls is becoming a young person's sport - but there is plenty of competition for the not-so-young, as could be seen tonight when representatives of clubs as far afield as Adur (near Brighton), Cambridge Chesterton, Egham, Havering, Lincoln, Nottingham, Plymouth and Thornbury (near Bristol) turned up to bid for the Over 60 Inter-Club Double Rink titles.

The women compete for the Mason Trophy, while, although the winner of the men's competition will receive a trophy, it has no name. No matter - the host club, Nottingham, are proud to have won the men's title for the past two years, and had qualified to defend their title.

Facing Adur, who play in Southwick, near Brighton, the defending men's champions found the opposition pretty tough, but two fours on the rink skipped by Russ Pearce, and a six, a four and three trebles on the rink skipped by John Mildren saw Nottingham home, 42-39.

It was a high-scoring spree from the rink skipped by Glyn Lawrence that boosted Plymouth's scoreline against Havering. Leading, 10-7, after 11 ends, Lawrence & Co picked up a three, a four, a five and a six on the run-in to win, 29-13, while Mike Avent's rink won by seven for a convincing 49-26 victory.

Tomorrow's final will therefore be between Nottingham and Plymouth.

In the women's event, Egham, who have lifted the Mason Trophy three times (2007, 2011 and 2012), proved too good for Cambridge Chesterton, who won it in 2009. Ann Rapley's quartette rampaged to a 22-7 win over Jan Bullman's rink, while Doreen Hankin skipped her Egham rink to a 20-17 win over a rink skipped by her former England colleague Lynda Jarman.

The 42-24 victory put Egham through to tomorrow's final, in which they face Lincoln, who edged home by one shot, 28-27, in an exciting finish, against the Thornbury club..

Under the circumstances, Lin Mountain, who was required to return to the green after playing the semi final and final of the Over 60 pairs, did well to hold Lyn Hamer's Thornbury rink to a 15-15 tie. while England star Penny Strong skipped her Lincoln quartette to a 13-12 win over Sue Latham.

In a low-scoring match over 36 ends, 25 ends yielded singles, and there was nothing to choose between the teams at any stage. Thornbury, who were looking for two shots to tie, scored one shot on the very last end, but were denied a second shot on an Umpire's measure.

MEN'S INTER-CLUB DOUBLE RINK CHAMPIONSHIP - SEMI FINALS...

Plymouth bt Havering 49-26 - Rink scores (Plymouth names first):

Paul Daley, John Knox, Kenny Litchfield, Glyn Lawrence 29, Tony Seago, Alan Boltwood, Dave Brown, Malcolm Rothern 13;
Bob Anstice, Alan Demuth, Richard Avent, Mike Avent 20, Dave Simon, Edward Fancourt, Brian Payne, Graham Killington 13.

Nottingham bt Adur 42-39 - Rink scores (Nottingham names first):

Roger Sherman, Keith Burton, Dave Adams, Russ Pearce 19, Lee Cooper, Barry Ward, Tom Palmer, John Godfrey 16;
James Beckett, Alan Fallows, Ronnie Cowan, John Mildren 23, Ken Holden, John Hide, Roy Bainbridge, Terry Honnor 23.

WOMEN'S INTER-CLUB DOUBLE RINK (MASON TROPHY) - SEMI FINALS...

Egham bt Cambridge Chesterton 42-24 - Rink scores (Egham names first):

Pat Sussex, Barbara Nunn, Stephanie Elgar, Doreen Hankin 20, Heather Bell, Shirley Lambert, Izzy Dear, Lynda Jarman 17;
Isobel Morton, Jan Sussex, Pauline Hutton, Ann Rapley 22, Jeannie Miller, Shirley Hall, Ann How, Jan Bullman 7.

Lincoln bt Thornbury 28-27 - Rink scores (Lincoln names first):

Juanita Lyon, Sheila Plaskitt, Kath Draper, Penny Strong 13, Jayne Lowden, Joan Banfield, Cynthia Winter-Alsop, Sue Latham 12;
Jean Morris, Maureen Wilson, Jill Edson, Lin Mountain 15, Jan Hunt, Ann Boaden, Val Osmond, Lyn Hamer 15.



The programme for the ten days at Nottingham at a glance...

7 April - David Cornwell Under 25 inter-club Double Rink final

7/8 April - Men's Over 60 Fours

8 April - Denny Plate and Yetton Plate finals

9/10 April - Men's & Women's Over 50 Triples

11/12 April - Men's & Women's Over 60 Pairs

12/13 April - Men's & Women's Over 60 inter-club Double Rink championship

13/15 April - Men's & Women's Over 60 Singles

14 April - Liberty Trophy Semi finals

15 April - Liberty Trophy Final

15/16 - Open Family Pairs



EIBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (PHASE TWO) SCHEDULE, DRAW & RESULTS

13-15 April - Men's & Women's Over 60 Singles

Men:-

Greg Sampson (Coventry) v Peter Hagger (Clacton)

Charlie Bailey (Portsmouth Victory) v Malcolm Lewars (York)

Mick D Cooper (Wellingborough) v John Godfrey (Adur)

Gary D Brock (Cyphers) v George Draper (Lincoln)

Ray Fortune (Barking) v Alan Dunkley (Brackley)

Geoff Bellamy (Torquay United) v Terry Lanchbery (Bromley)

Ronnie Richardson (Gateshead) v Martin Smith (Malvern Hills)

Nigel Roberts (Beccles) v Martyn R Dolby (Stamford)

Women:-

Pam Cutts (Nottingham) v Sara Quayle (Plymouth)

Liz Russell (Atherley) v Joan Howson (Wealden)

Pat Fowkes (Rivermead) v Gill Cliff (Bromsgrove)

Violet Aldridge (White Oak) v Di Routley (Taunton Deane)

Rhoda Young (Bounds Green) v Pat Browne (The Parks)

Eileen Parker (Sudbury) v Margaret Smith (Sutton)

Christine Goodwin (St Neots) v Angela Spilsbury (Harrogate)

Carole Baker (Norfolk) v Alex Jacobs (North Wilts)

15/16 April - Family Pairs

Ajay & Rob Morphett (Egerton Park) v Neil & Martyn Jackson (Essex County)

Joe & Paul Justin (Carterton) v David & Ian Drew (Carnmoggas)

Rod & Jonathan West (Boston) v Lewis & Wendy King (Swale)

Ryan & Mark Atkins (Malvern Hills) v Charles & James Bruder (Wey Valley)

Mervyn & Sam King (Gallow) v Nick & Matthew Orrey (Grantham)

Rod & Jamie Claydon (Riverain) v Shaun & Ian McIntosh (South Shields)

Rob & Ed Elmore (City of Ely) v Adrian & Jack Bird (Scarborough)

Ben & Mick Sharpe (Kingsthorpe) v Peter M & Peter D Ward (Atherley)

14/15 April - Men's Inter-county championship (Liberty Trophy)

Semi finals (Saturday, 14 April) - Wiltshire v Kent; Norfolk v Lincolnshire

Final (Sunday, 15 April)