

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLS NEWS REPORTS

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PRESS REPORT

1. NATIONAL INTER CLUB 'DENNY PLATE' COMPETITION – FINALS AT BEDFORD 20.3.10.

Wellingborough IBC visited Kempston IBC, Bedford, for the Semi-Final of the National 'Denny Plate' Competition on Saturday, 20th March, 2010, with high hopes of going one more step to the Final, when they met their opposition, Malvern Hills IBC, Malvern, Worcestershire.

The match did not start well for the County club on a surface which was very much slower in pace than their own, and the first end produced just 1 shot for them to 6 by their opponents, and the second not much better, gaining 2 more shots to Malvern's additional 6.

Across the 4 rinks at the quarter stage in the match Wellingborough were 17 shots adrift of Malvern Hills and although they stemmed the Worcestershire club's gains they were still 18 shots behind at 10 ends, although their supporters hoped the situation might be reversed, especially when Paul Broderick's rink picked up a good count of 6 shots on the 9th end to go ahead themselves.

Despite keeping at their task and playing some excellent bowls on every rink, Wellingborough had to concede that their opponents played just that much better on the day, and at the conclusion took the match by 20 shots. Wellingborough had 2 winning rinks, but with the other 2 losing by 8 shots and 16 shots, the final score was Wellingborough 63 shots – Malvern Hills 83 shots. As a keen observer of the match I can state categorically that the heaviest losing rink's score did not reflect as badly on the Wellingborough players as might be thought but more on the superb play of the Malvern skip, Andrew Walters, a Junior International, whose skill in drawing was magnificent, and as he usually had last bowl this was the key to that rink's success.

Rink scores, Wellingborough names first and Malvern skips only, as follows:

- Rink 1.** Jason Hall/Scott Johnson/Steve Norman/Robert Norman 16 shots – M Stones 24 shots
- Rink 2.** Dennis Collins/Graham Maddams/Jamie Walker/Wayne Gregory 19 shots – L Harwood 17 shots
- Rink 3.** Dave Love/Bob Fuller/Martin Walker/Walt Winsor 8 shots – A Walters 24 shots
- Rink 4.** Callum Height/Paul Coley/Maurice Allen/Paul Broderick 20 shots – G Burbridge 18 shots

As a matter of record the Final later that day was between Malvern Hills and Adur IBC, Sussex, and after a pulsatingly close match Adur took the trophy by the smallest of margins – just 1 shot.

(Please find attached a photograph of Wellingborough's team taken at Kempston before the match – names could be provided if required)

2. OBITUARY – COLIN WRIGHT – WELL KNOWN BOWLER IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

It is with the deepest regret that the bowling world in Northamptonshire records the sudden and unexpected death of **Colin Wright, Past Chairman of Northamptonshire Vice-Presidents Association**. Colin died on the 19th March, 2010, following a series of strokes.

He was heavily involved in Bowls, not just as a player, although he was in his day a very good bowler who won competitions at Club and County level, including the Singles Championship at Express BC, Northampton; the Watney Mann Triples with Express; the Bill Swann Triples with Express Lift colleagues; and the Raines Trophy on 2 occasions.

These latter two competitions were organised under the auspices of Northamptonshire Honorary Vice Presidents Association, by Colin himself as the VP's Competitions Secretary for many years, a post which he held at the time of his death. Colin was a member of the VP's Executive from 1992 to the present time, holding the highest office of Chairman in 1994 when he was very proud to host the County Association in the annual match at his own green Express Lifts BC.

Colin was, in addition to his membership of Express BC, a one time member of Wellingborough Indoor BC and Kingsthorpe Indoor BC, plus a member outdoor at Whyte Melville BC, and County Ground BC, and he was, in consequence, very well known by many bowlers who very much enjoyed his company on and off the green.

His working life was in the main spent as an officer of the Club and Institute Union, and he was Secretary of Northampton Friendlies WMC. He leaves wife Betty and children Mark and Elizabeth.

3. MIDLAND COUNTIES INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL – SELECTION

Team Manager, John Haines, has announced the following team to represent the County in the Semi-Final of the Midland Counties Indoor Championship, to be played against Leicestershire IBA at Rugby Thornfield IBC, Bruce Williams Way, Rugby, CV22 5LL, on Sunday, 28th March, 2010, commencing at 2.0 p.m.

Rink 1. Malcolm Paul, Desborough Ross Knox, Desborough Carl Haines, Desborough Calvin Carpenter, Kingsthorpe	Rink 2. Jim Diver, Desborough Phil Exley, Desborough Roger Tansley, Kingsthorpe Andy Smith, Northampton	Rink 3. Pete Maloy, Northampton Graham Maddams, Wellingborough Dominic Graham, Northampton John Haines, Desborough
Rink 4. Bob Fuller, Wellingborough Jack Tobin, Rushden Colin Jones, Kingsthorpe Richard Lemon, Northampton	Rink 5. Chris Wright, Northampton Martin Cinato, Desborough Ollie Kirkwood, Northampton David Flippance, Desborough	Rink 6. Tony Dicks, Daventry Mick Richardson, Daventry Peter Ward, Desborough Mick Worthington, Daventry

4. ENGLAND WINS THE BRITISH ISLES INDOOR BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

England won the British Isles Indoor Bowls Council 'International Series' held at Perth in Scotland from the 11th-13th March, 2010, after a very tense last match against Scotland. England had a County bowler in the team, Neil McKee, Kingsthorpe IBC, and in the first match, against Wales his rink, consisting of Brett Arkley/Simon Jones/McKee/Jamie Chestney(Skip) scored a 10 shot victory over a Welsh rink skipped by well known top bowler Robert Weale, as England thrashed the Principality 152 shots – 83 shots. The next match saw England give Ireland a similar convincing beating 149 shots – 91 shots, with McKee's same rink securing a 1 shot victory over an Irish rink containing one of the best known names in International bowls, David Corkhill.

As Scotland had won both of their matches, but with less shots in hand, the England team needed no more than a draw to take the trophy, but 1 shot less scored would have given the trophy to Scotland. On the day, after a very tense and skilful match the score was tied 99 shots each, and McKee's rink played a rink skipped by G. Robertson, and they won 21-15 shots

5. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE VP.S versus WARWICKSHIRE 14.3.10. – RESULT

Northamptonshire Vice Presidents Association returned to Daventry IBC on Sunday, 14th March, 2010, to play Warwickshire VP's, and after a very close and enjoyable match which went 'to the wire' the County team lost by the narrowest of margins, 1 shot, despite having 4 winning rinks. As the last end of the match was being played, with one bowl left for the Warwickshire skip to bowl the County held match, but he managed to draw second bowl which saw the visitors triumph by that 1 shot. Final score was Northants VP's 110 shots – Warwickshire VP's 111 shots. Rink scores, Northamptonshire names first and Warwicks. skips only, as follows:

- Rink 1.** Roy Clark/Derek Cooper/Clyde Hulbert/Tony Essam 28 shots – A Brockhouse 11 shots
- Rink 2.** Brian Jones/Harry Bell/Malcolm Foster/Tony Buckmaster 26 shots – D Casey 17 shots
- Rink 3.** Ray Timson/Roly Smith/Peter Byworth/Richard Holland 9 shots – G Palmer 36 shots
- Rink 4.** Len Smith/Geoff Care/Dick Howell/Dave Williamson 15 shots – K Padmore 8 shots
- Rink 5.** Bill Foster/Ken Friend/Ken Legan/Roy Cave 14 shots – M Gilks 22 shots
- Rink 6.** Jim Diver/Percy Griffiths/Graham Cashmore/Michael Moulton 18 shots – D Williamson 17 shots

6. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE VICE PRESIDENTS versus NORTHAMPTON IBC – RESULT

In their second game in a week the Northamptonshire Vice Presidents played against Northampton & District IBC on Thursday, 18th March, 2010, and despite having 3 winning rinks, the home club's winning rinks did so in great style to record a win by 27 shots. The final score was Northants VP's 104 shots – Northampton & District IBC 131shots. Rink scores, VP's names first and Northampton IBC skips only, as follows:

- Rink 1.** Pete Woodhams/M Clarke/Geoff Care/David Williamson 12 shots – S Wittering 25 shots
- Rink 2.** Len Smith/S Hill/T Black/Roy Cave 9 shots – R Spatcher 29 shots
- Rink 3.** Jim Diver/V Cooper/Peter Byworth/Tracy Nunn 25 shots – R Jones 17 shots
- Rink 4.** Roy Clarke/W Pearson/Bob Tingle/Keith Forbes 22 shots – B Spear 17 shots
- Rink 5.** Ray Timson/Ollie Pearson/Clyde Hulbert/Dick Howell 21 shots – L Stead 20 shots
- Rink 6.** Jim Walvin/S Legan/Trevor Tilley/Bob Jones 15 shots – T Brown 23 shots

7. JUNIOR BOWLS 'GALA' AT KINGSTHORPE IBC 20.3.10.

Kingsthorpe IBC, Northampton, held a 'Junior Bowls Gala' yesterday, 20th March, 2010, when 11 Triples of young bowlers aged between 11 and 17 years competed. This was the inaugural junior tournament organised by the Club, and they were very pleased to be sponsored by Dalepak Ltd.

The players came from several clubs including Avon Valley IBC (Warws.) Desborough IBC; Kettering Lodge IBC; Northampton & District IBC; Rushden Town IBC; Wellingborough IBC; as well as from the hosting club Kingsthorpe.

The triples were formed into two groups playing a round robin format with the group winners playing a final for the Dalepak Trophy, and those in 2nd place in their group playing off for 3rd & 4th place.

The Final saw Aaron Mulligan/Cameron Knox/Connor Cinato, Desborough beat Harry White/Josh Newcombe/Laura White, Wellingborough, to take the trophy. The 3rd place went to Mark Smith/Adam Smith/Craig Carter, Avon Valley, who beat Trudy Beard/Megan Rolfe/Nathan White, Kingsthorpe.

The day was very well supported by parents, grand-parents and friends, and £275.00 was raised for Alan Maden, the Kingsthorpe President's charity 'Motor Neurone Disease.

(Please find attached a photograph of the winners l to r Cameron Knox/Connor Cinato/Aaron Mulligan)

8. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN versus CIVIL SERVICE/PRISON SERVICE 17.3.10. – RESULT

Northamptonshire Men played a match against a combined Prison Service BA and English Civil Service BA side on Wednesday, 17th March, 2010, at Northampton & District IBC, and with 6 winning rinks, 1 drawn and 1 lost, they took the match by a massive 57 shots. The final score was Northamptonshire 181 shots – Civil/Prison Services 124 shots. Rink scores, Civil & Prison services skips only, as follows:

- Rink 1.** Barry Adair/Mick York/Mick Pullen/Brian Langton 29 shots – B Beddis 10 shots
Rink 2. Peter Woodhams/Ron Drage/Doug Hatton/Geoff Hunt 32 shots - W Clelland 15 shots
Rink 3. Pete Maloy/Eric Wareing/Laurie Harrison/Brian Diver 24 shots – I Beesley 13 shots
Rink 4. Ted Summerton/Dave Garland/Mike Weatherill/Richard Somerton 16 – R Merrick 19 shots
Rink 5. Ray Timson/Dave Williams/Walter Stoddard/Terry James 18 shots – S Mitcham 16 shots
Rink 6. John Whiting/Peter Byworth/Tony Warren/Keith Howlett 23 shots – G Cousins 15 shots
Rink 7. Jim Walvin/Clyde Hulbert/Harvey Fruish/Brian Sherwood 20 shots – D Hill 20 shots
Rink 8. Ernie Earp/Chris Hawkins/John Smith/Norman Gibb 21 shots – T Sawyer 16 shots

9. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE LADIES – IVY AND HORACE TARRANT TROPHY – 18.3.10. - RESULT

Northamptonshire Women's Indoor Bowling Association held their 'Ivy & Horace Tarrant Trophy' on Thursday, 18th March, 2010, involving 7 of the County's Indoor Clubs.

The format is for each club to enter 4 rinks of ladies, two of which will play at home and the other two drawn to play at separate away venues.

After all the scores were in and verified it was clear that the result was very tight. Kingsthorpe IBC and Rushden IBC both had 3 winning rinks and 1 losing, but on shots difference Kingsthorpe took the trophy with 80 shots scored compared with Rushden's 75 shots scored.

The remaining places were:	3 rd	Desborough (2 winning & 2 losing rinks - 87 shots scored
	4 th	Kettering (2 winning & 2 losing rinks - 71 shots scored
	5 th	Wellingborough (2 winning & 2 losing rinks - 67 shots scored
	6 th	Daventry (1 winning, 1 drawn & 2 losing rinks – 69 shots scored
	7 th	Northampton (1 drawn & 3 losing rinks – 57 shots scored

10. COUNTY COMPETITIONS

GENTLEMEN

SINGLES

Semi-Final: Matt Pownall, Desborough beat Andy Smith, Northampton 21-20
Dave Flippance, Desborough given walk-over by Dominic Graham, Northampton.

PAIRS

Semi-Final: Jim Diver/Carl Haines, Desborough beat Dominic Graham & partner

FOURS

Semi-Final: Wayne Gregory's rink, Wellingborough beat Martin Cinato's rink, Desborough

11. BOWLS ENGLAND NEWS

New Sponsors for Ladies Singles

Bowls England has announced that the National Company 'Bon Marche' are to sponsor the National Ladies Singles Championship in 2010. This is very good news for BE and in addition to that sponsorship, members off Bowls England may secure a 20% discount on purchases over £25 at any of the Bon Marche 380 stores nationwide by presenting a voucher which is obtainable by asking your Club/County Secretary to whom the information has been sent. You may also contact me on my email address john.g.church@btinternet.com for further information.

This offer is valid until the 31st October, 2010.

12. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WOMEN'S COUNTY BOWLING ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Ladies outdoor Association is gearing up for the forthcoming season with the publication of the 2010 season Handbook, which gives a wide range of information including a 2009 Winners Gallery; Diary of events; Competitors draw; and much more.

The 2010 President is Pat Gayton, Swanspool BC, with Brenice Willmott, Irchester her Vice-President.

Ladies Secretary Jan Hunt has asked that a reminder be given of the forthcoming meeting of the Association's Council which will be held at 2.0 p.m. on Monday, 19th April, 2010, at Northampton & District Indoor BC.

13. THE ERIC THOMASON TROPHY COMPETITION

The Annual Eric Thomason Trophy competition involving Clubs around the County will be held at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, 27th March, 2010.

14. LEONARD DENNY MEMORIAL TROPHY

Kingsthorpe IBC have arranged to play **Barking IBC** in the Quarter Final of the Leonard Denny Memorial Trophy competition on Sunday, 28th March, 2010, with one rink at home and the other rink away. No further details supplied by the Club.

15. CLUB NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY

DESBOROUGH IBC

Fixtures:

- 27.3.10. Griffins BC visits for a men's match at 2.0 p.m.
- 28.3.10. Swanspool BC visits for a mixed match at 2.0 p.m.
- 31.3.10. Members visit Leicester IBC for a mixed match at 2.0 p.m.

KETTERING LODGE IBC

Fixtures:

- 25.3.10. Northampton & District IBC visits for a men's match at 2.0 p.m.
- 28.3.10. Members visit Huntingdon IBC for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 29.3.10. Wellingborough IBC visits for a ladies match at 2.0 p.m.

KINGSTHORPE IBC

Fixtures:

- 25.3.10. Members visit Harborough & District IBC for a men's match at 2.0 p.m.
27.3.10. Members visit Northampton & District IBC for a men's match at 2.15 p.m. for the 'Dick King' cup
28.3.10. Harborough & District IBC visits for a mixed match at 2.15 p.m.
31.3.10. Members visit Stoke Mandeville IBC for a ladies match at 2.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT IBC

Competitions:

The Club's Men's competitions are getting to the Finals stages as follows:

- Singles Semi-Finals: Dominic Graham beat Phil Reeve
Richard Lemon beat Alan Ramscar
- Pairs Semi-Finals: Rob White/Ray Castle beat Tony O'Leary/John Freeman
Colin Dalgleish/Dominic Graham beat Richard White/Alan Ramscar
- Fours Semi-Finals: Colin Dalgleish/Ian Bland/Andy Smith/Chris Bland beat Bill Spear/Richard White/Trevor Spear/Alan Ramscar
Chris Wright/Wayne Stanley/Dominic Graham/Richard Lemon beat Rob White/Paul Cooke/Tony O'Leary/John Freeman

Fixtures:

- 24.3.10. Members visit Bedford Borough IBC for a ladies match at 2.0 p.m.
25.3.10. Members visit Kettering Lodge IBC for a men's match at 2.0 p.m.
27.3.10. Kingsthorpe IBC visits for a men's match at 2.15 p.m. for the 'Dick King' cup.
28.3.10. Club hosts a match between Northamptonshire VP's and Wiltshire VP's at 2.15 p.m.

RUSHDEN TOWN IBC

Fixtures:

- 25.3.10. Harborough & District IBC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
27.3.10. Members visit Daventry IBC for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
28.3.10. Wellingborough IBC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.

WELLINGBOROUGH IBC

Fixtures:

- 25.3.10. Swanspool Senior Citizens visit for a men's match at 2.15 p.m.
27.3.10. Members visit Bridgmans BC, Beds., for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
28.3.10. Members visit Rushden Town IBC for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
29.3.10. Members visit Kettering Lodge IBC for a ladies match at 2.0 p.m.



John G. Church, MBE – Northamptonshire Bowls Press Officer