

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLS NEWS REPORTS

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**PRESS REPORT**

### **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE v NORFOLK National Over 60's Inter-County League SEMI-FINAL 22.1.09 – RESULT**

Northamptonshire's veterans pulled off a stunning victory over rivals Norfolk to reach the final of the inaugural National Inter-County competition for Over 60's. Norfolk had been well fancied to go all the way but the Northants men were up for the challenge and after the nail-biting victory on the fast St. Neots carpet, Northants Team Manager, John Haines, was a happy man, describing the win – “a great team effort full of spirit and determination”.

They now meet Berkshire in the Final at Lawson Park IBC, Kempston, Bedfordshire on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00 p.m.

The early ends were fairly even but Northants fell behind at the half way point by nine shots. However, a superb rally saw them leading by 18 shots with just three ends left and despite giving their enthusiastic supporters some concerns they final triumphed by seven shots. The final score was Northamptonshire 125 shots – Norfolk 118 shots.

Rink scores, Norfolk skips only: -

#### **Rink 1.**

Brian Thomas  
Norman Gibb  
George Warren  
Carl Haines  
14 shots v B. Thacker 21 shots

#### **Rink 2.**

Gerry Sharp  
Jim Diver  
Walt Winsor  
Maurice Allen  
23 shots v B. Taylor 15 shots

#### **Rink 3.**

Tony Dicks  
Mick Richardson  
Ron Chambers  
Mick Worthington  
19 shots v W. Graver 15 shots

#### **Rink 4.**

Mick Corbyn  
Doug Mitchell  
John Baggat  
Roger Tansley  
10 shots v D. Goodley 34 shots

#### **Rink 5.**

Alan Spencer  
Malcolm Mattinson  
Terry James  
Mick Sharpe  
28 shots v T. Dunton 20 shots

#### **Rink 6.**

Bob Care  
John Clipston  
Colin Jones  
Jim McKee  
31 shots v B. Mitcham 13 shots

## **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE v WORCESTERSHIRE Midland Counties League 25.1.09 – RESULT**

Northamptonshire put themselves on the brink of retaining the Midland Counties Championship with a 68-shot win over bottom of the table Worcestershire at Northampton and District. The home team had far too much strength in depth for their opponents, winning on five of the six rinks. Only Warwickshire, with three matches still to play can catch Northants now and must beat Bedfordshire, Worcestershire and Derby all by a 22-0 score line in order to leapfrog the holders. The final score was Northamptonshire 150 shots (20 points) – Worcestershire 82 shots (2 points).

Rink scores, Worcestershire skips only: -

### **Rink 1.**

Jack Tobin  
Richard Somerton  
Alun Withers  
Neil Corbyn  
28 shots v R. Caldwell 11 shots

### **Rink 2.**

Tony Dicks  
Bernard Spreadbury  
Mick Worthington  
Vernon Gearey  
24 shots v D. Palfrey 19 shots

### **Rink 3.**

Malcolm Paul  
Matt Wordingham  
Sam Wade  
Dave Flippance  
29 shots v M. Boyd 10 shots

### **Rink 4.**

Richard Lemon  
John Pickaver  
Richard Mann  
John Haines  
33 shots v J. Knowles 6 shots

### **Rink 5.**

Jim Diver  
Malcolm Mattinson  
Pete Ward  
Chris Bland  
16 shots v A. Towel 21 shots

### **Rink 6.**

Simon Walker  
Brian Thomas  
Carl Haines  
Terry James  
20 shots v P. Stokes 15 shots

## **WELLINGBOROUGH IBC UNDER 25'S REACH NATIONAL FINAL**

Wellingborough became the first ever county team to reach the final of the National Under 25 Inter-Club Double Rink competition with a hard fought win over Nottingham, winners of the event for the past two years. Backed by 25 travelling supporters at Melton, Wellingborough held a narrow lead of a single shot after 10 ends but by 15 ends led by 12, with Jamie Walker's rink building up a commanding 22-4 advantage. Despite their best efforts Nottingham were unable to get back on terms with Wellingborough wrapping it up 36-28. Both teams showed expertise which on occasions astounded the crowd. It is worthy of note that both front end players on Jamie Walker's rink, Connor Cinato and Jamie's younger brother William, are just twelve years of age, making them certainly the youngest Northants players to reach a National final. They now play Torquay United in the final at Lawson Park IBC, Kempston, Bedfordshire on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30pm.

Rink scores, Nottingham skips only: -

### **Rink 1.**

Ryan Poulson  
Curtis Johnson  
Callum Height  
Michael Chester  
14 shots v Dan Smith 16 shots

### **Rink 2.**

Connor Cinato  
William Walker  
Scott Johnson  
Jamie Walker  
22 shots v Matt Vickery 12 shots

## **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE UNDER 25's versus KETTERING LODGE IBC Friendly match 25.1.09 – RESULT**

### **Rink 1.**

Keira Hill, Desborough  
Trudy Beard, Northampton  
Victoria Stevenson, Northampton  
Rebecca Wigfield, Desborough

### **Rink 2.**

John Cooper, Rushden  
Mark Green,  
Nathan Betts, Rushden  
Chris Wright, Northampton

**Rink 3.**

Matt Cattell, Rushden  
 Chris Manton, Kingsthorpe  
 Tom Wellburn, Kingsthorpe  
 Carl Wigfield, Desborough

**Rink 4.**

Jasmin Spear, Northampton  
 Kay White, Desborough  
 Sam Gamble, Kettering  
 Will Hill, Desborough

**SCORES NOT YET SUPPLIED. I WILL ISSUE SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT WHEN AVAILABLE****NORTHAMPTONSHIRE UNDER 25's INDOOR SPONSOR**

At last Sunday's match against Wellingborough, the Northamptonshire Under 25's players were proud to pull on their new playing shirts for the first time, provided thanks to the generosity of their new sponsors, the **Changing Minds (Enterprise) Community Interest Company**. It will be a huge incentive to the county youngsters to have this extra support and will hopefully be the start of a long and successful partnership.

One in four adults will experience mental health distress which can affect their wellbeing. The Changing Minds (Enterprise) Community Interest Company was set up in 2007 with the aim to support a wide range of ventures that can help people to improve or maintain their wellbeing. There is good evidence that physical activity, especially as part of a team is an important component to this.

The Northamptonshire Under 25's bowls team is just one of the community activities that the Changing Minds (Enterprise) CIC is very pleased to be able to support. Mike Scanlan, a Nurse Consultant for mental health stated – "It is great to see so many young people in Northamptonshire actively involved in the sport. "The polo shirts provide a real sense of team identity, which is really important for self-esteem. "I wish the Under 25s team every success in the future."

**MIDLAND COUNTIES IBA "CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS"**

There were mixed fortunes for the Northamptonshire representatives in the first rounds played at Leicester Slater Street. In the triples, Richard Lemon (sub for Alan Ramscar *injured*), Andy Smith, Chris Bland (Northampton) got off to a slow start against the Worcestershire champions from Malvern Hill, A. Hall, B. Whitcombe and R. Atkins and trailed 0-11. A spirited recovery however saw the match go to an extra end when the scores were tied at 18-18 only for the Worcester player's edge through. In the fours, County champions Brian Thomas, Ross Knox, Alun Withers, John Haines (Desborough) were always in control against their opponents from Herefordshire and ran out convincing winners. They next play in the semi-finals on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February at Leicester (10.00am). On the same day, Chris Bland will take on Herefordshire's winner Shaun Jones (Leominster) in the singles semi-final.

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE v NORTHANTS & HUNTS MASONIC Friendly match 21.1.09 – RESULT**

The county men enjoyed an overwhelming 163-shot win over the Northants and Hunts Masonic, whom they entertained at Desborough IBC. The final score was Northamptonshire 224 shots – Northants & Hunts Masonic 61 shots.

Rink scores, Northants players only: -

**Rink 1.**

Jim Diver  
 Clyde Hulbert  
 Keith Howlett  
 Wally Stoddard  
 39 shots v N&HM 10 shots

**Rink 2.**

Brian Gelder  
 Tony Lane  
 Mick Weatherill  
 Tony Warren  
 29 shots v N&HM 10 shots

**Rink 3.**

Eddie Pinder  
 Mick York  
 Doug Hatton  
 Alec McKim  
 29 shots v N&HM 14 shots

**Rink 4.**

John Whiting  
 Mick Pullen  
 Stan Richardson  
 Richard Somerton  
 28 shots v N&HM 7 shots

**Rink 5.**

John Smith  
 James Walvin  
 Dave Garland  
 Andy Purcell  
 31 shots v N&HM 9 shots

**Rink 6.**

Gordon Morris  
 Peter Byworth  
 Norman Gibb  
 Brian Sherwood  
 34 shots v N&HM 11 shots

## **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS v RUSHDEN IBC Friendly match 22.1.09 – RESULT**

The VP's suffered their worst defeat in over two years at the hands of Rushden IBC and their third defeat consecutively. The home side won on all six rinks, convincingly reversing the result of when the teams met last season. The final score was Northamptonshire VP's 83 shots – Rushden 131 shots.

Rink Scores, Rushden skips named only: -

### **Rink 1.**

Dennis Franklyn  
Geoff Talbot  
Tony Buckmaster  
Tacy Nunn  
10 shots v R. Barlow 25 shots

### **Rink 2.**

Barry Adair  
Ken Friend  
Graham Cashmore  
Brian Langton  
15 shots v D. Eggleton 22 shots

### **Rink 3.**

Bob Tingle  
Roly Smith  
Wally Stoddard  
Geoff Harris  
15 shots v G. Cole 19 shots

### **Rink 4.**

John Watson  
Tony Johnson  
Richard Howell  
Dave Williamson  
14 shots v J. St John 22 shots

### **Rink 5.**

Len Smith  
Mick Garley  
Tony Essam  
Roy Cave  
16 shots v R. Bigg 24 shots

### **Rink 6.**

Phil Miller  
Geoff Care  
Peter Byworth  
Keith Forbes  
13 shots v H. Dickens 19 shots

Forthcoming VPs fixtures:

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January v Lincolnshire VPs at Grantham IBC

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February v Kettering Lodge IBC

## **INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL COMPETITIONS – LATEST RESULTS**

Northampton's Pete Maloy was a happy man after edging past his club mate Colin Dalglish by the narrowest of margins, 21-20, to reach the National finals in March. Maloy, who qualified in the Over 60's Pairs two years ago (with Dalglish) found himself 4 shots adrift at 15-11 but held his nerve on the final few ends. It was a brave effort by Dalglish, who is still recovering from a freak car injury to his leg more than a year ago. In the Over 60's Pairs, Kingsthorpe duo John Baggat and Mick Sharpe came through a hard fought battle at Desborough against Malcolm Mattinson and Terry James (Rushden) by 20-17.

### **Gentlemen**

#### **Pairs**

#### **5<sup>th</sup> ROUND**

Dave Flippance & John Haines (Desborough) beat Callum Height & Jamie Walker (Wellingborough) 21-12

#### **Over 60's Singles**

#### **AREA FINAL**

Pete Maloy (Northampton) beat Colin Dalglish (Northampton) 21-20

#### **Over 60's Pairs**

#### **AREA FINAL**

John Baggat & Mick Sharpe (Kingsthorpe) beat Malc Mattinson & Terry James (Rushden) 20-17

#### ***Semi-final line up's:***

#### **Singles**

Andy Hunter (Kingsthorpe) v Neil McKee (Kingsthorpe); Andy Smith (Northampton) v Chris Bland (Northampton)

#### **Pairs**

Andrew Manton & Neil McKee (Kingsthorpe) or Iain Walker & Mick Sharpe (Kingsthorpe) v Roger Tansley & Paul Maynard (Kingsthorpe); Dave Flippance & John Haines (Desborough) v Bob Collyer & Matt Wordingham (Rushden)

- Triples** Steve Norman, Rob Norman, Maurice Allen (Wellingborough) v Neil Rees, Mark Corbyn, Neil Corbyn (Wellingborough); Andrew Manton, Mick Sharpe, Neil McKee (Kingsthorpe) v Roger Tansley, Andy Hunter, Calvin Carpenter (Kingsthorpe)
- Fours** Callum Height, Michael Chester, Martin Walker, Jamie Walker (Wellingborough) v Andrew Manton, Paul Maynard, Mick Sharpe, Neil McKee (Kingsthorpe); Mark Corbyn, Neil Rees, Neil Corbyn, Paul Broderick (Wellingborough) v Robin Adams, Andy Smith, Alan Ramskar Chris Bland (Northampton)

### **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE & RUTLAND MASONIC BOWLING ASSOCIATION**

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January Northamptonshire and Rutland Masonic Bowling Association are presenting a cheque for £700-00 to the Lakeland Hospice at their premises at 2-30pm. At a date still to be arranged, a cheque for the same amount will be given to the new Cardiac unit at Kettering General Hospital.

Every year, two charities are selected to be recipients of monies raised at the matches throughout the year and these were the two chosen this year.

**Chris BLAND**

**On behalf of**  
**John G. CHURCH, MBE – Northamptonshire Bowls Press Officer**