

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLS NEWS REPORTS

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PRESS REPORT

MCIBA Championship – Northamptonshire versus Worcestershire 27th January, 2008 – RESULT

Northamptonshire bowlers have kept the pressure well and truly on in the Midland Counties Indoor Championship by a very impressive win against Worcestershire on the 27th January, 2008, at Bromsgrove IBC, taking all the honours with a win by a massive 76 shots, each rink playing its part in a 22points to nil allocation from the six winning rinks. Final score was Northamptonshire 161 shots – Worcestershire 85 shots. Team Manager John Haines' rink were 7 shots adrift after 4 ends but on the 5th end picked up a full house count of 8 shots from which they then raced away to a 20 shot victory, particularly over the last 5 ends of the match when they collected 15 shots.

This win keeps the County at the top of the table with two more games to play, having a current record of played 5 and won 4. Their closest rivals are Nottinghamshire 5 points further back but the County has a game in hand over them. Rink scores, Worcestershire skips only, are as follows:

Rink 1.

Robin Adams
Ross Knox
Darren Lewis
Calvin Carpenter v D Durant
28 shots 12 shots

Rink 2.

Tony Dicks
Richard Mann
Mick Worthington
Dave Flippance v A Lambert
27 shots 17 shots

Rink 3.

Brian Thomas
Richard Somerton
Alun Withers
John Haines v D Palfrey
32 shots 12 shots

Rink 4.

Bob Fuller
Carl Haines
Richard Lemon
Terry James v R Caldwell
24 shots 13 shots

Rink 5.

Mark Corbyn
Bernard Spreadbury
Andy Smith
Chris Bland v A McWhinnie
27 shots 15 shots

Rink 6.

Malcolm Paul
Jim Diver
Dominic Graham
Peter Ward v A Towle
21 shots 16 shots

EIBA National Denny Cup Quarter Final – Kingsthorpe IBC versus Preston IBC Brighton – RESULT

Kingsthorpe has done it again. The Club is through to the Semi-Finals of the National Denny Cup.

Kingsthorpe has repeated its feat of last year in reaching the Semi-Finals of the National Inter Club Denny Cup Competition. The players will obviously be hoping to go at least one stage further, and repeat their success of 2003 when the trophy was theirs.

The story of the match makes interesting reading for it was a bit of a roller-coaster for the County Club, who were obliged to make just one change from the original team due to the illness of John Baggat, whose place was taken by Colin Fowkes.

A good sized contingent of supporters were encouraged by their Club's start in picking up 9 shots without reply on the first end, and as the game progressed the lead increased steadily and after 6 ends stood at 28 shots with Preston having scored just 7 shots. However, at this level of bowls it is not usual to have an easy ride and over the next 2 ends Preston gave notice that they had the ability to compete by taking 12 shots from Kingsthorpe without reply, and although the County Club stopped that charge in end 9 by taking 4 shots to 2 shots against, end 10 was a bit of a shock to the visiting supporters for Preston picked up 12 shots to just 1 against to reduce their deficit to 9 shots.

This must have appeared to be the 'wake up' call the Kingsthorpe players needed for over the next 5 ends they cruised ahead to achieve a lead by 28 shots after 15 ends. Even the most cynical observer must have expected at that stage that the County club only had to play it safe to the end but Preston were not yet done for, and with shots being dropped across the green, especially in the 20th end when Kingsthorpe dropped 12 without reply, the game suddenly looked as though it was going to be a cliff-hanger finish.

Fortunately a couple of shots were picked up by the rinks finishing first which left Preston's Ollie Ovett, skipping against Vernon Gearey an almost impossible task of being required to pick up 6 shots on his last end to win for his Club, and despite his best efforts, in which he 'killed' three ends when faced with defeat, when his final drive missed the target Kingsthorpe had won.

It was a very exciting game to watch as an independent, although of course I wanted our County club to win, and there was some superb bowling by both sides. All Kingsthorpe's players made significant contributions to the game but my man of the match was Vernon Gearey, not just because he skipped a winning rink, but because of his coolness under pressure when he was a multiple shots down on several occasions just to see him draw the shot.

Kingsthorpe now play Cumbria IBC in the semi-final at Lawson Park IBC, Kempston, Bedford, on Sunday, 9th March, 2008.

Final score was Kingsthorpe 85 shots – Preston 76 shots. Rink scores, Preston skips only, as follows:

Rink 1.	Rink 2.	Rink 3.	Rink 4.
Chris Maden	Paul Maynard	Jason Bryan	Roger Tansley
Colin Jones	Bob Care	Colin Fowkes	Darren Lewis
Calvin Carpenter	Andrew Manton	Richard Mann	Andrew Hunter
Mick Sharpe 23 shots	Neil McKee 15 shots	Vernon Gearey 27 shots	Jim McKee 20 shots
versus	versus	versus	versus
Dave Ovett 23 shots	Richard Moses 15 shots	Ollie Ovett 16 shots	Adrian Finnie 22 shots

NIBA County Friendly versus Northamptonshire Police BA 31.1.08 – RESULT

The gentlemen bowlers of Northamptonshire Indoor Bowling Association were not so gentlemanly in their match against Northamptonshire Police on Thursday, 31st January, 2008, held at Kettering Lodge IBC, for although at the half-way stage they had allowed the Police players to lead them by 3 shots they then went into overdrive to quell them and win the match by 46 shots.

At 10 ends across the green the score was 41 to the County to 44 to the Police at 15 ends the lead had gone in favour of the County by 10 shots, and just 3 ends later it had increased to 27 shots and over the last 3 ends the Police managed to scrape together just 6 shots to the 25 shots harvested by the County. Final score Northamptonshire Indoor Bowling Association 115 shots – Northamptonshire Police 69 shots. Rink scores, Police skips only, as follows:

Rink 1.	Rink 2.	Rink 3.	Rink 4.
Eddie Pinder	Brian Robbins	Jim Diver	Mick Hall
Mick Richardson	John Smith	Mick Pullen	Peter Byworth
Dave Garland	Mick Weatherill	Walter Stoddard	Tony Warren
Brian Sherwood	Doug Hatton	Richard Somerton	Bernard Spreadbury
32 shots	31 shots	28 shots	24 shots
versus	versus	versus	versus
Dickie Briggs	Brian Hayes	Pete Simmons	Brian Oram
21 shots	19 shots	8 shots	21 shots

Under 18's 'Bowls Fest' Triples Day at Wellingborough 9.2.08

The 'Bowls Fest' for young bowlers under the age of 18 years will take place at Wellingborough IBC from 10.0 a.m. on Saturday, 9th February, 2008, involving young men and women from across the County, in keen competitive bowling for the 'Gordon Eric Bailey' Trophy and cash prizes.

It is a Triples day and each Triple's combined age must not exceed a total of 45 years. This is the second year of competition in this format and one can guarantee a very good day of competitive bowling.

EWIBA National Egham Trophy Last 16 – Kingsthorpe versus Lincoln & District IBC 10.2.08.

Kingsthorpe IBC will be aiming at furthering its ambition to succeed in another National competition to follow the excellent result in the Denny Cup Quarter Finals. This time it is the Egham Trophy competition where the players will do battle as one of the last 16 against Lincoln & District IBC on Sunday, 10th February, 2008. The format is two rinks at home and two away, and Kingsthorpe has selected an almost unchanged team from the previous round. Hilary Sharpe comes in to the team in place of Celia Morris, but otherwise the same players will hope to carry the Club into the Quarter Finals. Team as follows:

At Kingsthorpe: Yvonne McKee/Hilary Sharpe/Richard Mann/Jim McKee
Sally Row/Di Brumwell/Andrew Manton/Mick Sharpe
At Lincoln: Michelle Tansley/Sharon Tansley/Andrew Hunter/Calvin Carpenter
Donna Williamson/Cynthia Cherry/Chris Maden/Vernon Gearey

NIBA County Friendly versus Norfolk at Desborough 6.2.08. – SELECTED TEAM

The Gentlemen of Northamptonshire Indoor Bowling Association meet their Norfolk counterparts in a friendly match on Wednesday, 6th February, 2008, at Desborough IBC, commencing at 2.0 p.m. The following have been selected for the County:

Rink 1. Eddie Pinder, Daventry Peter Woodhams, Rushden Tony Fairmaner, Kettering Al McKim, Desborough	Rink 2. Eric Wareing, Daventry Mick Pullen, Rushden Brian Sherwood, Rushden Richard Somerton, Brackley	Rink 3. Mick Hall, Brackley Mick Richardson, Daventry Stan Richardson, Northampton John Lewis, Rushden
Rink 4. Brian Robbins, Daventry Peter Byworth, Wellingborough Dennis Church, Northampton George Warren, Desborough	Rink 5. John Whiting, Northampton Dave Thurlow, Wellingborough Mick Weatherill, Wellingborough Andy Purcell, Desborough	Rink 6. Ted Summerton, Northampton John Smith, Kettering Tony Warren, Northampton Brian Jones, Daventry

National Championships at Northampton & District IBC 16-23rd February, 2008 – Early Notice

Northampton & District IBC is proud to be asked to host some of the Finals of the National Championships from the 16th to the 23rd February, 2008. Those being played to a conclusion include the Mixed Pairs; Mixed Fours; Over 50 Triples; Father & Son; all of which have County interest. In addition the Under 25's inter club and inter county double rinks, and the inter club over 60's double rinks finals will be played.

Further details of those participating will be supplied in the next report.

NATIONAL Competitions – Latest Results

GENTLEMEN

SINGLES Paul Broderick (Wellingborough) beat Paul Maynard (Kingsthorpe) 21-18
Area Semi-Finals: Andy Smith (Northampton) beat Richard Lemon (Northampton) 21-12

Broderick and Smith now meet in the Area Final on a date to be fixed the winner then qualifying for the National Finals at Nottingham in April.

PAIRS
Area Semi-Final: Andy Smith and Chris Bland (Northampton) beat Mark & Neil Corbyn (Wellingborough) 19-18 (They now await the winner of the other semi-final between Mick Sharpe/Neil McKee (Kingsthorpe) and Neil Rees/Paul Broderick (Wellingborough) for the Area Final the winner of which will qualify for the National Finals at Nottingham in April)

TRIPLES
Area Semi-Finals: Malcolm Paul/Peter Ward/Dave Flippance (Desborough) beat Jason Hall/Alun Withers/John Haines(Desborough) 21-9
Andrew Manton/Mick Sharpe/Neil McKee (Kingsthorpe) beat Carl Wigfield/Ross Knox/Graham Southgate (Desborough) 23-7.

The Desborough trio skipped by Flippance now meets that from Kingsthorpe skipped by McKee in the area final on a date to be fixed.

OVER 60 PAIRS
Area Final John Baggat & Mick Sharpe (Kingsthorpe) beat Pete Maloy & Ray Spatcher (Northampton) 22-9

Baggat & Sharpe now qualify for the National Finals at Loddon Vale IBC, Basingstoke, on the 5th March, 2008, being in the last 32 in the country. This will be Sharpe's second visit of that week, he being in the last 32 of the Over 60 Singles on the 3rd March.

NIBA Quarter Finals Draw – County Competition.

The final stages are close in the men's County competitions with the Quarter Finals having been reached and the following to play in the various disciplines as shown before the 19th February, 2008:

SINGLES: Andy Smith (Northampton) versus Neil Corbyn (Wellingborough)
Dominic Graham (Northampton) versus Robert Norman (Wellingborough)
Chris Bland (Northampton) versus Peter Ward (Desborough)
Alun Withers (Desborough) versus Martin Underwood (Rushden)

PAIRS: Richard Lemon (Northampton) versus John Haines (Desborough)
Ollie Kirkwood (Northampton) versus Darren Lyman (Wellingborough)
Malc Mattinson (Rushden) versus Colin Fowkes (Kingsthorpe)
Dave Masters (Northampton) versus Chris Bland (Northampton)

TRIPLES: Dougie Mitchell (Daventry) versus Alun Withers (Desborough)
Richard Lemon (Northampton) versus Peter Ward (Desborough)
Martin Underwood (Rushden) versus John Haines (Desborough)
Phil Bates (Desborough) versus Chris Bland (Northampton)

FOURS: Robert Norman (Wellingborough) versus John Haines (Desborough)
Martin Cinato (Wellingborough) versus Ollie Kirkwood (Northampton)
Tony Burns (Kingsthorpe) versus Colin Fowkes (Kingsthorpe)
Dave Flippance (Desborough) versus Martin Underwood (Rushden)

CLUB NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY

Desborough IBC

- 6.2.08. The Club hosts the County match between Northamptonshire and Norfolk at 2.0 p.m.
- 7.2.08. The Club visits Northampton & District for a 6 rink mixed match at 2.15 p.m.
- 9.2.08. Stewarts & Lloyds BC visit for a 6 rink men's match at 2.0 p.m.
- 10.2.08. Huntingdonshire Vice Presidents visit for a 6 rink mixed match at 2.0 p.m.
- 11.2.08. Wellingborough Ladies visit for a 4/6 rink match at 2.0 p.m.

Ise BC, Kettering

- 9.2.08. Members visit Kettering Lodge IBC for a 4 rink men's match at 2.0 p.m.

Kettering Lodge IBC

- 9.2.08. Ise BC visits for a 4 rink mixed match at 2.0 p.m.
- 10.2.08. Harborough & District IBC visits for a 4 rink mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 11.2.08. McAlpines BC visits for a 4 rink mixed match at 2.0 p.m.

Kingsthorpe IBC

- 7.2.08. Abington BC visits for a 6 rink men's match at 2.15 p.m.
- 9.2.08. The Griffins BC visit for a 6 rink men's match at 2.15 p.m.
- 10.2.08. Leicester Goodwood BC visits for a 6 rink mixed match at 2.15 p.m.

McAlpine BC, Kettering

- 11.2.08. Members visit Kettering Lodge IBC for a ladies 4 rink match at 2.0 p.m.

Northampton & District IBC

- 7.2.08. Desborough IBC visits for a 6 rink men's match at 2.15 p.m.

Northampton Express BC

The Club held its Annual General Meeting on Friday, 25th January, 2008, and the following were elected to take office:

President: Richard Lemon
Captain: Peter Hoad
V/Captain: Steve Lemon
Secretary: Peter Letts
Treasurer: Ken Berrill
Match Secretary: Ian Bland
Committee: Chris Bland, John Carter, Wayne Stanley

Ken Berrill, Treasurer, is a remarkable member of this Club. He has been a member continuously for 50 years, is a Life Member, and has been President twice 81/82, & 85/86, Captain 5 times in 1960, 1967, 1973, 1978, and 1988, and has been Treasurer since 1992.

He first played for the County in 1960, and has reached the latter stages in County competitions on several occasions. In his working life Ken was Foreman in the Heavy Machinery Shop of the Express Lift Company whose name the Club still bears.

Rushden IBC

- 7.2.08. Riverain IBC Hertfordshire visits for a 6 rink mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 9.2.08. The Ladies President's team plays the Immediate Past President's team at 12 noon.
- 10.2.08. Bridgman BC, Beds. visits for a 6 rink mixed match at 2.30 p.m.

Wellingborough IBC

- 7.2.08. Northants & Hunts Masonic BA visits for a 6 rink men's match at 2.15 p.m.
- 9.2.08. The Club hosts the 'Bowls Fest' Triples tournament all day for Under 18 bowlers.
- 11.2.08. The Ladies visit Desborough IBC for a 4 rink Ladies match at 2.0 p.m.
- 13.2.08. The Club plays host to a match between Northants & Hunts Masonic and their Leicestershire counterparts.

The Club organises the Annual Wells Young Open Fours Tournament (formerly Charles Wells Tournament) and has done for many years, drawing teams from a very wide area. The draw has been made for this year's event which commences with the first of the qualifying days being on Saturday, 16th February, 2008. More detail will follow in my next week's report.



John G.Church, MBE – Bowls Press Officer