

The Inside Line



Southern Scratch League Launched

Written by Colin Laing

Sunday, 7th April saw a new dawn in Southern England, with the launch of the Southern Scratch League. Based on the long-running and successful Midland Scratch League format, MFA Newbury gave home to the eight teams that make up the league's first (and currently only) division.

Format overview (for those that don't know) are 2 points for a win head to head, and 6 points for the team win, giving 16 points available each game – 112 over the day.

All teams were ready to get on the lanes for the 10am start, raring to go and see what they'd signed up to, and also who else was involved. They didn't mess around in getting stuck into some good scoring and close games either! Strike Zone Romford set the standard, beating Tolworth Inertia 1031-953 to take the lead in the table with a 14-2 win. Fareham, Tolworth Tomahawks and Aylesbury all took 12 points each as they played Romford, Tolworth Pocket Ticklers and Crawley Rolling

Pins respectively. The second game saw Craig Tracey of Fareham start with the front 9 to chuck a 278, helping Fareham to a 14-2 win over Aylesbury with a respectable 1039. Romford also started mixing things up with a 12-4 win over Rolling Pins, whilst a morning-high 1055 game saw Inertia take 14 points from Tomahawks to really open the field.

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British Tenpin
Bowling Association
www.btba.org.uk
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Southern Scratch League launches

By lunchtime, after game 4, the table had Strike Zone top (53), Fareham (44), Rolling Pins (36), Aylesbury (31), Inertia (30), Tomahawks (28) with Romford (22) and Pocket Ticklers (12) finishing the table.

Given how Strike Zone had dropped just 11 points all morning, it was somewhat of a surprise that in Game 5, they should be beaten 16-0 by Crawley, while in the same game, Tomahawks beat Fareham 12-4, and Pocket Ticklers beat Aylesbury 14-2, all of which blew the table wide open. With just 13 points separating the top five teams, suddenly there was everything to play for! Strike Zone scrapped to a 10-6 win over Tomahawks in Game 6, whilst Lee Chatfield reminded everyone that he can still do some skittling by guiding his Inertia team to a 1034 and 16-0

win over Pocket Ticklers by bowling a day-high 289 into the bargain!

Game 7 saw the match of the day, with Fareham taking on Strike Zone – 3rd v 1st. With just 3 points between the top 3 teams, the victor of this match would see that team top at the close of play. Pocket Ticklers (12) Tomahawks (14) and Inertia (10) all won their games, but it was Fareham v Strike Zone that went to the wire. In the end, Strike Zone came out on top, with 12 points, although the match was a lot closer than the scoreline suggested. The team scores of Strike Zone winning 1087-1054 indicate what a great match it was – and hopefully the first of many!

Final table along with individual averages can be found at www.southernscratchleague.org.uk

Next stop is Dunstable on the 1 June. We are hoping that the success of the first round might lead some of those considering putting a team in, to actually doing it. If you would like to join the SSL and create a second division, we need 4 more teams to do it! The league is open to anyone of any ability as the divisional structure will keep things competitive, whatever your average!

If you would like more details on how to join, please contact **Colin Laing**, General Secretary of the MSL Network at:

secretary@mslnetwork.org.uk

but please be quick!

Central Region Report

Written by Daniel Bonfield

There have been some great achievements for bowlers in the Central Region recently. Two stand out performances have come to my attention. Hertfordshire Senior Tony Imren on winning what was a very competitive Tenpin Tour event at Worthing, and Northampton's under 15's Girls County team who recently came 3rd in the Under 15's Inter County championships. Well done to Tony and the Girls and coaches at

Northamptonshire.

I would like to say a word of thanks to my Area Secretaries. Not only do they have to put up with my long boring emails, but in recent weeks I have had them working hard and pestering them for information, especially on the unsanctioned leagues in their Areas. It's important that we document the details of these leagues. If you're a BTBA member

bowling in an unsanctioned league, I would also ask for your help. Speak to your Area secretary about how they can help in converting your league to a sanctioned league and when at your next league AGM, please raise the subject of returning to the BTBA.

Thank you and remember, bowlers stay classy!

High Rollers - Records broken and personal bests set

Airport

Wayne Lester reports...

A few recent achievements to report at the Airport with four 300 games in the last few weeks.

Firstly, **Robert Crosbie** with his first ever sanctioned 300 game in the Horlicks Marshall league, followed a week later by **Damian Gray** with his

23rd. Then **Ray Teece** made his 15th 300 game - and the first so far in the Scratch League - on Dead Man's Curve. Not to be out-done, **Richard Teece** responded with 300, his 19th, the following week back in Horlicks Marshalls.

Finally, **Stuart Fripp** in the Horlicks Marshalls league had an 801 series.

It seems the scores have started to

pour through in the last month. Well done to all of you!

Dunstable

Special mention to Daniel 'Basher' Bonfield for his 300 on 6th April. He then followed this feat up with another 300 the very next day!

High rollers - records broken and personal bests set

Dunstable

Daniel Bonfield reports...

It seems I inspire those I bowl with to shoot big scores! Last month I reported on **Richie Rev's Lewis** having his first 300 and on the 26 Feb another of my team mates shot an 800 series. **Gary 'tezza' Robertson** bowling in Comwake league at Gobowling shot games of 258,259,288 for a 805 series. He still managed to get hung and team mate Terry Field made sure he noted it in his little book. **Gary 'tezza' Robertson** then followed this up with another 800 in the same league with a 802 on 19 March - this time though he avoided going in Terry's little book!

On the same night, **Allan Ashby** rolled his third 300. Many congratulations Allan!! However, a plea from Dan "Please stop bowling 300s just for a couple of weeks as I can barely keep up with them all them, most of my evenings are spent filling in high score sanction forms" !!!

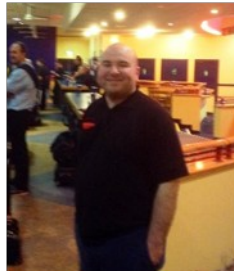
If it's not my team mates having big scores, then it's my opposition! On 9 March bowling in the Scratch trios at Gobowling, **Graeme Wilson** looked on course for his first 300 game... he struck 11 times and just need one more to finally get the monkey off his back and join the 300 club... but with knees knocking, he managed to pull the ball leaving a 5 pin for another 299 game - Next time Wilson, next time!

More high rollers in the Meg Jordache Scratch Trios league at Dunstable Gobowling.. This is Dunstable's only scratch league and scoring is always high. On 16 March, in a postponed match, **Chris 'Gibbo' Gibson** had a 300 which is his 2nd this season and cements his place at the top of the averages with 233.8 over 54 games. Then the next day saw **Martin Stackpoole** shoot his highest game

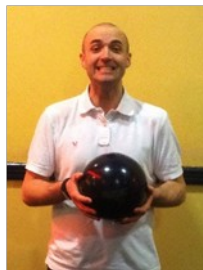
with a 289 and then 'hot hand' **Tony Imren** went and had a 300, which is the league's 5th 300 this season!



Martin Stackpoole



Chris Gibson



Gary Robertson

PPS team of the Friday Trios bowled at AMF Peterborough. Danny bowled 731 with a 300 game, **Mark Wells** bowled 691 and **Ali Ayling** bowled 634 making a 2056 scratch series for the team. Danny had the only sub 200 game with a 199 - perhaps he should be dropped for the next match??!!

Coventry

Daniel Bonfield reports...

Bowling in the Tenpin Challenge League at Coventry bowl, Junior England bowler **Brandon Roberts** went and shot his 9th 300 and with other games of 226 and 203 meant Brandon shot a 729 series.



Brandon Roberts

Worcester

Sue Allen reports...

In the Tuesday Classic league on 11 Feb, **Andy Jones** was at it again, bowling another perfect game - his 2nd this year. Well done Andy! Let's see how many more 300's you can get this year.

Peterborough

Christine Young and Daniel Bonfield report...

Congratulations to **Danny Ayling** and

Nottingham

Frazer Bowen reports...

Carrying on his recent excellent form, **Phil Martin** shot an 840 series in the Falstaff League. Narrowly missing out on a 300 with a 296, his other games were 268 and 276.

Even closer to 300 was **Mark Fossey** with 299. While the perfect 300 game was achieved by **Simon Morris** during the County Roll Off and **Ian Milham** in the Falstaff League.

Sussex Report

There's been so much great bowling going on in Sussex that it's hard to remember everything that has happened, so apologies if anyone gets forgotten or missed...it's nothing personal.

So, let's start at Worthing. Congratulations to Lisa John and Phil Scammell for taking the doubles house record with a massive 577 game. Lisa could only manage 277 to Phil's 300, but none the less it was a great game and one for the Sussex record books.

Congratulations to Sean Hussey for being selected to represent England at the forthcoming European Youth Championships in Denmark. Sean has been showing some excellent form during league recently, with a 750 set during the Major League, so we wish him and the rest of the team the very best of luck in Denmark.

Congratulations also go to Lisa John on her Team England selection. Lisa has been chosen to represent England at the European Women's Championships in Berlin in June. Lisa believes that this will be the 35th time that she has represented Team England across all age groups and is hoping to bring home some

more medals to add to her collection. At just 32 years old, Lisa is the most successful bowler to be born and raised in Sussex and we are very proud to call her ours! Good luck to Lisa and the rest of the team in Germany this summer.

Now, on to Crawley. There have been so many high scores of late, it is fantastic. There have been 300's and 800's popping up all over the place. Steve Creasy and his team have been working wonders at Crawley and we're sure all the bowlers would like to thank them for what they have done.

First of all congratulations to Lee Shillingford for his 300 game. Lee is still a junior and has only been bowling for a short amount of time so to achieve this so soon in his bowling career is amazing. Well done Lee! Another 300 went to Lee's coach Steve Chinn, although apparently it wasn't quite as good as Lee's. None the less, it is still a fantastic achievement...well done to both of you.

A run of form from Chris Kibble saw him shoot his highest series of 805, which included games of 248, 279 and 278. Well done Chris, fantastic

bowling.

And finally we stop at Eastbourne. The Eastbourne Outlaws recently made the journey to Romford for the BTBA National Championships. At the time of writing this article Eastbourne B, consisting of Pete Baldwin, Malcolm Faulkner, Alex Castle, Greg Langston and Phil Harris, were holding on to 3rd position in the division B team event with a score of 2739. Eastbourne C, consisting of Dave Purnell, Charlie Cook, Pete Skan, James Hayes and Paul Wilmshurst, were top of the tree in Division C with a score of 2472. Dave Purnell and James Hayes were holding on to 3rd place in the Division C doubles and James Hayes and Paul Wilmshurst were both in 2nd place in the Men's all events in their respective divisions. Paul was also in 2nd place in the singles. With one weekend still to go, it is anyone's game but congratulations to you all on another great Nationals, regardless of what happens on the final weekend.

So, as you can see there has been some amazing bowling coming out of Sussex and plenty more still to come. Well done to everyone.

Dan is a Top Bowler

Written by Lee Crosby

Daniel Wall recently finished top in the U15 age group at the recent Surrey Area trials and was presented with a certificate and medal by Paul Dale (Surrey Area President).

The presentation was carried out at the MBM league where Daniel is a regular "combatant" and loves bowling against the 'older' bowlers – and beating them as well! He is

pictured with John Wells who collected yet another 300 and an



800+ award, along with Paul who presented the certificates.

Dan is from a bowling family and

his older sister Lucy is a member of the Surrey squad who recently won silver at the U18 Counties. As always there is a little bit of rivalry between Dan and Lucy and it won't be long before he follows in her footsteps, hopefully winning a medal for his County too. Well done Dan!

Northamptonshire County Adult Trials

Written by Alan Wills

Our trials were held at AMF Wellingborough on Sunday 9th February 2014 and attracted 6 ladies and 15 men as competitors.

The competition was held over 8 games, split into 2 blocks of 4 on two completely different lane conditions.

The morning condition turned out to be very challenging, after which the men's leader was **Michael Smith** on 798, closely followed by **Julian Cawthorne** on 792.

Leading lady at this stage was **Kirsty Drain** on 734.

During the break for lane dressing, the County AGM was held and the following people were elected to the Executive Committee:

President – Alan Wells, Vice President – Craig Ellis, Secretary – Trish York, Treasurer – John York

The condition for final 4 games proved slightly more compatible to higher scores and at the end the men were led by **Julian Cawthorne** on 1622 and **Steve Giddens** on 1556.

Kirsty Drain held her position at the

top for the ladies with 1529, followed by **Caroline Cunningham** on 1415.

A significant contribution was made to Adult county funds by the bowlers entering on the day, and also from the raffle of a bowling ball of the winner's choice donated by **Alan Wills** and a pair of bowling shoes donated by **Craig Ellis**. These funds will enable Northamptonshire to enter both male and female teams into this year's Inter County Tournament.

Thanks to all who helped on the day.

Sunday Singles Challenge, Norwich

Written by Teresa McCarthy and Daniel Bonfield

The fourth round of the Sunday Singles Challenge took place on February 23rd at Namco Norwich. Numbers were a bit down on previous months due to various other tournaments but, with points earned each month to qualify for the final in August, there's still everything to play for.

Newcomer to the tournament **Lorna Chandler** started well with a 270 handicap 1st game but was just beaten by **Trevor Gibbs** with a 277. Other high game prizes went to **James Tidd** with a 282, **Karl Chown** with a 250 and the final 2 games to **Billy Warnes** with a 274 and a 279.

Qualifying for the stepladder final was close and after a slow start **Billy Warnes** produced a 671 scratch final 3 games to take 1st place. **Karl Chown** continued his impressive Sunday morning form to qualify in 2nd place. Despite a dodgy last game **Rob Petherick** hung on to qualify in 3rd and **Steve Utting** bowled a steady 5 games to qualify 4th. Steve and Rob finished the stepladder final in the same positions but it was Karl who came out the winner overall beating Billy in the final match.

Stepladder

Rob Petherick 271 (243)
vs

Steve Utting 211 (188)

Rob Petherick 221 (193)
vs

Karl Chown 230 (193)

Karl Chown 250 (213)
vs

Billy Warnes 212 (171)

The next event in this series is April 27th. If you're interested in playing in this event then please contact the Norfolk Tenpin Association via email norfolktba@gmail.com

News from Margate

Written by Jerry Mol

It's sad to report the closure of AMF Margate which originally opened its doors in 1980. It hosted many regional tournaments as it had 24 lanes. I have particularly fond memories as it was the location of my, to date, one and only 700 series! Margate had a well supported YBC,

albeit unsanctioned. I do hope they will move up the road to Bugsy's Bowl to join their successful, and sanctioned, YBC. Indeed, 16 year old Lathen Palmer bowled a 299 at Bugsy's YBC on 22 March. Congratulations Lathen and curses to that one remaining pin!! I would like to draw your attention to the

formation of the Southern Scratch League (SSL). Full details can be found at:

southernscratchleague.org.uk

It would be great if we can get a Kent team together.

Northamptonshire's Inter-Counties Under 15s success

Written by John York

The Junior Inter Counties under 15 competition was held at Tenpin Coventry on Saturday 1st March 2014.

It was a different format this year, with an under 15's division being introduced for the first time.

Northants took two teams of 6 boys (**Jai Allen, Tom Attfield, Jack Barwick, Cory Dudfield, Harry Meyers and Scott Moore**), and 6 girls (**Ellie Allen, Georgia Cochran, Natalie Coleman, Elyse Giddens, Evie Giddens and Zoe Naylor**), made up from Kettering YBC and Wellingborough YBC, who qualified at the Junior Trials in November.

The format was 3 games in the

morning and 2 games after lunch. The top 8 teams in each section after the 5 games played a knockout competition.

Northants boys finished 10th in their section with some good scores being recorded. **Jack Barwick** had a 236 game and averaged 173 over 5 games, so very well done to him.

The girls qualified for the quarter finals and beat the team who eventually finished in 2nd place. They went on to play Dorset in the semi finals which unfortunately they lost by 1 pin! They then had to play a decider for 3rd place against Lancashire, which they won. Huge congratulations to them for coming

3rd.

Well done to **Zoe Naylor** who bowled a personal best score of 180.

Congratulation to both the boys and girls for an excellent showing and good behaviour.

To say it was a very long day for the girls (and me!) is an understatement. We were at the Bowl at 09.00 hrs and left at 21.45 hrs but everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Many thanks to **Mark Barwick** for looking after the boys and to all the parents who provided transport to Coventry and supported the bowlers.

Hampshire County Trials - The Results

Written by John Wallin

The Hampshire Country trials for 2014 were held at Farnborough Bowl (DC Leisure) on Sunday the 2nd and 9th of March. A total of 47 entries battled it out for the Adult Ladies & Mens and Senior Ladies and Mens positions.

Farnborough is a 10 lanes centre which added to the banter and anticipation as positions in each group were changing every game.

The Adult Ladies winner was **Hayley White** with a 233 average. Second **Jess Montgomery** with a 197 Average.

The Adult Mens winner was **Brad Jerram** with a 219 average. Second **Andy Woods** with a 214 Average. The Senior Ladies winner was **Jean McDonald** with a 178 average. Second Sandra Simmonds with a 176 average.

The Senior Mens winner was **Bob Strong** with a 209 average. Second **Steve Bruce** with a 200 average.

Congratulations to the winners above and thank you to all those that took part.

Hampshire members would like to thank Farnborough bowl for hosting the event.

The lane condition and preparation by the mechanics and staff ensured both weekends ran without any problems.

Also thanks go to Emma Ashton for the fundraising activities and games organised for both weekends.

We wish the selected team member's in each category good luck in the forthcoming qualifications.

Sanctioned league standings from Airport

Written by Wayne Lester

Early-Bird League (Monday Trios):

1st: 251.5 - Squirrels
2nd: 239.5 - Summer Wine
3rd: 238.0 - No Pressure

Horlicks Marshalls (Tuesday Fours):

1st: 122 - Pin Wreckers
2nd: 108 - Bin Liners
3rd: 106 - RBA Pro Shop

Scratch League (Wednesday Doubles)

1st: 239 - London Pro Shop
2nd: 231 - The Xpendables
3rd: 230 - Davedogs

British Airways (Wednesday Trios)

1st: 51.5 - Team Awesome
2nd: 46.0 - TBN
3rd: 45.5 - Hucks Hounds

Headpin League (Friday Fours)

1st: 56 - Wrecking Crew
2nd: 51.5 - Sejara
3rd: 50 - Hammers

British Universities - Sheffield Quads

Written by Rachael McKenzie



The BUTBA Tour returned to MFA Firth Park, Sheffield once again this season, this time for the annual combination handicap Quads competition, hosted by the University of Sheffield. With many students competitors still delighting over some brilliant performances from the BUCS Championships, held here in late February, and a difficult oil pattern, in the form of a modified WTBA Stockholm, to compete on, it promised to be an interesting competition.

In the **student section**, **Birmingham** dominated the prizes, firstly with Shaun Parsons taking Male High Game Scratch with a 257, Joe Harrison taking Male High Game Handicap with a 285 and Sam Bond taking Male High Average with an impressive 188 average for his 9 games. Female High Game Handicap was won by Nottingham's Charlotte Richardson with a 277, with Rachel Hodds from **Loughborough** taking the Scratch Game prize, for a 212. Hodds also won the Female High Average with a 167 for her 9 games.

Nottingham also won the Doubles section, with their team of Frazer Bowen and Charlotte Richardson on a team series of 1425. Birmingham A impressively cleaned up the remainder of the section prizes, with Poppie Simmonds winning the Singles section with a 755, Georgina

Overy, Sam Bond and Roshni Patel winning the Trios section with a 2131, and the four combined bowling a 2830 to win the Quads section. Roshni Patel was also the Most Improved student on the day, bowling an incredible 27 pins above average. Unsurprisingly, **Birmingham A** won the competition overall for the student division, with a combined team handicap total of 8465, 360 pins ahead of runners up, **Wolverhampton** (Matt Burbury, Anthony Gathercole, Ian Ashcroft and Evan Swann), finishing on a 8105.

In the **ex-student division**, **Tom Chuter** not only picked up Male High Game Scratch for his 251, but was also awarded Male High Average for a 198, including being the Most Improved ex-student on the day, bowling 13 pins above his entering average. Male High Game Handicap was won by Chink in the Armor's **Dave Abbot** for a massive handicap game of 280.

Female High Game Scratch was won by newcomer to the BUTBA Tour this season, **Kayla Knight**, bowling a 189, and High Handicap Game went to **Stacey Spencer** for her 223. **Louise Parker** won female High Average with an admirable 155 average for her 9 games on tough conditions.

Paul Williams and **Dave Abbot** won the Doubles section from Chink in the Armor, bowling a massive 1364 series. It was **Andrew Stratford**, however, from Die Angst Des Kelger Beim Sieben-Zehn Spaltung's, who stole the Single section victory, bowling a 660 handicap series. **Lads on Tour** dominated both the Trios and Quads sections, picking up their scores dramatically at by the end of the day, with their trios team of **Chris May, Jack Adams** and **Tom Prickett** bowling a 1901, and, joined by **Antony Lakey**, bowled a 2564 in the quads. Despite picking up their scores, **Lads On Tour** finished 2nd in the competition overall, scoring a combined team handicap total of 7435, just 89 pins behind **Chink in the Armor** (with Dan Chan and Dan Frazer joining Williams and Abbott), who finished on a 7524, winning the ex-student division.

The Sheffield Quads was an overall successful competition, seeing bowlers once again pushed to their limits on challenging patterns, creating a brilliant vibe among competitors. Next stop on the BUTBA Calendar sees a new competition and a new centre for our bowlers, with Tom Chuter and Shaun Parsons running a **Trios Event at Airport Bowl on the 27th April**.

Coaching Questions

Written by Mark Heathorn

Name:	Keith Bringloe
Hometown:	Stevenage, Hertfordshire
Coaching Positions Held:	Junior Team England Head Coach NAYBC Academy Director (previously – BTBA Phase I&II course presenter)
Started Bowling:	1976 14 years old
Started Coaching:	1980 18 years old
Current Qualifications:	BTBA Phase III (1994) 13 years International experience



Coaching Philosophy:

Holistic. Looking at a player as a whole, examining all their attributes; physical, tactical and mental. Understanding what attributes of the players game are necessary to enable their performance. Adding to their knowledge and skills and knowledge. Seeking to accentuate the positive and reduce or eliminate the negative.

Team England ambitions:

To continue to win medals by helping the team to develop and creating event performances.

What do I enjoy most about coaching:

Educating players and teams, improving their skill levels and creating a performance.

What is coaching success:

Coaching success is the player or team improving their skills and/or performance having been coached.

What one change would you make to improve the sport of bowling in this country:

Increase the education of coaches and thus increase the access to quality coaching for players at all levels.

Keith has just returned from Odense, Denmark with JTE for the EYC.

Wellsy's a Winner

Written by Lee Crosby

John Wells – a Brunswick Staffer – came back from bowling at Tilburg with a welcome bonus. That was in the form of a winners cheque of 6,000Euros, which is just over £5,000.00. Shame about the exchange rate but still a good result and from what John said after he came back it was a very hard won £5K too. John has bowled his fair share of 300's in recent times, but even he had to admit that he had never felt as nervous as he did in the 10th frame of the final in Tilburg. For those of you who didn't get the

chance to follow it, the match was one that went down to the final frame – and with a few thousand pounds at stake all of us would have been shaking a bit. Well done Wellsy...does this mean you will be going on the "pro circuit" soon??

For the last season John has been bowling in the Bundesliga Nord in Germany along with other English bowlers; Chris Lam, Sam Rose, Hadley Morgan, Myles Corney and Elliot Crosby, who organised the "English Contingent" with the sponsor

of the team. John is one of the bowlers who has been selected by the sponsor to bowl again for this team for the next season. JW is looking forward to this, as although it is "pressure bowling" he gets paid for it...and in his words "that's a welcome change".



2014 Team England Squad

Written by Stuart Watson

We are pleased to announce the Team England Mens Selections for 2014. As with the earlier Ladies Selections, the selectors took into account each bowlers stats from last year's England Rankings, stats from the last few years of International competition, the thoughts and views of Team England coach Jon Zadel, as well as the observations and opinions of the selectors.

Before selections began, we discussed our philosophy and direction for Team England, not only for this year, but in doing the best to ensure future

success of the team. With the above all in mind, we feel we have selected teams able to compete at the highest level.

Adult Triple Crown - Londonderry, Northern Ireland. September 19th to 21st:

Elliot Crosby, Leon Devlin, Curtis Hooper, Hadley Morgan, Adam Purnell, Ray Teece.

Commonwealth Championships - Glasgow, Scotland. October 11th to 17th:

Leon Devlin and Chris Oates

European Champions Cup - Reyjavik, Iceland. October 13th to 19th: Steve Thornton

World Men's Championships, Abu Dhabi, UAE. December 4th to 15th:

Dom Barrett, Matt Chamberlain, Matt Miller, Richard Teece, John Wells, Stuart Williams

"I am sure that you would want to join me and the team in wishing all these bowlers the best of luck in the events that they will be attending during 2014! The country is rooting for you all. Keep practising!" - Jo Cundy, BTBA Head of Elite Bowling

The QubicaAMF Bowling World Cup, A History: Part 3 - The Organisers

Written by Roger Creamer, EMEA Regional Manager QubicaAMF

For the last 20 years the event has been in the very capable hands of Anne-Marie Board. Anne-Marie became the Bowling World Cup manager when it first visited Johannesburg in 1993 and from her UK office in Hemel Hempstead she works tirelessly to ensure the event's continued success. There have only been three other World Cup managers and apart from the first, they have all been British – although one has resided in the US for many years. Alison Driscoll preceded Anne-Marie, before that the then AMF's Marketing Director Paul Lane, and for the first 5 years, its creator Victor Kalman. But it's been during Anne-Marie's tenure that the participating

nations have gone from less than 60 to sometimes over 90. As much as the Bowling World Cup is not just a tournament, Anne-Marie is not just its manager. Site selection, press conferences, visas, site seeing, making sure deadly enemies are not allocated a room to share is all in a day-in-the-life of Anne-Marie Board.

Tournament Director for the last couple of decades as well as the host for both the first and the twenty fifth Bowling World Cup, is Bernard Gibbons. Previously the General Manager of Stillorgan Bowl, a teaching professional golfer and commentator, Bernard manages the beautiful 36 hole Powerscourt Golf

Club, just South of Dublin. Managing golf courses does not allow too much spare time except for holiday and for years Bernard has given up some of them to assume his other role as the Tournament Director of, arguably, bowling's most prestigious events.

Together with Anne-Marie and Bernard, the team that has been together for a few years now includes, Cliff Adair, Assistant Tournament Director, Laurie Pearce, who is responsible for scoring and results, Gerry Barrett is the lane manager and Judy Howlett is the international media co-ordinator.

Next month we take a look at some landmarks in BWC history...



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