

The Inside Line



July 2016

The Official Magazine of the BTBA



Cover Stars

Team Europe, 2015 Weber Cup

With thanks to Matchroom Sport



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Letter from the editor

Welcome to The Inside Line!

Welcome to the latest edition of The Inside Line. This edition was slightly later than originally planned, but we hope that you will enjoy the focus on the upcoming Weber Cup - watch this space for an interview with PBA Legend, Parker Bohn III.

We also have a couple of great competitions open to BTBA members only in this edition - details of these can be found towards the back of the issue.

Finally, this is YOUR magazine. If you have any news or photos you wish to share with us, as ever, please just drop us a line!

Until next time.

Helen Tamblyn
BTBA Communications Manager

BTBA News & Updates

Please bookmark the BTBA website at btba.org.uk for all the latest news from the BTBA

High Score Recognition Scheme

The BTBA has made some changes to the High Score Recognition Scheme. Cloth badges will now only be available to YBCs and will be managed by the NAYBC. High Score Recognition Certificates are available to all BTBA members and will be awarded for scores above 275 and series above 700. The new application forms are available for download via the Downloads tab on the BTBA website and have been designed to be easy to complete.

Team England Trials

Congratulations to Hadley Morgan and Katrina Maciver who lead the standings after two rounds of trials. The final round will be held on 10th/11th September, venue to be confirmed.

Gordon Humphries and Angie Brown lead the senior standings after two events, with the final round due to be held in Stroud on 24th/25th September.

2016 Adult ICC

The 2016 Adult ICC will take place on September 4th, with the finals being held at Nottingham on November 5th and 6th. Please check the BTBA website for details of participating teams.

Local Association Directory

Jerry Moll

We have established an online "Local Association Directory" which is to be found under "the BTBA" header of btba.org.uk. For everybody's benefit, it's obviously important that this useful resource is kept as up to date as possible. Area Secretaries please review the data held for your Area and advise any required changes to jerry.moll@btba.org.uk. Many thanks to those who have already done so!

BTBA Grants

Jerry Moll

You probably have said this, or at least thought it, at some time or other! Well, here is your opportunity as we have now have funds available to award Grants in support of projects that will increase membership in your Area. We have simplified the application procedures. Full details are to be found the "downloads" header of [btba](http://btba.org.uk) website. Recent Grants have aided the creation of new YBCs at Lewisham and Rustington and a new sanctioned league at Rochester. To get the ball rolling simply email your Area Secretary and copy to jerry.moll@btba.org.uk.

The Weber Issue - Interview with Luke Riches

Luke Riches is the Sports Media Director at Matchroom Sport. The Inside Line Editor Helen Tamblyn caught up with him to discuss the Weber Cup, plans for the future and to ask about the controversial changes...

Luke, you're the Sports Media Director at Matchroom Sport. Can you tell us a little more about what your role involves?

Tenpin is one of five sports that our department at Matchroom produces – the others are snooker, pool, fishing and ping pong. We devise, produce and promote the events, from planning them to managing them.

Matchroom Sports are involved with a few different sports. Boxing, darts, poker, bowling, etc. Do you have a particular favourite and why?

No particular favourite sports, just favourite events. I particularly like the Mosconi Cup (pool) and the Weber Cup with both of them being classic USA v Europe confrontations. There's something about a transatlantic showdown that gives it that extra edge. It makes losing that much harder and winning just a bit sweeter.

We all love tenpin bowling's answer to The Ryder Cup, The Weber Cup. Can you tell us what made Matchroom decide to put on this event?

We started in tenpin with the World Tenpin Masters in 1998 and had some success with that. In the end, the demand was there from TV stations to produce another bowling event, and following on from the success of the Mosconi Cup, we felt that another Ryder Cup-style event would be ideal. It's an easy concept and something that can appeal to casual fans as well as the core fans.

The controversial decision has been taken this year to start charging for tickets, following 16 years where bowlers have been able to go for free. Why did Matchroom decide to do this?

Like all events, the Weber Cup has very large production costs. There are large staging costs associated with bowling plus TV production costs, prize money etc. We'd managed to maintain free entry for a very long time but in the end we needed to charge and try and create an additional rev-

enue stream for the event. I understand that some people weren't that happy but how many sports have a premium event where entry is free? We've kept it to a minimum but the event was becoming unsustainable with free entry.

Feedback from some bowlers on social media suggests that the money made from ticketing the event should go back into the grassroots of the sport. Are there any plans for this?

It's a nice suggestion but there is a long way to go before we could do something like this. As it stands the Weber loses money on an annual basis and we wouldn't be able to consider this until it goes into the black financially.

Barnsley has been a great home to the Weber Cup over the years. What made you decide to move to Manchester?

Barnsley was unavailable for the dates and we also felt that maybe it was time to move on, having been there for many years.

There have been so many changes to the Weber Cup this year including to the line-up of players. Tommy Jones aka Mr 300 has always been a crowd favourite, what made you decide to shake it up?

Ideally we would like to operate a ranking list for both teams so that players can qualify to compete on the event and that is something that we are looking at for 2017. When all eight players are picks it is hard to strike a balance between giving players a chance and keeping fan favourites in.

No doubt you've heard of the This Girl Can campaign. USA and Europe are full of awesome female bowlers. When are we going to see a female bowler take to the lanes?

You can't rule anything out! We had a female bowler on each side at the inaugural Weber Cup in 2000 but did not continue with it. However, you never know.

Topical question time – will the British bowlers still be invited to take part for Team Europe next year?

Of course! It has always been Europe as a place rather than a political entity.

What's next for the Weber Cup?

Hopefully, like our Mosconi Cup event, we can operate on a home and away basis. We did look at doing the event in Las Vegas every other year but in the current financial climate it wasn't feasible. We'll be looking to push the event forward with bigger crowds, more sponsors and more broadcasters. The Weber Cup has massive potential which it has not yet realised.



Luke Riches presents England's Dominic Barrett with The Weber Cup

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Weber Cup

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The Weber Weekend - where to eat in Manchester

Are you travelling to Manchester for The Weber Cup? **Helen Tambllyn** rounds up a selection of restaurants, perfect to enjoy after the match excitement.

Lunya

(Barton Arcade, Deansgate, Manchester, M3 2BB | open 9.00am-11.00pm | lunya.co.uk/manchester)

Located in the stunning Barton Arcade, approximately 20 minutes from Eventcity, Lunya is a family friendly establishment spread over two floors serving fresh food with a Spanish influence. Sharing platters such as the Iberico Meat Platter cost from £13.95 and a broad selection of tapas costs from £4.25 per dish. The children's menu includes dishes such as Catalan Hotpot with a drink, side and ice-cream from £6.95. Breast feeding mothers can enjoy a free drink and breakfast is also available, with the Baked Eggs Flamen-co confidently described as the "prettiest breakfast ever". Those with hearty appetites are sure to enjoy The Full English Fusion.



Vapiano

(Unit 13, The Corn Exchange, Manchester, M4 3TR | open 11.00am-11.00pm | uk.vapiano.com)

Relaxed and family friendly, Vapiano serves the freshest of Italian food, cooked in front of you. The extensive menu boasts a selection of pasta, pizza and salad dishes, as well as a selection of Italian desserts. Portions are generous, with pasta dishes costing from £6.95. Choose your own type of pasta, including gluten free options and watch the chefs cook to your liking. Particular highlights include the Rucicola Ravioli (£9.25) and for a dessert, you can't go wrong with Bacio (£4.75), a delectable chocolate and hazelnut blend. No quibbling over the bill here either, with each diner issued with a card to have their meals charged to upon ordering!



The Rice Bowl

(33a Cross Street, City Centre, Manchester, M2 1NL | open noon - midnight | the-rice-bowl.com)

A Manchester institution, The Rice Bowl is a family run Chinese restaurant, serving Dim Sum to "touch your heart". Their speciality, Dim Sum starts at £3.60, with main courses such as Ginger Wasabi Chicken starting at £8.95. Platters and set menus are also available.



The Weber Cup - Manchester Mayhem!

Come and see tenpin's biggest televised event as the best from Europe and USA go head to head!

Support England's Stuart Williams and Dominic Barrett along with their teammates Jesper Svensson and Martin Larssen as they battle Team USA in this annual event.

Matchroom Sport and the BTBA have partnered up to offer BTBA members a 20% discount off tickets for this fantastic event, to be held in Manchester from 5-7 August 2016.

Simply visit <https://www.theticketfactory.com/webercup/online/> to purchase your tickets using the promo code BTBAWC16 followed by your membership number without any spaces.

Gold card members should use their original BTBA number - numbers can be checked here: <http://btba.org.uk/>

[index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1112:membership-status-list&catid=49](http://www.btbabowling.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1112:membership-status-list&catid=49).

With the score tied on 8-8, will it be USA or Europe who take the lead in this exciting display of tenpin bowling? Team USA are hungry for the title and keen to stop the rot with a team featuring newcomers Kyle Troup and Marshall Kent, with Wes Mallot returning for his third appearance. PBA legend Parker Bohn III takes on the role of captain in his second Weber Cup appearance and plans to break Europe's winning streak.

Keep an eye on the [BTBA Talk Facebook](#) page for details of an EXCLUSIVE Weber Cup interview with Parker Bohn III, shortly to be made available for download, talking Weber Cup, two handed bowling and the importance of teamwork.



South East County Challenge

Daniel Bonfield reports...

The South East Area Challenge tournament is now in its 5th year. It's an invitational tournament, where counties in the South East are invited to enter teams made up of bowlers who attended their county trials. The teams can be a mix of seniors, adults, juniors, men and women. Its purpose is to give all those in the county squads a chance to represent their county and to help counties in their team selections for the qualifiers in September. It's also a great chance to raise some much need funds as I arrange a raffle every year which each county sell tickets for, with each association keeping the proceeds. Every year BowlTech and Bowling Vision have supported this event by donating a couple of balls each as raffle prizes. And this year Tesco also chipped in and donated a TV and a DAB radio. So many thanks to them... as a total we raised £650. This is much needed revenue to the Local Associations and will hopefully allow them to continue supporting the growth of the sport in their counties.

The tournament format is just a straight 5 games in their teams with ladies receiving 10 pins bonus. Whoever knocks down the most pins wins! There was also a very small prize to the top individual bowler scratch

A break for the lanes to be re-dressed gave everyone time to donate even more cash to the cause via the raffle and the tombola. Some of the major contributors to the fund were non bowlers and open bowlers who wanted to grab some of the prizes. One

girl with her heart set on a ring holder that was styled like a high heeled shoe, spent about £35 on the tombola hoping to pull out the winning ticket... she never did, and in the end I gave her the shoe. It was only worth about 50 pence.

After the break the lanes seemed to play very different to the morning session and there were some movers and fallers. Finishing in 3rd place with a team average of 189.2 were Berkshire Men A - Alan Keddie, Mark Wanstall, Darren Knape, Graham Stewart and Gerry Olver. 9 pins ahead of the Berkshire team were Kent - Andy Tapping, Chris Skudder, Mark Icke, Chris Taffe and Adam Green. But the champions after a great last game and also for the 2nd year running were the Surrey Stags - Ketan Suchak, Steve Spiking, Jon Naylor, Matt Dola and captained by the WHIFFINATOR Dave Whiffin.

Like I said there was a small prize for the top scratch bowler on the day. The winner of that was Ketan Suchak from Surrey who bowled 1086, a 217.2 average. Top female bowler was Hampshires Nicole Ashby who rolled 958, a 191.6 average.

Another great tournament played in a great spirit by all bowlers. Thanks to Andy James for doing the scoring, to Airport bowl for being a great host again, and to the tournament sponsors - Bowltech, Bowling Vision and Tesco - without these guys on board, all of our local associations would be a lot poorer.



Dunstable YBC from Strength to Strength

This year's NAYBC Nationals was hosted at GO Bowling Dunstable and was ably supported by their excellent YBC. "Inside Line" assistant editor Jerry Moll asked their Secretary, Jane Carden, to share the secret of their success:

It's all systems go for the YBC at GO Bowling Dunstable, with Andy Penny on board teaching the bowlers numerous drills before the start of league---these drills performed with the use of apparatus, encourage social interaction along with the aspects of bowling correctly, such as, arm swing, follow through and release, it's all good fun whilst learning especially for our several children with Learning Difficulties.

The club is also going from strength to strength with seven new fundamental coaches giving the club ten coaches in all, as this is a large YBC all bowlers will get the help they need on the lanes, it's good to know the club has such good support.

The committee is also very proud that one of our newly trained coaches is a teenager who has progressed from the YBC.

The Nationals was held at Dunstable for the first time this year and I can honestly say it was a privilege to be able to

support the NAYBC. Our bowlers agreed to bowl the first slot of the Nationals so they would be able to support with pacing. Over the following weekends approx. 60 pacing slots where required and I am extremely proud of the youngsters who spent many hours at the bowl.

The YBC committee and helpers also worked long and hard over the three weekends of the tournament to raise funds for the club.

Our bowlers did their YBC and themselves very proud bringing home 10 Gold medals, 5 Silver Medals including the Fran Dee trophy for the 2nd year running and breaking the record. If this wasn't excitement enough, Dunstable YBC was presented with the Centre of the Tournament Trophy as well.

Well done to each and every one of you.



QubicaAMF World Cup Qualifier

Hosted by the PTBC, this year's QubicaAMF World Cup Qualifier was held at Lincoln Bowl on 25-26 June. Danni Hopcroft (221.29 average) and Pete Stevenson (233.36 average) emerged as the winners, with Lisa John (215.53) and Jason Agate (231.57) in second place. Danni will be representing England in the European Champion's Cup during the World Cup, so Lisa will join Pete representing England in Shanghai, China later this year.

Congratulations to all and good luck in China. Further information relating to the QubicaAMF World Cup can be found on the official website at <http://www.qubicaamf.com/World-Cup>.



Danni Hopcroft, women's winner



Pete Stevenson, male winner and Lisa John, women's runner-up

European Championships

It's been a busy time for Team England Ladies, Senior Team England and Junior Team England, all taking part in their respective European Championships...



Keira Reay, Singles Gold, EWC , Vienna



Team Manager Alex Hamilton, Keira Reay, Hayley Russell, Lisa John and Team Coach Jon Zadel, Trios Silver, EWC.



Lisa John, Katrina Maciver, Hayley Russell, Danni Hopcroft, Emily Allen, Keira Reay, EWC



Senior Team England, ESBC, Copenhagen



Larry Exell, Lol Ellis, Doubles Gold,
Division C, ESBC



Jan Hodge, Masters Silver, Division B, ESBC

This is only a selection of photographs from the various championships held. For more pictures and further results, including details of all medal winners, please check the respective team pages available on Facebook.

Congratulations to everyone who represented England at these championships and good luck to Team England Men in the upcoming European Men's Championships to be held in Brussels, Belgium, 17-28 August 2018.



Katie Tagg, Mia Bewley, Doubles Silver, EYC, Reykjavik

3rd Annual Shropshire Open

Paul Williams reports...

The 3rd Annual Shropshire Open took place at AMF Shrewsbury on 3rd July 2016. A total of 22 bowlers made the journey from as far afield as Southampton, Shipley and even across the border from Wales!

This year the event was British Tenpin Bowling Associations Tour Stop 6 which meant competitors were able to obtain ranking points in order to qualify for the end of seasons masters event.

The event saw competitors bowl 6 games before a cut to the top 8 scratch pinfall and top 8 on handicap pinfall for the remaining competitors. A further 3 games were bowled in the second round and the top 4 competitors based on their total pinfall in each section progressed to a stepladder final. Although the numbers were slightly down on last year, the scoring was to be just as competitive.

In the first round Daniel Davies set the scoring benchmark with a 247, closely followed by Pete Stevenson's 234 and David Dugmore with a 230. Game two saw Pete Stevenson continue his great start with a 251, just 1 pin short of the Competition record of 252 set by John Plumridge on 18th May 2014. Keeping pace was slightly more difficult for the other competitors with Jason Farrall hitting a 207 (276 Handicap), David Dugmore, 206 with Kieran Patel, 204 and James Winter, 200 the only other players on or above 200. Game three saw the scoring turned on its head as James Larkin, 245, Louise Parker, 210 and previous Champion John Plumridge, 210 led the way. At the half way point, Pete Stevenson was well ahead in first place, competitors changed lanes ready for the second set, some hoping to maintain their scoring and others hoping to improve!

Out of the blocks early in game 4 was Craig Ellis posting a 237, Kieron Patel, 212 and Daniel Davies continue steady scoring with a 207, honourable mention to Joe Cooper who hit 204. Game 5 normal service was resumed, Pete

Stevenson leading the way with a 239, Kieron Patel, 233) and Daniel Davies, 231 posting some good scores, Pete led the way in game 6 with a 246, Craig, 214 and Daniel Davies, 211 made up the top 3.

The cut to the top 8 for the scratch section was Louise Parker's 1083. Pete Stevenson led the way with a 1355 and Craig Ellis was 27 pins safe in 4th place.

Turning attention to the handicap scoring, the handicap cut was Laura Evans with 1195, Hazel Adams wrapped up first with 1352 and Paul Reardon was safe by 9 pins in 4th! There were some notable handicap games in the first 6 game block with Jason Farrall's 276 leading the way with honourable mentions to Hazel Adams, 256, Sarah Jeeves & Kelly Marie Jones posting 241 apiece.

The second round saw scores drastically reduced with only David Dugmore posting a score in excess of 600 (611). This was enough to see him leap ahead of Craig Ellis to take fourth place. Dan Davies managed to hit 597 to claw back pins on Pete Stevenson but it wasn't enough to take 1st place with 1888 being the score to beat.

The drama was reserved for the Handicap section which saw positions changing each game. Hazel Adams was the one exception to the rule as she bowled steadily and set a benchmark with a 671 handicap series, maintaining first place. Jason Farrall had a set to forget as he posted a 562 handicap series to surrender 2nd place and nearly 3rd, however it was just enough to hold on from the chasing pack.

Just 38 pins separated Paul Reardon in 4th to Laura Evans in 8th place which meant it was all to play for in the second round. Paul's 200(handicap) in game 7 wasn't enough to keep 4th as Chelsey Dolan hit 231 (handicap), Kelly Jones 231 (handicap) saw her two pins back from Paul in 6th. In game 8 Kelly hit a 215 (handicap) to find herself on 1646, Paul Reardon hit 207 (handicap) to find

himself in 6th on 1640 and Chelsey's 196 (handicap) saw her in the last stepladder spot on 1651. Game 9 meant it was all to play for, Chelsey who was in 4th at the start of the round posted a respectful 215 (handicap) to finish on 1866, Kelly could only manage a 190 (handicap) but Paul Reardon managed to produce his finest with a 255 (handicap) game to finish in 4th with 1895.

The scratch stepladder finals saw Kieron Patel (3rd) defeat David Dugmore (4th) in a slightly one-sided affair. Next up for Kieron was Daniel Davies, this game went to the wire with Daniel taking it in the last frame. The final saw the top two seeds battle it out with Pete Stevenson coming out on top 201-165 and finding himself £200 richer!

The handicap stepladder finals took a similar pattern to the scratch, 3rd seed Jason managed to regain the form that had deserted him in the second round to dispose of Paul Reardon. Jason's run was ended by 2nd seed Sarah who kept her composure in the 10th frame to take the game 216-207. Unfortunately for Sarah the same could not be said of the final whereby Hazel managed to close the tenth and seal victory, also finding herself £200 better off!

On behalf of Shropshire Tenpin Bowling Association, I would like to congratulate all that attended and in particular Peter Stevenson (Scratch Champion & High Scratch Game winner) Hazel Adams (Handicap Champion) and Jason Farrall (High Handicap Game winner). Thank you to everyone who attended and we hope to see you all next year for the 4th Annual Shropshire Open!



Stuart Turpin Achieves Perfection!

Congratulations to Stuart Turpin who bowled the first 300 of the Medway Premier Doubles Handicap League during the final game of the season.

Robbie Stuffins, Super-Sub!

Congratulations to 8 year old Robbie Stuffins who subbed for his dad in the doubles league in Scunthorpe. He shot 169-147-154 for a personal best series of 470. Well done, Robbie!



"Radical" Ray Teece Wins First EBT Title

Raymond Teece won his first EBT title in the Brunswick Madrid Challenge, in an all-English stepladder final with Stuart Williams and Dominic Barrett. Congratulations!

The First Birdie in Bowling

Martin Webster, member of the BTBA 50 Club and BTBA Business Development Manager recounts an unfortunate incident...

I have been bowling since 1964 when I joined the Coca Cola junior league at the ABC Bexleyheath Bowl. As you can imagine, I have travelled extensively with my bowling to all parts of the World and have won a few singles events and numerous team events both in the UK and Europe with the Cossacks team. I could probably fill a book with some of the tales from experiences with the Cossacks and also with the England Team at World and European Championships, from Mike Pike breaking my toilet in Sweden (he only sat on it for a split second before the whole thing collapsed and water spurted violently upwards causing him a great deal of discomfort and embarrassment) to Lol Ellis's bowling ball jumping across a lane to spare Del Delany's 7 pin at the Airport Bowl whilst Del was still standing on the approach going for his spare.

One of the funniest experiences was when the Cossacks team (Myself, Lol, Keith and Gregg Turvey) ventured over to SHAPE, the allied headquarters in Mons, Belgium, which was an annual two day international 4-man team and individual tournament with shed loads of prize money.

It was 1984 and the tournament was organised and run by a sergeant Quarter Master in the US army called Don Robinson. All the teams from across Europe arrived at Mons and either checked into a nearby hotel or if they were on a tight budget, into one of the squad halls that had 30-40 bunk beds. Believe me, we tried this in previous years and decided it was not worth the trouble of having virtually no sleep due to bowlers coming in at all times of the morning drunk and singing (and that was just Trevor Jacobs, Roger Peartree, Trevor Wood and the rest of the Richmond Grill team)!!

We eventually made our way over to the bowling centre which was a converted aircraft hanger with 12 lanes and a fantastic restaurant serving all kinds of good American food. Each team captain had to draw the lanes and we then went down to start 10 minutes' practice before the start of the tournament.

This is where the fun begins. We were probably 5-6 minutes into practice when I stood on lane 10 with a full set of pins to aim for. As I stood there on the approach, the centre pet, a sparrow, flew around the hanger a few times and eventually decided to land at the front and on top of the pin machine on lane 10. I started to make my approach and the bird then jumped down to stand in the 1-3 pocket in front of the pins. I did not see this happening and proceeded to make my shot releasing the ball onto the lane just as everyone was shouting at the back of the lanes that there was a bird on the lane. All I heard was Lol Ellis make a comment that it will be ok as Martin never hits the 1-3 pocket as he normally goes Brooklyn (Chris Buck once said that I get more roll on my ball when it comes down the ball return than I do on the lanes).

Unfortunately, on this one occasion, I must have missed my mark as the ball proceeded to go down the lane and finished right into the 1-3 pocket taking out the bird at the same time and clearing all ten pins for a strike.

When my bowling ball returned, there were a few feathers stuck to the ball and the bird was no more. Needless to say, the locals were not amused.

When the commotion died down, we were put onto tournament play and The Cossacks finished 1st in the team event beating Chris and Geoff Buck's team in second place by 3 pins and Lol Ellis went on to win the singles event with Keith Hodge 3rd, myself in 5th place and Gregg Turvey in 7th picking up some very nice prize money. Happy Days.

Whilst we were waiting for the prize presentation, we were queuing up at the restaurant for some food and overheard the locals in front say 'did you see that limey kill our mascot on lane 10', to which we made a hasty retreat from the queue to the back of the lanes.

On the way home, we tried to change the Belgium francs we had won at the tournament into sterling and they did

not have enough money to accommodate us!!!!

Keith Hale once wrote in the Bowlers Journal magazine and asked if this is the first time a BIRDIE has been achieved in bowling????? – my friends think it should be recognised!!!!



How it all started...

Eric Lane, fellow member of the BTBA 50 Club and President of London TPA explains how he got started in bowling...

Most people went to a bowl when they opened and started bowling, for me it was different.

I did my apprenticeship in the mid 1950's with an electrical firm who did all the electrical work for ABC cinemas. When Stamford Hill cinema was converted to the first ABC Bowl in the early 1960's I was there right from the start. Shortly after it opened I joined AMF and was there until ABC took it over.

I left Stamford Hill and became a part of the AMF installation and service team which took me to all the new centres and also made visits to a lot of the USA bases (great fun was had there). I was sent to Europe to carry out installation work in Sweden, Denmark, and Poland. It was a great job for a lad in his twenties getting to travel to all sorts of places.

With my time at AMF, when they opened a new centre which was being equipped by them, they sent their promotion team to the centres who then gave instructions on how to bowl. The training team was made up of Doug Lyons, Paul Lane, Maureen Donovan, Angela Macadam, Peggy Kent and later on Jim Brewer and Lee Kates, the manager was Bill Campbell. I had such a lot of great times with them at many of the openings. I got to know Jock Cai when he joined AMF. I did a lot of other work too for the company mainly because of my love of bowling, I enjoyed working for them until it was time to move on.

During all this time I was still bowling any chance I got, at Stamford Hill and there the first meeting took place to form the B.T.B.A. My first team I bowled for were the Lucky Strikes which were a five man team, three of these were Maurice Glazer, Harold King, and Jim Brewer who all became major names in bowling, the other members were Reg White, John Kirby and myself. We bowled every Thursday night in the Supreme League and were sponsored by Schweppes. The other well-

known teams were Direct Meats of Smithfield and later on the newly formed Brunswick Jets also the Spurs Football team. In all there were 14 teams.

The one thing about Stamford Hill then, were there were plenty of seats for you to sit down and watch the bowling, which is something the bowling centres of today do not have which is a shame as it enabled the centres to be full with people just watching and enjoying their teams bowl.

I joined the Brunswick Jets alongside Harold King with David Meil, Jan Rose. Neil Osborne, Tony Samuels, Stan Thompson, Mick Wade and Bobby Mansfield and whenever we bowled there were always a lot of people who came and watched us. The team not only bowled at Stamford Hill in the league but also at Golders Green and The Airport Bowl. We would be at the opening of any Brunswick bowls and we were the first team to travel to Belgium and bowl. We bowled in the first B.T.B.A. Championships and many more besides.

I also became a member of the Stamford Hill All Stars and bowled against other All Star teams from around London.

Just when everything was going so well with bowling I suffered a bad injury and broke my wrist which put me out of action for some time. When I was finally able to start bowling again I found I was still having trouble with my wrist and therefore for the sake of the teams I decided to take a back seat. What I really needed was some form of wrist support but in the early days of bowling there was no such thing unlike the present day. The only man to have anything like it was the great Don Carter who designed his palm glove.

I carried on bowling in leagues and a few tournaments and eventually I got a wrist support which made all the difference

but by this time I was just happy to carry on as I was, bowling at Bexleyheath, Purley, Lewisham, Croydon and Gravesend.

It was when I started bowling at Bexleyheath that I was asked to join the K.T.B.A committee. In 1996 I was asked to join the London and have been with them ever since and trying to keep London going as an Association.

When the B.T.B.A. started the seniors I bowled for London and the Seniors Counties but in 2013 I had to have a knee replacement which put me out of action for a while but started back in 2014 bowling at Lewisham and Gravesend. This year I competed at Nuneaton at the National Seniors Championships and that's where my bowling is at present. I am still enjoying bowling and being a member of the B.T.B.A. since that first year in 1961. I will continue to support bowling all I can in the future.

Thank you Martyn and Eric for for sharing these stories with us. If anyone has any stories of their own to share (funny, historical) please send them to helentamblyn@btba.org.uk.

U15 Inter County Report

Hampshire Girls, report on their experience of the U15 Inter County Championships.

This year saw a change of format to 4 person's teams, that aside I decided to take 6 girls to represent Hampshire in the Under 15 County Championships 2016. The young ladies selected, who had been successful in the trials, were Lucy Williams, Rhian Dobinson, Taylor Hughes, Mica Roberts, Charlotte Williams and Ellie Christopher as four of our team were members of our bronze winning team last year the team was very positive.

The first game saw us bowling very nervously but still bowled a 666 only Lucy with a 200 showed the true potential of the team. But this score still found Hampshire girls in first place the following games only increased our lead. One or two of the girls had blips in their performance which allowed both Charlotte and Ellie the opportunity to help in our eventual qualifying in first place some 300+ pins ahead of our nearest rival, Lincolnshire.

The semi finals were between Hampshire and Dorset and

Lincolnshire and Norfolk. The matches were single game knockout. Our game against Dorset was a solid 634 all four players played steadily but the match beside us saw Lincolnshire bowl a high game 713 to beat Norfolk.

The final match was between Hampshire and Lincolnshire and promised to be a nail biter as both teams had performed well throughout the day. The game started out fairly close but as the match unfolded the experience and talent of Hampshire girls came to the fore as the team played together covered each other to the ultimate result of beating Lincolnshire 715 to 640 and becoming the Under 15 Girls County Champions. Lucy Williams who started the day with a 200 finished with a 205 and subsequently won the Girls High Average. Congratulations to her and congratulations to all the girls who all played a part in winning the Gold Medal and the Championship. Once again it was a privilege to manage you all and I hope you all enjoyed your win and will trial again next year.



1st Place Hampshire. 2nd Place Yorkshire, 3rd Place Norfolk



1st Place Yorkshire, 2nd Place Lincolnshire, 3rd Place Sussex

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Join the [Bowltech Facebook group](#) for the latest bowling ball news and releases.

The Parent Trap

Simon Herbert is a BTBA Foundation Coach based at Tunbridge Wells YBC. He is also the team manager and coach for Kent Junior teams.

It isn't always easy being a parent, and it isn't always easy being a child.

I've been a child and I'm a parent. I'm also a coach. In this short article I'm going to look at different pressures from all sides and talk about the effects that different behaviours can have and how they impact the performance on the lanes.

I would like to start by saying how much support I see from parents and how friendly the vast majority of people are at junior bowling events. Our sport still has a long way to go and we are not alone. A 2015 survey by Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) and the Chance to Shine charity found that 40% of children were put off sport by over-competitive parents. As a parent it's natural to want to see your child succeed. It can be a difficult to find the right balance between support and falling into the parent trap.

Firstly, there is nothing wrong with being enthusiastic. It is great to see and hear parents supporting and cheering, this is a positive way to express support. It is also great to see this positivity extended to cheering on other children too, whether they are in the same team or club, or in other teams or clubs. We've all seen the opponent string strikes, make a spare under pressure or pick up a big split. Acknowledging the skill, hard work and determination of all athletes shows great sportsmanship and sets the right example for the children.

Heckling, name calling, bad language, rude gestures and negative body language have a negative effect that is contagious and will affect everyone, no matter where targeted. The same applies to gossip, rumours and disparaging comments. These can quickly spread through a team and undo hours of

preparation.

I am a great believer in asking questions, in my day job it is encouraged and goes hand in hand with promoting an open and honest culture. In the words of my HR Director "the more difficult and awkward the question the better". I like to apply the same to bowling, but timing is everything. Parents and children can easily ask the coach questions and address issues before they escalate. It is better to do this quickly but at the right time. In the middle of a practice session isn't the right time, after practice is good but before practice is better – as long as it is prearranged. A practice session needs to be focused and planned and will sometimes need preparation on the day. Ambushing the coach right before the start of a session is counterproductive as nobody can focus properly on the issue and it can cause a lack of focus during the session.

Questions being asked and issues may vary, after all bowling like a lot of other sports has a mix of parents. Some have a little knowledge, others bowl themselves or may even be instructors or coaches. This can have a good and bad side effect when supporting children. I'll start by looking at the non-bowling parent. The benefits of not bowling can be that no bad bowling habits are being passed on, this is often outweighed by preconceptions about the sport. The chances are that of you already reading this you will have an interest in bowling. Parents that are new to the sport might not understand the rules or equipment, this is an excellent opportunity for everyone to become an ambassador for bowling and help to fill gaps in knowledge. At the same time, be careful about passing on out of date or wrong information. If there is any doubt ask first!



On the whole, parents who bowl normally have a better idea about the rules, equipment and so on. But again, issues may arise when knowledge is out of date. The modern game is very different to the classic game. Instruction techniques and styles of the 1990s and older aren't used now. The modern approach is a lot more physical and fluid. Keeping knowledge up to date is essential for coaches and players, I believe it is also essential for parents if they want to help. An open mind to new ways of thinking and training will produce better bowlers and help to prepare our children for life on and off the lanes.

Bowling or non-bowling parents should always attend any meetings, read the rules and league constitutions, arrive and depart on time. This will help to support children and the volunteers that run the sport. Watching and supporting in a positive way, without undermining the coach / official will make the atmosphere pleasant and calm.

There are so many pressures on young bowlers. We all need to let things go after they have happened and move forward, to not be the parent / coach that talks about a missed pin for hours or days afterwards. This type of behaviour will help our children to develop into better bowlers and better people as they grow. We all have a collective responsibility to demonstrate and encourage good sportsmanship and good behaviour. Everything that we do or say will either be absorbed by children or reflected back at us. We cannot hold the young bowlers to a high standard if we do not hold ourselves to that same standard.

There are many ways to describe this, I have heard it being called Ugly Parent Syndrome (UPS), Helicopter Parenting (constantly hovering around, watching and controlling), or plain and simple Bullying. I might not be sure about the names, but I am certain that WE all need to be careful of falling into the parent trap.

2016 Kent Area Championships

Mike Winch, reports...

The 2016 Kent Area Championships were held at Bugsy's Bowl, Cliftonville, on Sunday May 8th.

We had 9 teams and 18 doubles take part, compared to 10 teams and 15 doubles in 2015.

Considering the date clashed with the Senior England Trials, and we possibly lost 2 teams and 4 doubles entries to this, the numbers were not disappointing.

The Team event was won by a team from Bugsy's, but only 38 pins behind them were the "Kent Junior Bowlers" who in turn were just 25 pins ahead of the "Kent Junior Stars".

The Mens doubles were won by Adam Green and Simon Crook, and the Ladies by Franchesca Plewis and Samantha Hannan. Samantha Hannan and Adam Green also won their respective "All Events".

Congratulations to all.

Featured Bowler - Samantha Hannan

Name: Samantha Shayamalie Hannan
 Age: 20
 Years bowling: 12
 High game: 300
 High series: 802
 Weight ball: 15lb

Favourite bowler and why?

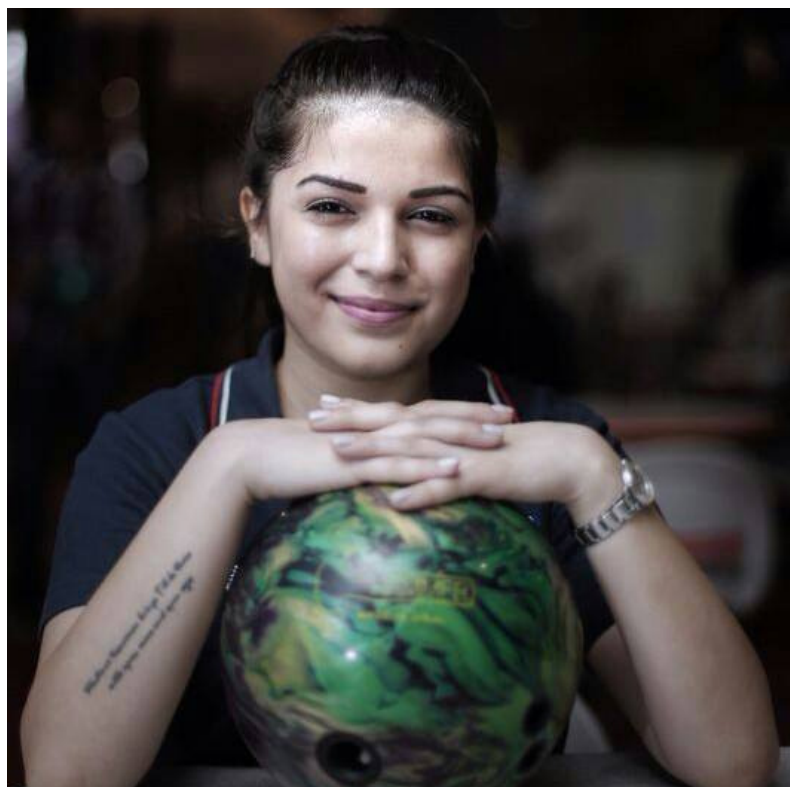
Tim Mack. Not just because of how amazingly talented he is. He has been a friend to me too. We first met in 2011 in Indonesia, and he helped me so much, fixing my span because my thumb was bleeding. Since then, we met many times in Asia. He will always be an inspiration to me.

Proudest moment?

In 2013 at the first Dubai International Bowling Centre Open, I came 2nd against Andrew Frawley of Australia. I was only 16 at the time and I had beaten Naif Oqab of UAE in the stepladder. Unfortunately I lost to Andrew, but it was such an experience for me and I proved to myself that I am a fighter.

What piece of advice would you offer to anyone starting to bowl?

My advice would be to never give up. Because there have been many times where I've had phases of bowling terribly and not believing in myself. All you feel like doing is quitting. If I did that I would not be the bowler I am today. Don't think that practice makes you perfect because there is always room for improvement. The best bowlers in the world are still learning something new everyday. Keep trying new things and remember your mental strength is the most important aspect when it comes to tournaments and playing under pressure.





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