

November 2023

The Extra End

The Newsletter of the ESMBA



Brian Baker

Registration Secretary

A relatively late comer to Short Mat Bowls, we moved to Dorset and had our arms twisted to attend a wine tasting at the village hall. A mere ruse to break our guard down and get us to join the local bowls club to play a game I had never heard of. I soon found myself captain of the third team and was persuaded to trial for the county. A whirlwind saw me take over the manager's job for Dorset even though I had no idea who played where. Youth was given a chance as we began to revitalize the county a move that in hindsight has proved well worthwhile. I joined the ESMBA committee as Coaching Director and was persuaded to help with the Under 21s. Having passed on the Coaching Directors position I now manage the Under 21 Academy, a post I really enjoy. I enjoy statistics which helps in my main committee position of Registration Secretary. I wonder what's next.

Ladies British Isles Championships

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th October saw Lady Bowlers from the four home nations, descend upon Melton Mowbray for the Inaugural Ladies British Isles Championships. This new competition; a vision of the Late ESMBA President and Ladies Manager George Clarke had finally come to fruition.

Playing the traditional British Isles Championship format; a Team Event, and the Individuals were 26 players from each of the home countries.

Each nation marched into the arena for the opening ceremony led by their flag bearers to the sound of their national anthems. The Championships were declared open by Melton & District Mayor Councillor Alan Hewson and his wife the Mayoress, who returned the following day for the closing ceremony and presentation.

England, who were led on by Flag Bearer Jo Featherstone and Captain Kate Williams were to play Scotland who were captained by Debbie Cochrane first.

England dominated from the start, with Lynn Orlando's rink rolling out 14-1 winners. Confident wins on 2 other rinks saw England start the Team event with a 23 shot victory. Meanwhile Ireland dominated Wales with a 32 shot win.

In round 2 of the Team event, England pulled off a comfortable 20 shot win over Wales, with Lynn Orlando's rink again winning by 11 shots, whilst in the other match Ireland enacted a 64 shot victory over Scotland.



Round 3 saw the head to head between England and Ireland. England fought hard with Ireland with all 4 rinks being within a few shots. Ireland emerged victorious with an eventual 13 shot victory to take the lead in the International at the end of day 1.

Next the Individual Rounds. Kate Williams in the singles winning against Scotland's Ashley Geddes 20-11, Emily Thomas' Pair had a convincing win 27-9 against Scotland. Sue Youngs triple lost to Ireland's Imelda Hanratty 16-10, and Lynn Orlando's four pulled off a 14-13 win over Scotland's Caroline McMath.

Round 2 saw Kate Williams have an emphatic 24-10 win over Wales' Kate Morgan, Emily Thomas /Becca Finch were unlucky to drop to a 16-12 defeat to the Cochrane Sisters from Ireland in the pairs, Sue Young meanwhile lost 15-12 to Scotland's Triple whilst Lynn Orlando's four had a confident 17-7 win over Wales



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ESMBA Opens

3 of the disciplines have already been decided, with only the Triples still to be played at Oxford IBC on the 29th Jan 24. If you would like to enter contact nick@esmba.co.uk for details.



Round 3 (played Sunday) saw England contend for 2 Championship titles in the Singles and Fours. Kate Williams fought hard against Irelands Patricia Martin-Ball, eventually losing 18-11 but securing the second place overall to her Irish opponent. Emily Thomas' pair came away with a second place finish after a brilliant 23-11 win over Wales, but again lost overall finishing 2nd to the Irish Pair. Sue Youngs Triples lost narrowly to Wales' Deb Matthews 14-13, whilst Lynn

Orlandos Four of Christine Harvey, Jo Featherstone and Manager Lynn Dean, went into round 3 with the Championship in their grasp, and won 21-7 against Ireland to be crowned British Isles 4s Champions!

Day 2 saw England start well in the Rinks with England dominating Scotland, Emily Thomas' and Lynn Orlandos Rinks having 14 and 13 shot victories respectively to secure England a 32 shot win.

Round 5 was England vs Wales and what a game it was. England swept all four rinks with Emily's Rink dominating with an 11 shot win. England came out confident winners 57-20

England faced Ireland for the final and deciding round A big England victory was needed to overturn Irelands position in the Table as England stood 2 points and 108 shots behind them but were assured of second place regardless. England fought hard and dominated early on, being plus 15 on Ireland. Despite Englands efforts and wins from Lynn Orlandos rink over Irelands Pauline Beattie and Emily Thomas' rink over Hannah Cochrane, Ireland clinched a 40-32 victory over the English to secure the International Title.

The Championships were a huge success, and Marion Clarke, presented Irelands Flo McNally the George Clarke Trophy in recognition of Irelands win.

	Winner	Runner Up
Singles	Patricia Martin-Ball (IRE)	Kate Williams (ENG)
Pairs	Hannah Cochrane (IRE) Rachel Cochrane	Emily Thomas (ENG) Becca Finch
Triples	Debbie Cochrane (SCO) Shirley Robson Emma Russell	Imelda Hanratty (IRE) Gill Rouiller Emma Colgan
Fours	Lynn Orlando (ENG) Christine Harvey Jo Featherstone Lynn Dean	Liz Evans (WAL) Ffion Jones Natalie Evans Chloe Thomas

International	Winner	Runner Up
	Ireland 12pts +215	England 8pts +91



Pairs Winners Jason Woods, Chris Willies



Singles Winner Matty Worden



Fours Winners Jody Frampton, Gary Best, Danny Hogben, Richard Stagg

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Development Material

Did you know that the ESMBA has a range of Development Literature, from Posters to informative leaflets?



These are available from the Development Officer or can be picked up at any ESMBA Fixtures or Events.

Digital Copies are available on the ESMBA Website – Club Support.

ENGLISH SHORT MAT BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Development Support from the ESMBA and Bowls Development Alliance

Access to the ESMBA Grant and Loan Schemes

Our Personal Accident Insurance covers all members for Short Mat Bowls related activities

Support from the National Governing Body for Short Mat Bowls

Access to our network of CoachBovels, Qualified Coaches

Opportunities to play at all levels from Club to International

Low Annual Registration Fee, which includes the Personal Accident Cover

Specialist Civil Liability and Equipment Insurance Scheme for Clubs, Leagues and Associations

What does my Membership get me?

Many more benefits being added, join and become part of your national association

Find out what you get

Use the QR Code to find out how many memberships

Our Website: www.esmba.co.uk
 email us at: enquiries@esmba.co.uk

Please contact James Scoins, ESMBA Development Officer: james@esmba.co.uk if you would like some for your Club or County.

New Lincolnshire Club Hosts under 21 Academy

Ruskington, a newly registered club in the heart of Lincolnshire played host to the England Under 21 Academy on 8th October.



Keith Austen, a former Kent County Player who runs the Ruskington Club, was pleased to welcome 18 Academy Players, including Matthew Hardwood, current U18 National Champion, whom he played with and against in his previous county.

Keith is actively involved in promoting Short Mat Bowls in Lincolnshire and this fixture gave him the opportunity to invite members of other local clubs to participate.

“We had visitors from other local clubs and at least one will be bringing people to our Monday afternoon session. It promoted our sport and our club, highlighting Short mat truly is a sport for all. Hopefully this will encourage others to come along and give it a go”

If your Club or County are interested in hosting the Under 21 Academy please get in touch with Brian Baker: u21manager@esmba.co.uk



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<https://joffebooks.com/free-books>

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Markers Courses

Do you want to learn how to mark a game properly, or learn how to do those tricky measures?

The ESMBA is now offering Markers Courses in your area.

Please get in touch with Brab Hallowes, Umpires Director:
brab@esmba.co.uk for more information

Would you like to be on the mailing list for the newsletter? email james@esmba.co.uk

The Rooney Measure



Do you know what this is?

This Rooney Square, designed by a bowler, is the perfect measure for those hard to agree short mat line calls.

This simple but ingenious little piece of kit should be on your 'wish list' for club equipment for quickly showing if the Jack is dead or live, or if the bowl is in or out.

How does it work?

If you are checking whether a JACK or a toucher is live when they are partly in the ditch you place the Rooney Square along the front edge of the ditch line. Put the centre hinge in line with edge of the jack and the flat edge along the ditch line. Then simply 'flip' up half of the measure – if it touches the jack at all, then the Jack/Bowl is live and still in play.

If you are checking whether a no toucher bowl is dead, then simply do the same from the ditch. Place the Rooney square along the front edge of the ditch and flip. If it touches the bowl then the bowl has crossed the line and is dead and is removed.

It is believed there is only one place in the UK who stock them. Dukes Bowls but they are well worth adding to your club equipment



TLH – ESMBA MEMBERS Pairs and Fours Weekend

The ESMBA held the Pairs and Fours Competition at TLH in Torquay over 21st and 22nd October. 50 Pairs and 26 Fours competed over the two days with James Scoins & Denise Merritt winning the Pairs and Paul Weeks, Elaine Clements. Wayne Hendy and Colin Sowden from Great Torrington in Devon winning the Fours.



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Coaching Corner



Introducing Coaching Corner, in each issue we will include a task for players to try.

In this issue the task is: Push and Lay for shot using controlled weight

1 point for each successful wood (maximum of 4 points available)

