

New Forest Bowls Association 2021 Finals Day - 5th September Ringwood B C

6th September 2021

What a wonderful day to have for our Competition Finals.....

The weather was very kind – a few went home having “caught the sun” – dark glasses were needed, as opposed to being a fashion statement. The green looked immaculate and by all accounts also bowled well – even if a bit quick for some from the “slower greens”

In the Singles Plate David Bradley Brock cantered off to a very quick 14-0 lead after 14 ends before Dave McElhenney found his line, but too late as the damage was done and David B-B won 21-6.

At the other end of the green Nick Cavill and Peter Barnes were contesting the Officers Cup and it was evenly match to the 8th end and then Nick powered ahead to 19-10 at the 20, when Peter began to fight back and a four on the 23rd brought it to 20-16; that was enough, Nick closed it out winning 21-16.

The other matches were the Pairs Plate and the Triples – the former lasted 3 hours and the latter 3.5 hours – so much for the best laid plans.....

The Pairs Plate saw Terry Hayward and Ian Winterburn go out to a 10-0 lead at 5 ends before the match settled down to a true fight and ‘nip & tuck’, with Dave Howell and Alan Taylor bring it back to 14-11 at the 13th end. From there on it was one here and one there until the Terry and Ian won 19-15.

The Triples was 3-3 after 4 ends and then Andy Wilson & Co slowly ground out an unassailable lead of 14-4, but not to be downhearted Steve Van Wyk’s triple picked up a 4 – could there be a surprise in store?? Sadly, for them it was short lived and the Fordingbridge triple went on to win 19-9.

The Champions of Champions started earlier than planned, which almost proved costly to Lee Croad, who had recently finished off a plate of chips!!!!!! And found himself 9-0 down to Steve Burfield after very short order; gradually Lee found his way back at it proved to be a very entertaining match with a few ‘squeaky-bum’ moments in the last three ends. Lee road eventually won 21-19.

The Fours started behind schedule to allow Dave Howell some recovery time after his Pairs Plate match in the morning; this meant that for the afternoon matches we had no President to make the presentations.

Fortunately, Past President from 2015 Robert Wood was in attendance in all his formal bowling attire – blazer, white shirt, tie, and dark trousers; he very kindly agreed ‘to step into the breach’ and present that afternoon’s winners with their Trophies and Cup; as it happened, Robert had to present the Fours Cup to the current President!!!!!!

The Champion of Champions (from 2019 and 202) was between Lee Croad and Steve Burfield – both seasoned campaigners and past finalists; Steve went out to a 9-0 lead after 5 ends before Lee began to find his line and length; after 13 ends it was 16-7 and looking as though the trophy was headed to New Milton: the turning point was a 4 followed by a 3, which proved decisive. From there it was close, until Lee won with a 2 to close out the match.

The next match to finish was the Singles match, an all Fordingbridge affair, between Alan Attenborough and Mark Curtis. Mark got off to a decent start, before Alan came back at him and the match was close throughout, 7-8 to Alan after 12 ends; then 9-11 after 16 ends. The turning point was Alan scoring a 4 on the 19th end to take a 17-9 lead and then repeating the feat on end 21 to close out the match 21-10.

Next to conclude was the George Sumner 2 wood pairs between Highcliffe and Fordingbridge, which was even, for the first six ends after which Andy Wilson & Peter Knight scored 7 in two ends to lead 13-8. After that they took control of the match with a couple of high scoring ends and eventually ran out 26-18 winners on the 20th end, even though Keith Allen and Ian Chapman did put up some strong resistance in the 18th & 19th ends

Next it was the Fours match between the local favourites Geoff Bell, Allan Mason, Derick Faulkner and Derrick Fulker against David Howell, Karen Winter, Eric Milsom, Tim Winter. The Ringwood team took advantage of the quick green and went out to 10-5 lead after 6 ends and were then relentless in their pursuit of victory getting to 29-9 up at the 16th end before a mini fight back with New Milton scoring 7 in two ends. Time run out and Ringwood won 32-16 with two ends to play.

Last to finish was the Pairs between Peter Ward and Michael Whelan against Mel Barrett and Mark Brocklebank, both Ringwood teams, so split loyalty in the spectators. Another very evenly matched game between seasoned finalists in numerous competitions in the region. At 11 ends and 17 ends there was nothing between them. End 16 saw Whelan and Ward pick up a 4 and then followed up with a 2; Barret and Brocklebank responded with a 3. Finally, having run its full course the match ended with Michael Whelan and Peter Ward winning 19-15.

As always, my thanks go to the host club for all the effort up in by the members who marked, flapped, served the drinks, prepared the food, and generally help around the site; a special commendation should be made to the “green team” for producing such a wonderful green not on the usual settings so there was no home advantage.

Finally, my thanks to Tony Prince for Umpiring the NFBA Finals once again; he makes my duties a whole lot easier to know we are in “safe hands”

Next year it is off to Lymington BC on Sunday 4th September – let’s hope for similar weather.

Regards

Neil Gillespie
NFBA Competitions Secretary

PS: Is there any demand for an Australian Pairs Competition? – if there is let your delegates know in time for the AGM on the 8th November.

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<u>TROPHIES</u>	<u>2021</u>		
<u>Trophy/ Cup</u>	<u>Competition</u>	<u>Winner(s)</u>	<u>Club</u>
Jack Rook Trophy	Singles	Alan Attenborough	Fordingbridge
Geoff Pilling Trophy	Singles Runner Up	Mark Curtis	Fordingbridge
Edgar Moss Trophy	Pairs (4 Wood)	Michael Whelan	Ringwood
		Peter Ward	
Ringwood BC Trophy	Triples	Alan Attenborough	Fordingbridge
		Roly ford	
		Andy Wilson	
Prichard Memorial Trophy	Fours	Geoff Bell	Ringwood
		Allan Mason	
		Derick Faulkner	
		Derrick Fulker	
George Sumner Cup	Over 65 2 Wood Pairs	Andy Wilson	Fordingbridge
		Peter Knight	
Ralph Curtis Trophy	Officers	Nick Cavill	Fordingbridge
Robert Adlard Cup	Champions of Champions	Lee Croad	Ringwood
Stephens Plate	Singles Plate	David Bradley-Brock	Highcliffe
Downton Plate	Pairs Plate	Terry Hayward	Waterside
		Ian Winterburn	