



## **BCGBA Junior Individual Merit**

**Saturday, 17th August 2019**

**Netherfield BC, Parkside Road, Kendal LA9 7BL**

**Commencing at 10am**

**Free Admission**

1	* Owen Turner (Merseyside)	v	2	Alfie Knight (North Midlands)
3	* Owen Cookson (Cheshire)	v	4	Austin Hart (Isle of Man)
5	* William Clarke (Warwick & Worcester)	v	6	Dillon Christopherson (South Yorkshire)
7	* Josh Thomas (Yorkshire)	v	8	Finley Hormbrey (Wales)
9	* Jason Harris (North Lancs & Fylde)	v	10	Tom Farmer (Potteries & District)
11	Callum Sharples (Cumbria)	v	12	Harry Parsonage (Shropshire)
13	* Liam Marrow (Lancashire)	v	14	Owen Evans (Staffordshire)
15	* Aiden Richardson (Derbyshire)	v	16	Jake Johnson (Greater Manchester)
17	* Dylan Burdett (North Midlands)	v	18	Adam McDermott (Cheshire)
19	* Thomas Skidmore (Staffordshire)	v	20	Matthew Marrow (Lancashire)
21	* Louis Porter (Greater Manchester)	v	22	Tom Hirst (Yorkshire)
23	* Shannon McMullan (Isle of Man)	v	24	Jack Desmond (Derbyshire)
25	* Ben Hinton (Shropshire)	v	26	Taylor Miller (Warwick & Worcester)
27	* Ryan Price Williams (Wales)	v	28	Ben Mills (North Lancs & Fylde)
29	* Edward Collins (Potteries & District)	v	30	Jamie Isaac (Merseyside)
31	* Jacob Parratt (South Yorkshire)	v	32	Shawn Fisher (Cumbria)

\* Denotes County Merit winner (Cumbria Merit winner is unable to play)

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## PROSSER ADDS SENIOR MERIT TITLE TO HIS CV

Warwick & Worcester's, Ryan Prosser, took to the greens at Rolls Royce Leisure like a duck to water to claim the 104th BCGBA Senior Individual Merit title. The constant rain for virtually the whole day made the greens look like a pond at times but it didn't affect Prosser as he squelched through the field to defeat Potteries & District's, Gary Owen, 21-19 in a thrilling final.

There was little between the finalists in the early stages of the final but Owen eventually opened up a five chalk gap to lead 15-10. Prosser hit back with a nine-break to go 19-15 up but was unable to finish off the game with Owen scoring doubles at the next two ends to level the game at 19 across. A good lead by Owen was made even better by Prosser as he pushed the jack to rest on Owen's lead bowl but he was unable to put any further pressure on Prosser as left his second bowl shorter than he would have liked. Prosser then played the bowl of the day by switching peg and pushing out Owen's counting bowl to claim the two he required for victory.

Prosser had started his day with a tough 21-18 victory over Derbyshire hopeful, Dan Petcher, and was rarely troubled in his next games as he made his way to the final. Gordon Hawkins from Staffordshire scored seven in round two with Yorkshire County Secretary, Alex Wolfenden, succumbing to a 21-12 defeat in round three.

Owen was a comfortable 21-10 winner in his opening game against Adam Weaver (Warwick & Worcester) but was relieved to get past Tom Hanson (Yorkshire) in round two, winning by the narrowest of margins, 21-20. He made his way to the quarter-finals by defeating Gareth Gwilliam (Greater Manchester), 21-13.

With all games now switching to the number one green, Prosser accounted for Spencer Clarke (Shropshire), 21-10 in his quarter-final match then eased into to final at the expense of Danny Roberts from Lancashire, 21-6, in the semi-finals. Owen however had contrasting results, reaching the penultimate stage with a 21-9 victory over Geraint Booth (Wales) in the last eight but then winning a pulsating game with North Midland's, Shane Day, 21-20, where he saw his 18-12 lead whittle away to a 20-18 deficit only to deny Day the point he needed for a place in the final.

The three previous winners of the Senior Merit all made early exits. Noel Burrows (1976, 2010) bowed out to Yorkshire's Tom Hanson, 21-10 in the first round as did Graeme Wilson, who won in 2000 and the last time the Merit was played at Rolls Royce in 2004, finding North Midland's Shane Day in top form in a 21-9 defeat. The 2009 champion, Callum Wraight, got past Roy Moxham (Cumbria), 21-18 in his first round game but then lost a 21-20 thriller to Geraint Booth (Wales) in round two.

Results of all games can be found on the BCGBA website – [bcgba.org.uk](http://bcgba.org.uk).



## WARWICK & WORCESTER TO DEFEND THE CROSFIELD CUP



Merseyside stand in the way of Warwick & Worcester's hopes of defending the Endsleigh Senior County Championship title when the sides meet in the final of the Crosfield Cup on Sunday 1st September (2pm). The defending champions defeated Derbyshire by 25 in their semi-final while Merseyside upset the odds by inflicting an 11 chalk defeat on Shropshire.

In the semi- finals, Warwick & Worcester and Derbyshire shared the winning cards at the Derbyshire home venue at Stretton No 2 green with the home side winning by thirteen, helped by a late 21-7 card from Dan Hartley. Over at Greville Arms, the match was evenly poised until two middle four hammer blows hit Derbyshire with Tom Pritchard winning 21-7 and Greg Smith winning 21-4 as the holders recorded a 38 chalk victory.

It was a similar scenario in the Shropshire versus Merseyside semi-final. The sides again shared the winning cards at Shropshire's home green at Pontesbury Nags Head but the home side could only manage an eight chalk victory despite Andy Duckett's 21-2 card. Rob Fitzpatrick responded for last season's semi-finalists with a 21-9 victory. Over at Clock Face No 2 green, Martin Lloyd got the Salopians off to a great start with an opening 21-6 success but Ant Gartside responded immediately with a 21-8 triumph with Merseyside winning by 19 when all the scores were added up.

The finalists have now declared their teams and venues for the final with Warwick & Worcester using Moor Lane while Merseyside have opted for Carr Mill. Both matches will be 'live scored' on the BCGBA website.

### ENDSLEIGH SENIOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

#### at Carr Mill BC (WA11 9AD)

##### MERSEYSIDE

Kevin Kearns  
Andy Hayes  
Ant Gartside  
Terry Glover  
Peter Jones  
Tex Allen  
Craig Taylor  
Liam McEgan  
Mike Tunstall  
Matty Gartside  
George Curran  
Robbie Hall

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##### WARWICK & WORCESTER

Tom Palmer  
Anthony Bracken  
Adam Patrick  
Steve Darling  
Ashley Bracken  
Josh Hale  
Paul Hemming  
Ross Dunkley  
Jack Whitehead  
Peter Dunkley  
Carl Fielding  
Steve Wallace

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#### at Moor Lane BC (B6 7AA)

##### WARWICK & WORCESTER

Ryan Prosser  
Peter Davenport  
Gareth Herbert  
Ben Harris  
Elliot McGuinness  
Rob Carter  
Tom Pritchard  
James Seville  
Greg Smith  
Marc Wilson  
Neil Clarke  
Phil Clinton

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##### MERSEYSIDE

Matt Gilmore  
Phil Lee  
Danny Barwise  
Chris Barton  
Ian Sherbrooke  
Owen Turner  
Mick Andrews  
James Fitzpatrick  
Nick Burrige  
Robbie Fitzpatrick  
Anthony Thompson  
Dave McDermott

## NORTH LANCS WIN SUPPLEMENTARY COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

North Lancs & Fylde denied Cheshire consecutive Endsleigh Senior Supplementary County Championships when they defeated the holders by 11 in this season's final, played on the greens at the excellent Garswood Hall. All the results can be viewed via the BCGBA website and more details will be included in the next Newsletter.

*\*\* The Ladies Mavis Dearden Supplementary County Championship takes place at Winnington Park Recreation Club, Cheshire, on Sunday 18th August.*



## DRAKES PRIDE JUNIOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

The final round of matches in this season's Junior County Championship will decide the division champions for 2019.

In the **Premier Division**, Yorkshire are in pole position after another big victory in their last match, beating Wales by 124. This puts them on six points and a massive plus aggregate of 431. Shropshire are level with Yorkshire on six points but have finished all their matches, and on a plus aggregate of 53, but they cannot overtake their White Rose County rivals. Warwick & Worcester, currently on four points and with a plus of 68, are the only side that can deny Yorkshire a second successive Premier Division title but it is going to take a mammoth effort to overcome the huge advantage Yorkshire have going in to the final match of the season. Staffordshire and Wales complete their season with both sides looking for their first points of the season.

In **Division 1**, Derbyshire and South Yorkshire will decide the fate of the title when the sides meet in the only fixture of the day. Both sides have four points with Derbyshire having the better aggregate, plus 321 as opposed to South Yorkshire's plus 220.

Results of all matches will be 'live-scored' on the BCGBA website.

## POTTERIES DOMINATE VETERANS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

Potteries & District came through the 2019 Veterans County Championship unscathed winning every match they played.

Having qualified on home turf at Dilhorne Recreation by beating Wales (38), Cheshire (14) and Greater Manchester (56), they travelled to play on the superb green at Ashton Cricket Club in Greater Manchester where they faced the other three regional winners, Lancashire, Warwick & Worcester and Yorkshire, all of whom were dominant in their qualifying rounds.

They faced Warwick & Worcester in their opening match, winning by 47 in a clean sweep of winning cards and followed that up with a 25 chalk victory over Lancashire.

Yorkshire were the only county that could prevent them claiming a second title in three years as they also won their first two matches. They first won a 'Battle of the Roses' clash with Lancashire by 23 but left it late to end Warwick & Worcester's title hopes with Robert Hitchen (21-7) and Nigel Cranston (21-9) ensuring the White Rose county had 27 chalks to spare at the end of the match.

In the deciding match, Paul Phillips, who won his first match of the day 21-5, got the Potteries off to a fine start with a resounding 21-4 card to give his side a ten chalk advantage at the half way stage with the winning cards shared. Mark Melvin put the match beyond Yorkshire with a fine 21-7 card to ensure the trophy was again returning to the Potteries with an overall 24 chalk victory.



## A SPORT FOR ALL AGES

Les Skelding, a member of Pittshill Victory Club, is still actively involved playing crown green bowls at the ripe old age of 101 while young Sebastian Mordue, son of the 2018 BCGBA Senior Merit Champion, Chris Mordue, has qualified for the finals of the British Parks Junior Merit at just 5 years of age.

Les started his bowling career in the early seventies at Milton Hayes Bowling Club and, along with his late wife Emily, moved onto Pittshill Vics. He was club chairman in 1976 when they decided to lay a new green and in early June of that year when it came to lay the last few turfs in the centre of the green a snowstorm stopped the completion of work. Once the snow had cleared and the work was completed Les opened the green allowing their members to move from their base at Tunstall Park. Soon after the snow the heatwave of 76 hit.

Les turns out to play for Pittshill twice a week on a Tuesday in the Veterans League and on a Thursday in the Staffordshire Parks League. Mind you Les is quick to remind you he can only play after he has finished doing his washing and ironing. Les is a Gentleman and is quick to acknowledge good bowling and he must be our oldest member playing Crown Green Bowls .... or is he?

Sebastian Mordue looks like following in his dad's footsteps, and that of big brother, Joshua, and is already making a name for himself in the bowling world.

he began to throw bowls before he could walk and his attention to detail is the result of his amazing ability at such a tender age. He usually uses 2lb 4oz bowls but has no problem in reaching the corners with his dad's 2lb 8oz set. He is tucked up in bed when league bowling is underway but he manages to play in junior competitions and will be taking part in the British Parks Junior Merit in Birkenhead Park (Wirral) on Sunday 1st September.

However, it is not just bowls he excels at. He is a keen golfer and can throw his hand at darts and snooker. A star in the making – hopefully in Crown Green Bowls.



## CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

The BCGBA can confirm that the 2019 Champion of Champions and Ladies Champion of Champions are being held at the Waterloo Hotel this September. We have been in communication with the Waterloo throughout the year and will work with the new group to ensure the BCGBA events go ahead as planned.

As a reminder, the men's Champion of Champions takes place on Saturday 28th September with the ladies playing the following day on Sunday 29th September. Both events start at 10am.

The list of qualifiers for both the men's and ladies competitions are updated on the BCGBA website once they are known.

## NICOLA & SUE DESTROY THE FIELD IN PAIRS FINALS

Nicola Boulton & Sue Worrall were in outstanding form as they tore through the field in the Ladies Dorothy Pearce Memorial Pairs, played on the excellent Garswood Hall greens. Four of their opponents failed to score 21 between them with the only scare coming in their quarter-final match which nearly saw them exit the competition.

The Mid Cheshire pairing started with a first round success against Viv Roberts & Dawn McDougall (Wales), winning 21-6 and then accounted for Nicola Gilmore & Hanna Lussey (Merseyside) in round two, 21-3. In their quarter-finals they were facing defeat, trailing Kaye Coulthard & Sarah Skidmore (Dudley & District), 19-16, but managed to get out to a 21-20 win, finishing with a three in the final end. Normal service resumed in the semi-finals as they left Trish Russell & Pat McGuirk (Lancashire) on 3 before rounding off a tremendous performance by ending the hopes of Lynsey Gorman & Anita Richardson (Merseyside) to win a third title, with a 21-4 final result, despite dropping three chalks at the first end.

With the Ladies President, Lynsey Gorman, involved in the final, Deputy President, Frances McLaren, made the prize presentations and presented the trophy to the worthy winners, Nicola (right) and Sue.

All results can be viewed via the BCGBA website.



## DIARY DATES

Saturday 17th August	BCGBA Junior Merit at Netherfield BC (10am)
Sunday 18th August	Ladies Mavis Dearden Supplementary County Championship at Winnington Park BC (9.30am)
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Sunday 1st September	Endsleigh Senior County Championship Final (2pm)
Saturday 7th September	Ladies Junior Merit at Heswall RBL (10am)
Sunday 8th September	Drakes Pride Junior County Championship
Sunday 15th September	Ladies Senior County Championship Final
Saturday 28th September	BCGBA Champion of Champions at Waterloo Hotel (10am)
Sunday 29th September	Ladies Champion of Champions at Waterloo Hotel (10am)
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Saturday 5th October	BCGBA Centenary Mixed Pairs at Horwich RMI (10am)