



BRITISH CROWN GREEN BOWLING ASSOCIATION

FENTON PRIVATE DENY THE HOLDERS IN WORLD FINAL

FENTON PRIVATE (Potteries & District) scored a tremendous victory in the opening BCGBA competition of the season denying the defending champions, Pudsey (British Parks), a second successive title in the World Club Championship.

The 'Potters' won by 18 chalks when all scores were added up at Spen Victoria Cricket, Bowling & Athletic Club in Yorkshire with Gary Owen's 21-9 card proving crucial in an otherwise close match.

The jacks were equally shared in the first four blocks of the final with Owen's single-figure victory ensuring his side took a slender two-chalk lead going into the final four games. James Hanson put the holders back in front following a 21-18 success but Fenton hit back by claiming the remaining three cards to secure their first victory in the competition.

Fenton, having defeated Garswood Hall (Lancashire) and the 2017 winners, King George V (Warwick & Worcester), to qualify for finals day, made their way to the final by first overcoming the challenge of The George Warley (Warwick & Worcester) by 12 chalks in a close game throughout. Their semi-final opponents, Crossland Moor from the host county, proved another tough test but it was thanks to Steve Morrey's 21-4 card that his side made it through to the final with 14 chalks to spare.

Pudsey's day started with a 27-chalk victory over two-time champions, Parkfield Labour (North Lancs & Fylde). They got off to a great start thanks to Gary Wyke's 21-5 card, supported by Tom Hanson who won 21-9. They then got the better of Derbyshire's Stretton Anglesey at the penultimate stage with James Hanson (21-5) and Jon Edmondson (21-9) being instrumental in their 38-chalk success.

BCGBA Deputy President, Frank James, made the presentation of the trophy to the Fenton Private team.

Results from all rounds can be viewed via the BCGBA website.



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YORKSHIRE OUT TO DOMINATE THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS AGAIN

The County Championship season is upon us with BCGBA men, juniors and ladies playing their respective championships over the first three Sundays of each month between May and September. Yorkshire dominated the championships in 2022 with a clean sweep of titles and must start season 2023 as strong favourites.

The men take centre stage on the first Sunday (7th May) of each month in the **BCGBA Senior County Championship** with this season's fixtures bringing together two of the game's heavyweights in the opening round of matches. Yorkshire, start their title defence against arch-rivals, Warwick & Worcester, in Section 2 with the winners taking the advantage into their remaining two matches, though South Yorkshire and last season's defeated semi-finalists, Lancashire, will have a big say on who qualifies for the semi-finals from this tough section.

Elsewhere, Shropshire, beaten by the white rose county in September's final, open against North Midlands in Section 3 with matches against Cheshire and Greater Manchester to follow, while in Section 1 it is hard to pick a winner from Derbyshire, North Lancs & Fylde, Merseyside and Wales. In the three-team Section 4, Potteries & District and Staffordshire get the season underway with Cumbria eagerly awaiting their result as they play the losers in the June fixtures.

Once again there will be the same four counties in the **BCGBA Junior County Championship** with matches played on the second Sunday (14th May) of each month. Yorkshire play Wales in their first match, followed by Staffordshire and will be hoping to celebrate yet another title against last season's runners-up, Shropshire, in July.

The third Sunday (21st May) of each month is reserved for the ladies playing in the **BCGBA Ladies County Championship**. Champions, Yorkshire, have been drawn in Section 4 and play North Midlands in their May fixture followed by North Warwickshire in June and Greater Manchester in July. The section winners will play the winners of Section 3 in the semi-finals which contains last year's beaten finalists, Shropshire. They play South Staffordshire, Lancashire and the Mavis Dearden Supplementary County Championship winners from 2022, South Yorkshire.



Last season's beaten semi-finalists, Wales and Warwick & Worcester meet in the opening fixtures in Section 1 with Cheshire playing Staffordshire in the other section match, while in Section 2, Burton & District, Dudley & District, North Lancs & Fylde and North Shropshire will battle it out for a place in the semi-finals.

With Cumbria back in the fold, the **BCGBA Ladies Presidents County Championship** has a full complement of teams. Their return has paired them

against Merseyside in the May fixtures with Mid Cheshire and North Derbyshire meeting in the other match of the section.

You can view all the teams as they are announced on the BCGBA website and follow the live scores as matches are played each month. Just visit bcgba.org.uk for details.

EASYFUNDRAING

Funding is available for your club, all through online shopping!

easyfundraising gives bowls clubs the opportunity to create a regular income stream powered by their players, volunteers and members everyday online spending. The best bit, it's free. To get started, just visit - <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/crown-green-bowls/>.

You'd be surprised at what can be achieved in even a short amount of time. In the last 30 days, James K has raised £293.13 for his local club, by shopping at Currys, House of Fraser and TUI. Money his club can use to cover essential club improvements, reduce membership fees or help provide club equipment and anything else they need.

easyfundraising partners with over 7,500 well-known brands, so no matter what your members are buying, there's cashback available. It's simple, when an online shopper checks out, a percentage of how much they've spent is shared with your club. It's free for the online shopper and your club – as the cashback comes directly from the brand they've shopped with.

easyfundraising recently hosted a webinar, in which Steve Clamp from Philip Wright Crown Green Bowling Academy talked about how their club has used the platform to raise over £1000! If you would like to watch this session, simply visit [Funding Club Essentials](#).

Don't let your club miss out on this great opportunity - sign up for easyfundraising today.



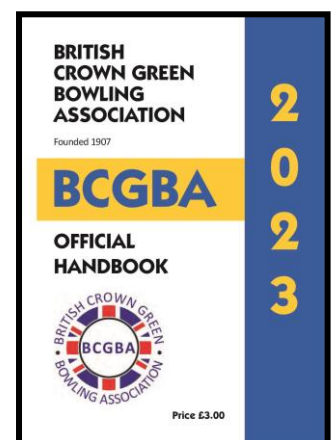
2023 BCGBA HANDBOOK STILL AVAILABLE

The 2023 BCGBA Handbook is now available for purchase.

This year's handbook contains all the results from the Mens and Ladies competitions played during the 2022 season and the calendar of events for the 2023 season. The fixtures for the County Championships are also included.

All clubs should receive a copy via their County Secretary but if you would like to have your own personal copy, please contact the National Administrator at admin@bcgba.org.uk on how to obtain this year's handbook.

You will need to send a cheque for £4.50 (cheques payable to BCGBA) which will cover the cost of postage & packing.



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FIFTH TITLE FOR WROCKWARDINE WOOD

For the first time since before the pandemic, a full complement of sixteen teams took part in the **BCGBA Ladies Club Championship**. The county winners from 2022 saw groups 1 and 2 played at Grange Sports & Social Club while Groups 3 and 4 played at Tetley Walker BC. The semi-finals and final were played at Monk Sports & Social Club.

WROCKWARDINE WOOD (Shropshire) scored an impressive fifth title in the beating former winners, St Oswalds (Cheshire), by 17 chalks in the final.

The two sides could not be separated after the opening four jacks of the final with Shropshire's Louise Cotton's 15-6 card cancelled out by Karen Galvin's 15-5 card leaving both sides on 46 chalks. Jean Wanbon gave St Oswalds the advantage as the second half of the final got underway handing in a timely 15-6 card. However, it was all in vain as Sarah Weaver romped to a 15-0 success, supported by Holly Bishton (15-3) to ensure Wrockwardine Wood celebrated another success in this competition.

In the first semi, Wrockwardine Wood had to overcome a 15-chalk advantage by Castle Private (Cheshire) at the halfway stage in their match with Wendy Allen (15-8), Elaine Burgess (15-9) and Katie Harrop (15-9) all in fine form. Wrockwardine hit back strongly in the match's second half, with Sarah Weaver (15-0) and Chelsea Gregory (15-3) seeing their side through to the final with an overall 15-chalk victory.

In the other semi-final. St Oswalds were rarely troubled in their 30-chalk success over Bamford. Beth Kemp (15-1), Margaret Williams (15-2), Louise Wilkins (15-5) and Karen Galvin (15-9) were the top scorers for the Cheshire side with Natalie Nelson (15-9) the best of Bamford's three winners.



BOWLS' BIG WEEKEND



Bowls' Big Weekend gives the bowls community the opportunity to come together and celebrate our great sport, with clubs opening their doors for new people to start their bowls journey.

Clubs across the country will open their doors to enable new participants to discover everything that is great about our sociable, accessible sport.

Sharing your love of bowls with new people is a great way to build your club's identity and sense of community as members come together to welcome aspiring bowlers.

Bowls' Big Weekend will run from **Friday 26th** to **Monday 29th May**.

All registered clubs will receive a resource pack including posters, flyers, new bowler guides and balloons in support of their big day. You will also receive a Club Information Guide and the opportunity to access additional resources for use in support of your event including social media graphics, banners and other event materials.

To register your club, visit <https://www.bowlsengland.com/bowls-big-weekend/>.

2023 CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

Qualifying is underway for the 2023 **BCGBA Mens Champion of Champions** and **BCGBA Ladies Champion of Champions**, which will be played over the weekend of Saturday 30th September and Sunday 1st October at Heaton Park BC, Greater Manchester.

The list of qualifiers from the qualifying and reserve competitions will be updated on the BCGBA website once results are received from the respective competition organisers.

MEN

Qualifying Competitions: 16 BCGBA County Merit Winners • BCGBA Senior Individual Merit • BCGBA Junior Individual Merit • BCGBA Jack & Jean Isherwood Veterans Championship • Autumn Waterloo • Brighthouse Classic • British Parks Merit • George Masters (2022) • Hillcrest Classic • Isle of Man June Bowling Festival • Isle of Man September Bowling Festival • Meole Brace Open • Midland Masters Merit • Pudsey Classic • Sandal Classic • Spennymoor Masters • Spring Waterloo

Reserve Competitions (in order): 1 Federation Merit • 2 Richmond Classic • 3 Fleetwood Bowling Festival • 4 Ribblesdale Classic • 5 Ken Booth Classic • 6 Talbot Trophy • 7 Castle Private Classic • 8 Wharton Cons Open • 9 Naz Worthington Memorial • 10 Leyton Classic • 11 West Brom Open • 12 Woodley Spring Classic • 13 Gambart Bains Championship

LADIES

Qualifying Competitions: 21 BCGBA Ladies County Champions • BCGBA Ladies Senior Individual Merit • BCGBA Ladies Junior Individual Merit • Blackpool Spring Bowling Festival • British Parks Ladies Merit • Cynthia Tonge Memorial • Ladies Isle of Man June Festival • Ladies Isle of Man September Festival • Ladies Autumn Waterloo • Ladies Spring Waterloo • Ladies Talbot • Norden Open Singles

Reserve Competitions (in order): 1 Enid Blackburn Trophy • 2 Ladies Federation Merit • 3 Ladies Fleetwood Bowling Festival • 4 Marton Institute Ladies Open • 5 New Brighton Open • 6 Ladies Isle of Man June Tourism • 7 Ladies Isle of Man September Tourism

Does your club need funding?

Did you know your club can gain free unrestricted funding from Crown Green Bowling Association fundraising partner easyfundraising. Your members, players and volunteers can earn free cashback on online purchases, helping your club with income!



What is easyfundraising?

easyfundraising is the UK's biggest charity fundraising platform. It turns everyday online shopping into free cashback you can put towards your club. Free and easy to use, easyfundraising has helped sports clubs raise over £5M and over £44M for other good causes and charities.

How does easyfundraising work?

easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you, family, friends members, and even businesses spend towards your club. It won't cost you any extra because the cost is covered by the brands. They pay a commission when anyone shops from the easyfundraising website or app, and that's turned into cashback for you - magic!



Can How much can we raise?

Most brands pay a % of what you spend with them as cashback whilst some pay a flat amount. For example if you or one of your supporters spend £150 on a hotel via booking.com, they will donate 3% which is £4.50 and if someone buys their car insurance with confused.com via easyfundraising, they will donate £15 regardless of the cost of the policy. Remember, the more people supporting you, the more you will raise for your club!

How do I get started?

Most Simply visit:
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/crown-green-bowls

Or open your camera app on your phone and scan the QR code below.

