

# SPORTS

LOCAL Coverage sponsored by SHELL

## TEN PIN BOWLING

### GTBA REVIEW 2006

**A League**, sponsored by Norwich Union  
**B League**, sponsored by Sharrock Shand  
**C League**, sponsored by Interbuild  
**D League**, sponsored by Coldaire

winners Wigs  
 winners Shandies  
 winners Split Happens  
 winners Pipework

The Uni-Flo Cup & Plate competition, sponsored by Uni-Flo Services Ltd, **Winners of cup**  
 Lightning strikes beat Bowtlen Wanderers & have won it for the 3rd consecutive year.

**Winners of plate** Ibx Raiders (sponsored by Ibx Ins.) beat Aquagib. In the **National Championships**, Graham Coles won the men's title, beating Kevin Stimson & Ian Wood into 2nd & 3rd places. It's the 3rd consecutive year he has won the title. Graham has now joined the committee and is hoping to pass on his skills by helping out with the youth programme. In the women's section, Helen McGunnigle, a 2nd time winner, beat Charly Clark and Tracy Gathercole to 2nd & 3rd place.

This year we have also been very fortunate to have sent bowlers to a number of international events. The first two tournaments were run by the European Tenpin Bowling Federation. In February, **The Mediterranean Cup**, held in San Marino, we sent 2 men & 2 women. This tournament is organized for all countries that border the Med. As it turned out, Spain pulled out at the last minute, the reason for which became clear in the next tournament we attended. During the tournament, our bowlers did very well in what turned out to be a very friendly competition & while we didn't win trophies for the bowling, Kimberly Turnbull received the friendship award. We made great contacts with members of the ETBF committee, who were all very interested in our ambitions for bowling on the Rock.

In May, at the **European Gold Cup**, held in Foetz, Luxembourg, it all became clear why Spain pulled out of the Med Cup and now the Gold Cup. A letter to the organizers, from Spain's Bowling Federation, explained that their Government had forbade them to participate in any tournament in which Gibraltar participated. After a few letters explaining our position on this, then a meeting just prior to the event, with Addie Ophelder, the ETBF President and the managers of the other participating countries we received the backing of everyone present. All agreed that it was Spain's problem to resolve.

Again, the tournament went very well with Kevin Stimson and Kimberly Turnbull bowling extremely well, Kimberly coming 10th overall and just missing out on the finals by 20 pins after playing her 24 games. Again though, on presentation night she won the Sportswoman award.

In July, the **Commonwealth Tenpin**

**Bowling Federation Championships**, in Melbourne, Australia. This event could well be included in conjunction with the Commonwealth games proper, with all the Commonwealth sporting federations, supporting the cause.

Ian Armsby, Julie Jackson, Helen McGunnigle and C. De La Rosa represented Gibraltar.

At the end of July, we sent 2 youths to the **World youth** championships in Berlin, Michael Wood & 13 year old Jeremy Cruz. This was Jeremy's first international tournament and after a nervous start, he got used to the atmosphere and as the week went on, he increased on his personal best score several times ending up with a now personal best of 202. They have both learned much from the experience and this they can pass on during the youth coaching sessions. Our thanks go to the instructors and especially Niamh Whelan, for all her hard work in organizing the sessions.

In September, we had a surprise offer from a sponsor (who wishes to remain anonymous) to send 2 men to the **Men's World Championships** in Korea. Held every 2 years by the WTBA, this is the title everyone wants to hold. 247 bowlers from all over the world took part. Unfortunately, our two bowlers could not get to grip with the lane conditions, but despite coming at the bottom of a star studded field, learned much from many of the professionals taking part.

Last but by no means least, the **42nd QubicaAmf World Cup**, held in Caracas, Venezuela.

Graham Coles represented Gibraltar in the men's comp with Julie Jackson in the women's.

Both started off with some pretty good scores. At the end of their 24 games, Graham did amazing to finish in 65th spot out of 88. Julie finishing 68th, out of the 75 women.

In all the tournaments we have attended, close ties have been made with many other federations who are now in regular contact with us. Everyone has shown great interest in the possibility of a tournament being hosted by Gibraltar, which, with the likely opening of the new leisure centre in September 2007, could soon become a reality.

The main boost for Gibraltar is the fact that the European and the World Tenpin Bowling Federations have backed Gibraltar's right to attend international events under our own flag. An ETBF

tournament, **The European Champions Cup**, due to be hosted by Spain in Sept 2007, has now been taken away from them due to their insistence, that Gibraltar cannot take part. The tournament will now take place in Foetz, Luxembourg. If only other World & European governing bodies, would give the same support to other sporting associations on the Rock.

Throughout 2006, we have had fantastic support, without which, we could not have taken part in these tournaments. The members and committee of the GTBA would like to thank:- Land Property Services, Valmar Pharmacy, Latinos, Lord Nelson, Norwich & Peterborough, Marrache & Co, Fastafood, H&S Property, Copywright, Ladbrokes & BFA.

And last but not least, Joe Hernandez and all his staff at the Gibraltar Sports Development Unit, without whom we would not be where we are today. Thank you all, we hope everyone has a happy, healthy & prosperous New Year. **G.T.**



Wigs - A League Winners

## DARTS

### ANOTHER CHANCE TO PLAY THE 'BEST'

The PDC (Professional Darts Corporation) has confirmed that it will be staging another weekend of international darts - January 20/21 - with massive sponsorship by the Stan James organisation guaranteeing that most of the front-line professionals will be 'on the Rock'. This will give the local darts aficionados a chance to compete with the best and sportswatchers a chance to enjoy the spectacle.

As an under-rated 'sport', Darts arched its way onto the front pages following the incredible Van Barneveld - Taylor final of the Ladbrokes.com World Championship which held the nation glued to their screens on New Year's Day. In probably the best darts match ever, the mountainous Dutchman just pipped the powerful 'Potter' with a 'double tops' in the 'sudden death' leg following a mind-blowing 6 sets all match. Most of the professional entrants will be on the Rock for the 'Stan James' and it is even possible we shall welcome the 'Big Two', although world commitments restrict their availability. Phil 'The Power' Taylor has been a regular, and friendly, visitor to the Rock in recent years.

Two tournaments are scheduled for the 20/21<sup>st</sup>, each with a £20,000 prize fund and £5000 first prize, with the money going down to £75 for 33 - 64. This will be attractive to the keen local 'arrowsmiths' who can qualify, on Friday, for a 'top - sixteen' place in the Stan James Players Championship proper on the Saturday morning, with the 'big guns' joining in at lunchtime. Other players can pay £75 to register for Saturday morning, PDPA members £65. Several local players will be hoping to be 'in the money'.

The Venue for this year's Tournaments has been changed to the Central Hall, South Barracks (ex- Queensway Club) which proved to be a splendid venue for previous tournaments and has a bit of a 'special feel' about it. **JES**

Further information of the upcoming event can be obtained on [www.180darts.com](http://www.180darts.com)

## Turkey Shoot

The final GDA event of 2006 was the annual 'Turkey Shoot', held at the College Cosmos Club in mid-December.

The 'Turkey Shoot' had been brought to the Rock by Horacio Bosano in the 1980s after he had been a member of a Gib. team wandering into an Earl's Court pub, where they took part in the event on a visit to London.

Players were drawn into Pairs for this knock-out competition.

Winning their way into the semis were Christopher Remorino/ Justin Broton and Nicholas Cumbo/ Justin Stagno who were eliminated by Nigel Segui/Dylan Duo and eventual winners- the pairing of Henry Zapata and Johnny Remorino, who pulled the big pair of 'birds'.



2nd Div. Sec. Darren Olivero presents.



Helen McGunnigle - National Ladies Champion



Graham Coles - National Mens Champion