



The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain

President: Philip Ayton

www.gbvs.co.uk

Chairman: Tom Hendry

AUTUMN 2016 NEWSLETTER

The fourth annual Festival of Squash hosted by the GB Vets was held at the RAC, Woodcote Park, Epsom on Sunday 6th. November. The early start to the day did not seem to blunt any of the competitive spirit as the forty players from the RAC, GB Vets, the Army and the Escorts, began arriving shortly at 9.30 a.m. Each side fielded four singles and six doubles players.

Andy Normile, Darren Withey, Nick Sheppard and Phil Ayton represented the GB Vets in the singles; our representatives in the doubles were Robert Smith and Karen Hume, Nigel Belle and Roger Sulley with Lance Kinder, playing with two different partners!

Andy and David won all their three matches each scoring 12 points, while Phil had two wins and scored 10 points. The results in the doubles were less successful although all the matches were very close and hard fought. Nigel and Roger picked up a creditable 5 points with both struggling with injuries, while Robert and Karen accumulated 8 points with Karen picking up another 4 points with Lance!

Overall, the Army team did just enough to retain the trophy for the third year in

FESTIVAL OF SQUASH



Tom Hendry (right) presenting the trophy to Phil Ashman of the Army.

succession, with a total of 59 points against the GB Vets score of 52 points. A much-improved performance from the host RAC team saw them finish in third place with 48 points, with The Escorts in fourth.

Shortly after the final matches finished, beer, wine and hot canapés were served for both players and guests, courtesy of the GB Vets. Finally, the GB Vets Chairman, Tom Hendry, thanked James Dubois and the RAC for their generosity in making it possible for the event to take place in such fine surroundings. Tom then thanked Jane Belle and Jacqui Kinder for their hard work orchestrating the matches for the four courts throughout the day, and his wife Di (now our Treasurer) for all her help in putting together the playing program in the days running up to the event. He also thanked all the team captains for assembling their players and congratulated everyone for both turning out and exemplifying the spirit of the day, that “it matters not who won or lost, but how you played the game”!

The 2016 Festival of Squash Trophy was then presented to the Army's captain Phil Ashman who thanked his players, opponents and the organisers.

This splendid event, which was devised in 2013 to celebrate the GB Vets 50th anniversary, has now

become a firm fixture in the calendar. See you all in 2017!



Jane Belle (helper), Nigel Belle, Nick Shepherd, Phil Ayton, Lance Kinder, Karen Hume, Robert Smith, Roger Sulley, Di Hendry (helper).

Andy Normile

Darren Withey

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2016-17

I am delighted to report that our Club is still hail and hearty after 53 years with a number of our (also hail and hearty) members playing well in to their eighties! Our membership is holding well at around 510 and we are continuing to attract younger members, although it is in the nature of our Club that we sadly lose a few of our friends over the years.

Let me congratulate, on behalf of all the GB Vets, all the members of the Club who have continued to provide us with reflected glory through their achievements (reported elsewhere) in the 2016 World Masters in Johannesburg, and the 2016-17 English Masters' events.

Over the last few months, we have been carrying out a trial of having a GB Vets site on Facebook. Although this has elicited just over 40 visits and "likes", your Committee feels that this does not merit



making it a permanent feature of our communication to our members. We are, however, pleased with the response that we get to the regular emails, together with the periodic Newsletters, sent out by Nigel Belle. This is of enormous value to our ability to communicate with our membership since nearly 95% of you now have access to Wi-Fi. Do use this opportunity to let us know what you

would like your Club to do as we move forward.

At our AGM, we were delighted to welcome on to our Committee Di Hendry as our new Treasurer and Nick David-Markham as our Match Secretary. I would like to repeat my thanks to David Garrett and David Smith for their service to our Club.

I must repeat a regular request to our younger members. I would be delighted to hear from any member who feels that they could help represent our younger members as we move our Club forward. Please email me on twhendry@gmail.com or phone me on 01980 555547 if you feel able to give some of your time to represent your age group on our Committee.

If you are between 45 and 60, your club needs you!

Tom Hendry
Chairman

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016-17

FINALS WEEKEND – COLETS – 1/2 APRIL 2017
ENTRIES CLOSE 31ST DECEMBER 2016

**FINALS FOOD GOES BUSINESS CLASS FROM ECONOMY-
NO APRIL FOOL'S DAY JOKE THIS IS FOR REAL!**

The entries for this year GB Vets Tournaments close on 31st December. The real news is this year the food for the finals is being upgraded to a hot meal with a choice of wines, so you have been upgraded from Economy to Business Class straight away! All your guests/supporters will also be welcome to enjoy the food. On board service, will be by a team of completely untrained volunteers but heh it's not first class yet!

The finals will again be held at the highly popular Colets Club in Thames Ditton over the weekend of the 1st/2nd April. Please help our hard-pressed Tournament Director Geoff Howes by sending your entries in as early as possible. Think hard about a doubles entry as these events are great fun and we need a few more pairs. If you are regularly playing doubles at your club, try and encourage another pair to join GB Vets and enter.

COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY FORM TODAY!

IF YOU HAVEN'T YET RECEIVED YOUR ENTRY FORM CONTACT THE HON. SEC. OR TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

WORLD MASTERS – JOHANNESBURG

23-30 SEPTEMBER 2016



Karen Hume (left) & Jill Campion

GOLD!

Karen Hume won the Women's O55 beating the No.1 seed and her old rival Jill Campion in the 5th in 35 minutes playing PARS to 11.



Karen – her moment of triumph!



Adrian Wright (right) & Desmond Sacco

GOLD!

Adrian Wright won the Men's O75 beating the No. 2 seed 3/1, 12/10 in the 4th in 30 minutes.

Read how Adrian has achieved 4 World Masters titles on page 7.



Adrian – 4 times World Champion!



Malcolm Gilham on right with John Woodliffe (left) & Lance Kinder (centre)

GOLD!

Malcolm Gilham won the Men's O80 beating John Woodliffe 11/6 in the 5th in 40 minutes.

Lance Kinder achieved Bronze.



Malcolm – his moment of triumph having floored John Woodliffe!



John Woodliffe (2nd left) MO80 Silver



Martin Pearse (left) MO70 Bronze



Bett Dryhurst (right) WO70 Silver



Ian Graham (left) MO65 Silver

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS & GB VETS MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED!

A full report and pictures can be found on www.squash999.com/wsfworldmasters

Balls Technology Ltd of Houston announce **THE DOUBLE PINK DOT DRONE SQUASH BALL**

(WARNING: MAY NOT BE USED NEAR AIRPORTS)

AVAILABLE TO ALL OVER 65 GB VETS MEMBERS

MAY ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO YOUNGER MEMBERS IF STOCKS PERMIT

Oscar Wilde said:

'To get back my youth I would do anything, in the world, except take exercise, get up early, or be respectable'

Every GB Vet Squash Player would espouse such sentiments as they operate with constant exercise rising early and with all respectability.

It is the point of the level of exercise that has recently come to the fore and in particular the onward march of technology that offers an opportunity for virtual movement around the squash court.

Virtual movement can only be achieved with the introduction of the 'double pink dot drone ball'. Just recently passing stringent EU testing in conjunction with



new standards for the curve of bananas, this new ball is exclusively available to the GB Vets group of players.

Players will require special training to be able to play to the highest levels with the new ball and a flight simulator is currently being developed with British Aerospace in conjunction with Pinkpiece (a new subsidiary of Greenpeace).

However, to give potential users a taste of how this ball will develop their game I give below a brief outline of the operation and control of the pink ball.

- 1.** The ball comes with a small control panel that fits neatly at the end of the racket handle
- 2.** Having once hit the ball the player observes the flight of the ball coupled with their opponent's movement toward it and adjusts Control knob A to modify the flight and Control knob B to change the speed of the ball to place the ball at the opposite end of the court from the opponent. This modification of speed and angle must be undertaken with a modicum of discretion so as not to alert the opponent to their technological advantage.
- 3.** The new ball is of significant advantage on the serve as the flight of the ball may be reversed by pressing Button X which immediately returns the ball to the server's hand allowing another serve if they are unhappy with the first trajectory.
- 4.** In case you need to catch your breath after a particularly long sequence of play, the drone ball can be dribbled along the court making it impossible for your opponent to pick it up and serve immediately.
- 5.** If your opponent has somehow managed to reach your return and hit the ball to another part of the court, virtual movement comes into play. Here the ball can be adjusted in flight towards your racket giving the overall impression of your incredible speed around the court, and another point.

Obviously the use of the ball to best effect requires a degree of skill which can either be gained by the 12-month residential

beach course in the Caribbean or the flight simulator based in Scunthorpe. Supplies of the new ball are limited as

production gets into full swing but early orders via : Mr Philip Hammond at 11 Downing Street are welcomed.

Press Release – Roberto Smythe (Damaging Director) – Balls Technology Ltd – Houston, Texas.

Fixtures 2016/17

Below is a list of all fixtures for the coming season.

These can also be found on the website www.gbvs.co.uk

All players are urged to let Match Managers know as soon as possible of their availability – please do not wait to be asked to play in a particular match if you are available.

Please note also that fixtures are sometimes rearranged so check the website for up to date information.

NOVEMBER 2016

Sunday 6 November	Festival of Squash RAC Woodcote Park	Tom Hendry	twhendry@gmail.com
Saturday, 12 November	Chichester	Paul Reader	pfareader@hotmail.co.uk
Sunday, 13 November	Lee on Solent	Paul Reader	pfareader@hotmail.co.uk
Friday, 18 November	Bromley Cricket & Squash Club	Karen Hume	karen.hume999@hotmail.com
Monday, 28 November	Civil Service at Southbank	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com

DECEMBER 2016

Thursday, 8 December	New Malden	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
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JANUARY 2017

Thursday, 12 January	Roehampton	Graham Chambers	grahamchambers@dixonwilson.co.uk
Friday, 13 January	Beckenham	Robert Smith	robert.smith@sgsmith.co.uk
Friday, 20 January	Park Langley	Robert Smith	robert.smith@sgsmith.co.uk
23 January TBC	RAC Woodcote Park	David Esser	lesserstressed@yahoo.co.uk

FEBRUARY 2017

Thursday, 4 February	Eton College Boys	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
16 February	Dorking	Graham Chambers	grahamchambers@dixonwilson.co.uk
24 February TBC	Bishops Stortford	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
Monday, 27 February	Escorts (Finchley Manor SC)	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
Tuesday, 28 February	Camberley	Graham Chambers	grahamchambers@dixonwilson.co.uk

MARCH 2017

Friday, 3 March	Bromley/Nuffield Health	Robert Smith	robert.smith@sgsmith.co.uk
6 March TBC	Petersfield	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
10 March TBC	The Wimbledon Club (Lakeside)	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com
Friday, 17 March	Purley	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
Saturday, 18 March	Fitzwilliam/Dublin	Peter Culver	peter.culver@btinternet.com
Tuesday, 21 March	RAC Pall Mall	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Wednesday, 22 March	Surrey Sports Club	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Monday, 27 March	Civil Service at Southbank	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com
Tuesday, 28 March	Bourne Farnham	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
30 March 2017 TBC	Hurlingham	Chris Lowry	chrislowry@mercerhole.co.uk

APRIL 2017

13 April	Ashstead	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Friday, 21 April	Bexley	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com

MAY/JUNE 2017

Friday, 5 May	Oxshott	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
16/18 June 2017 TBC	Tour to York	Adrian Wright	ade@silver-fox.co.uk

NEW FIXTURES BASICALLY AGREED, DATES TO BE ARRANGED/CONFIRMED

TBA	Ealing	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
TBA	Royal Berks	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
TBA	Cheam	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
TBA	Brighton	Phil Ayton	joyphil.ayton@ntlworld.com
TBA	Sandown	Tom Hendry	twhendry@yahoo.com
TBA	Oxford & Cambridge Club	Tom Hendry	twhendry@yahoo.com
TBA	Tour to Jersey	Phil Ayton	joyphil.ayton@ntlworld.com
TBA	St George's Hill	Tom Hendry	twhendry@yahoo.com
TBA	Woodford Wells	Nigel Belle	leshouse18@hotmail.com
TBA	Limpsfield	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com

DON'T WAIT TO BE ASKED TO PLAY – TELEPHONE THE MATCH MANAGER NOW!

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL – 2-4 SEPTEMBER BURY ST EDMUNDS

5 WINNERS

MO60 Mark Cowley

MO65 John Rae

MO70 Martin Pearse

WO45 Sam Mueller

WO55/60 Karen Hume

5 RUNNERS UP

MO45 Jonathan Gliddon

MO50 Eamonn Price

MO55 Neil Harrison

MO65 Ian Graham

MO70 Mike Clemson

Reached the semis: MO45 Andy Normile, MO50 Darren Withey, MO55 Ian Bradburn, MO60 Stuart Hardy, MO65 Howard Cherlin, MO70 John Odell, Chris Ansell, WO55/60 Tammy Bennett, Sue Pynegar.

BRITISH OPEN MASTERS 2016 – 1-5 JUNE – COLETS

4 WINNERS

MO55 Mark Woodliffe

MO65 Jim Dougal

MO70 Rod Boswell

MO80 Lance Kinder

8 RUNNERS UP

MO45 Andy Normile

MO50 Stephen McLoughlin

MO60 Peter Alexander

MO65 John Rae

MO80 John Woodliffe

WO50 Rachel Woolford

WO55 Lesley Sturgess

WO70 Bett Dryhurst

Reached the semis: MO50 Eamonn Price, MO55 Neil Harrison, MO60 Mark Cowley, MO65 Ian Graham, MO70 Adrian Wright, Martin Pearse, MO75 Brian Phillips, MO80 Malcolm Gilham, WO55 Lynne Davies, Karen Hume.

NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL – 21-23 OCTOBER PONTEFRACT

3 WINNERS

MO45 Jonathan Gliddon

MO60 Mark Cowley

MO70 Martin Pearse

4 RUNNERS UP

MO55 Neil Harrison

MO65 Ian Graham

MO70 Chris Ansell

WO55/65 Sarah Howlett

Reached the semis: MO50 Raymond Burke MBE, MO55 Ian Bradburn, MO60 Stuart Hardy, MO70 Rod Boswell, Roger Booker, WO45 Sam Mueller, WO55/65 Lesley Sturgess, Sue Pynegar.



Derek Lyons (right)

GB Vets Golf Day at Surbiton GC

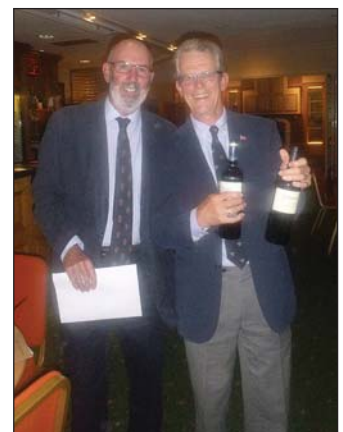
On a pleasant Monday towards the end of September a small number of GB Vets golfers assembled at Surbiton GC to take part in the second annual golf day.

The course was in excellent condition and challenging, so the scores were not outrageous and no-one was accused of being a bandit.

The overall winner was Derek Lyons with Steve Jackson second and Melissa Jagger third.

After the golf an early dinner was taken, accompanied by wine, and it was agreed that a pleasant day was had by all.

We intend to hold another golf day next year and details will be sent out when the date is confirmed.



Steve Jackson (right)

ADRIAN WRIGHT

4 TIMES WORLD CHAMPION!

Adrian has not only represented England for many years at numerous age groups from O55, won more Regional Masters Tourna-



ments (around 25) than any other Masters player and has now won an incredible 4 World Masters Titles.

ADRIAN'S WORLD TITLES JOURNEY

- 1999 SHEFFIELD.** His historic win in the second round against the great Jonah Barrington ended as he lost in the next round to John Perrott.
- 2001 MELBOURNE.** Reached the semis, tweaked a hamstring and lost 1/3.
- 2006 CAPE TOWN.** 1st GOLD beating Len Froggitt, Brian Phillips and Chris Stahl 3/2 in the final.
- 2008 CHRISTCHURCH NZ.** Lost to an unseeded Aussie having been 2/0 up.
- 2010 COLOGNE.** In the semis put in hospital with a serious eye injury by South Africa's Tony Martin. Lucky not to have lost an eye.
- 2012 BIRMINGHAM.** 2nd GOLD. Beating Mo Khalifa in the semis and Brian Phillips in the final.
- 2014 HONG KONG.** 3rd GOLD. Had to beat 3 Canadians including Gerald Poulton in the final, coming back from 2/7 down in the 5th.
- 2016 JOHANNESBURG.** 4th GOLD. What should have been one of the easiest, was not, as the altitude was a severe disadvantage. His win in the final was dedicated to his eldest son's wife who passed away in August.

A FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT ADRIAN, CONGRATULATIONS!

The editor plans to publish other special GB Vets achievements in future editions of the Newsletter.

OLYMPICS RIO 2016

It's 2016 and it's the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. A Scotsman an Englishman and an Irishman want to get in, but they haven't got tickets.

The Scotsman looks around, picks up a manhole cover, tucks it under his arm and walks to the gate. "McTavish, Scotland" he says "Discus" and in he walks.

The Englishman looks around, picks up a length of scaffolding and slings it over his shoulder. "Waddington-Smythe, England" he says, "Pole vault" and in he walks.

The Irishman looks around and picks up a roll of barbed wire and tucks it under his arm. "O'Malley, Ireland" he says, "Fencing".

NEWS-NEWS-NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

We warmly welcome the following new members who have joined since our last printed Newsletter:

David Harris – Bishops Stortford
Jonathan Gliddon – Fort Stamford Squash
Andrew Claudet – New Malden
Tony Stanley-Jones – Lee
Marcia Brittain – Tonbridge School

'LOST MEMBERS'

Alf Barker John Barton Terry Farrington
John Grieve Tim Higginson T Peter Jones
Robert McIntosh Geoffrey Mortimer

YOUR DETAILS

Have you changed your home address recently or your email address or a telephone number? Yes? Have you advised the GB Vets Hon.Sec? If no please do so straight away – belles@waitrose.com - so that our database is kept up to date and you receive Newsletters and other Club information on a regular basis.

CLUB SHOP – ON LINE

Don't forget you can now (only) buy Club merchandise on line. Not only are the usual items – polo and tee shirts – available but now also shorts and warm-up jackets.

Go to www.iprosports.co.uk click on the 'Club Zone', scroll down and click on the GB Vets logo and then follow the instructions!

Exception: Lamb's wool v neck pullovers are bought from a different supplier. For information on these and to order contact the Hon. Secretary Nigel Belle.

PARS VS HIHO

The England Squash Masters Committee have recently announced that in future ALL Regional Masters matches for age groups WO50 and MO60 and upwards the scoring system will be PARS to 15. 'Younger' age groups will be PARS to 11. All WSF (World Squash Federation) events will be PARS to 11.

England Squash events – British Open and Closed – whilst historically have been a mixture of PARS and HiHo will, we understand, fall into line and all age groups will be PARS. Goodbye HiHo!!

SQUASH 57

Earlier this year the WSF, in partnership with England Squash, has rebranded Racketball to SQUASH 57.

The new name focuses on the key difference to squash – the large ball, which has a maximum diameter of 57mm (compared with 40mm for a squash ball)

BREXIT BISCUIT

Have you heard that a new biscuit has just been launched by the makers of Crawfords. The Brexit Biscuit does however come with a warning on the packet – “ May contain nuts and comes with a great deal of fudge”.

WEBSITE

Have you visited our website recently? Don't forget it contains news, information on Club events, fixtures, archive material as well as details of all members. Let the Hon. Sec have YOUR news, either Club or personal. Visit the site today – www.gbvs.co.uk

OLYMPICS AND SQUASH

The WSF President, N.Ramachandrin, as well as I'm sure all of us were 'devastated' by the news in September that the IOC (International Olympic Committee) had not recognised and included squash in the 2020 Olympics. Those additional 'sports' that made it for 2020 were Baseball/softball, Karate, Skateboarding, Sports Climbing and Surfing. Surely the IOC need to have their heads examined!

ANNIVERSARY BOOK

This magnificent record of the GB Vets '50 Years On' is still available to purchase. You can buy it now for just £10 inc p&p. Order from Nigel Belle 01959 565444 OR email belles@waitrose.com OR purchase from any Committee member. Pay by cheque payable to 'The Veterans SRC of GB' or by Bank Transfer, details on request.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MASTERS REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

West Vivo Bristol
North West Stockport, Manchester
Midlands Coventry
South Winchester

25-27 November 2016
16-18 December 2016
6-8 January 2017
27-29 January 2017

WELSH OPEN MASTERS

JESTERS

BRITISH CLOSED

GB VETS FINALS WEEKEND

BRITISH OPEN

WORLD MASTERS

Cardiff
RAC Pall Mall
Manchester
Colets, Thames Ditton
Colets, Thames Ditton
Charlottesville USA

9-11 December 2016
3-5 February TBC
6-12 February 2017
1-2 April 2017
6-11 June 2017
29 July-04 August 2018