



The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain

President: Philip Ayton

www.gbvs.co.uk

Chairman: Tom Hendry

SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

2019 CLUB TOURNAMENT SINGLES WINNERS



MO45-54 **Richard Winter** Non-County winner.



MO55-64 **Ash Chakraborty** (left) Non-County winner, **Dave Parker** RU.



MO65 **Mick Lowe** (right) Non-County winner, **Sam Balsdon** RU.



WO40 **Keeley Johnson** (left) winner, **Sam Mueller** RU.



WO50 **Mandy Akin** (right) winner, **Karen Hume** RU.



MO50 **Andy Normile** (right) winner, **Nick Dart** RU.



MO55 **Darren Withey** (right) winner, **Laurence Molke** RU.



MO70 **Philip Ayton** (right) winner, **Howard Cherlin** RU.



MO80 **Vinnie Taylor** (middle) winner, **Lance Kinder** (left) RU.

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TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2019

The last weekend in March saw the culmination of the 2019 Veterans Squash Club Annual Club Championships, which were again held at Colets Health and Fitness in Thames Ditton, Surrey.

With additional categories of Men's Over 40 and Mixed Doubles it was going to be a busy weekend.

Saturday was Semi-Final day with 40 matches played and another 30 on Sunday for the Finals.

Most Saturday matches went to the expected winner except where **Barry Featherstone**, having lost to **Phil Ayton** in the O'70, then proceeded to beat the Number 1 seed **Geoff Redfern** in the O'65 Singles. Some age groups were played as Round Robin matches so final places were not to be decided until after the Sunday matches.

The Ladies O'40 title was won by **Keeley Johnson** with **Mandy Akin** winning the older group beating her friend **Karen Hume** in the final.

The Ladies Doubles was played as a Round Robin with Keeley and her partner **Rachel Woolford** emerging as winners. The Mixed Doubles proved to be a popular new category with 7 pairs entering and produced some competitive and enjoyable squash, with new member **Shayne Baillie** and **Richard Winter** coming out on top.

In the Men's age groups our first winner at the Over 40 level was **Dean Newberry**, **Jeremy Krzystyniak** again won the O'45. **Andy Normile**, **Darren Withey** and **Stuart Hardy** all won their age groups. In the O'65 Barry could not repeat his Saturday performance and was beaten by the younger **Steve Jackson**.

Possibly the best singles final was the O'70 where **Philip Ayton** revenged his British National loss to Howard Cherlin with a 3-2 victory. These two have been playing against each other for nearly 60 years and are great friends, a testament to this great game we play.

The popular categories for Non-County players were won by **Richard Winter**, **Ash Chakraborty** and **Mick Lowe**.

Doubles has always featured strongly in The Vets Club and the 45 and 55 age groups had some strong pairings with **Dermot Hurford** winning both with **Nigel Stiles** in the 45 and **Darren Withey** in the 55. **Aubrey Waddy** and **Paul Temple** won the O'70 and **Nigel Belle** and **Brian Dobson** the O'75 title.

Then we come to our senior citizens. There were only 4 entries each in the 75 and 80 age groups but some of these players played 6 matches over the weekend. **Brian Dobson** was a worthy winner in the 75 group and **Vinnie Taylor**, all the way from Canada and representing Scotland, repeated his British National victory in the O'80.

The Norman Hunt Trophy was awarded to **Stuart Hardy** and The Burrell to **Geoff Howes**.

I must thank a few people for the help given to me over the weekend. **Jane Belle** womaned the Tournament desk, feeding fresh sheets to the markers and keeping track of the results. She collected money from sales of merchandise and chased those players who had not paid their entry fee. Barely pausing to have a rest and then at the end of the whole event had to drive Nigel home!

The markers, **Dean Clayton**, **Mike Halpin** and **Paul Clarke** worked non-stop for the whole weekend. They marked every match on courts 1,2 and 3. With their presence they bring greater credibility to the event and are respected by the players. This in turn leads to better matches and a more enjoyable experience for every-one.

Finally a thank you to Colets. Allowing us to hold our tournament there has proved to be very popular. The support from the club for squash is fantastic and we were exceedingly well looked after by the staff.

I look forward to seeing many of you next year at our 2020 tournament, which I promise will not be held on Mothering Sunday.

Geoff Howes
Tournament Director

BURRELL TROPHY WINNER



Geoff Howes
Presented by Tom Hendry

NORMAN HUNT TROPHY WINNER



Stuart Hardy
Flanked by the Chairman and the President





COMPLETE 2019 TOURNAMENT RESULTS

NON COUNTY

EVENT	RUNNER-UP	WINNER(S)
O55/64 Singles Plate		Chris Lowry
O55/64 Singles (The Hendry Jug)	David Parker	Ash Chakraborty
O65 Singles Plate		Robin Mace
O65 Singles (The Robert Smith & Karen Hume Salver)	Sam Balsdon	Mick Lowe

MAIN TOURNAMENT

EVENT	RUNNER-UP	WINNER(S)
O80 Singles Plate		John Woodliffe
O80 Singles (Averil Murphy Trophy)	Lance Kinder	Vinnie Taylor
O75 Doubles (Kinder/Woodliffe Cup)	Lance Kinder & John Woodliffe	Nigel Belle & Brian Dobson
O75 Singles Plate		Vinnie Taylor
O75 Singles (Howell Cup)	Brian Phillips	Brian Dobson
O70 Doubles Plate		Nigel Belle & Syd Spittle
O70 Doubles (Leo Melville Trophy)	John Odell & Dennis Champion	Paul Temple & Aubrey Waddy
O70 Singles Plate		Peter Child
O70 Singles (Pellew Salver)	Howard Cherlin	Philip Ayton
O65 Doubles (Burch Trophy)		Mick Lowe & Mark Haydon
O65 Singles Plate		Ian Lennox
O65 Singles (Perkins/Dengel Cup)	Barry Featherstone	Steve Jackson
O60 Singles Plate		Alan Boulden
O60 Singles (Burch Salver)	Dillwyn Rosser	Stuart Hardy
O55 Doubles Plate		Alan Boulden & Ash Chakraborty
O55 Doubles (Warlingham Decanters)	Chris Harland & Mark Taylor	Dermot Hurford & Darren Withey
O55 Singles Plate		Ash Chakraborty
O55 Singles (Walrond Cup)	Laurence Molke	Darren Withey
Ladies O50 Singles Plate		Eunice Bond
Ladies O50 Singles (Keith White Trophy)	Karen Hume	Mandy Akin
O50 Singles Plate		Richard Winter
O50 Singles (President's Cup)	Nick Dart	Andy Normile
Ladies Doubles (Belle Salver)	Mandy Akin & Karen Hume	Keeley Johnson & Rachel Woolford
O45 Doubles Plate		Richard Winter & Jeremy Krzystyniak
O45 Doubles (Edwardes/Berman Trophy)	Darren Withey & Andy Normile	Richard Winter & Shayne Baillie
Ladies O40 Singles (Gathercole Trophy)	Sam Mueller	Keeley Johnson
O45 Singles (Breakwell/Fisk Salver)		Jeremy Krzystyniak
O40 Singles Plate		Mark Belle
O40 Singles	Matthew Belliere	Dean Newberry
The Burrell Trophy 2019		Geoff Howes
The Norman Hunt Trophy		Stuart Hardy

MARKERS/REFEREES



Robert Smith, Paul Clarke, Dean Clayton, Mike Halpin, Nigel Belle.





MORE WINNERS AND WEEKEND PICTURES



MO40 Dean Newberry singles winner being presented by President Philip Ayton.



MO45 Jeremy Krzystyniak singles winner.



MO60 Stuart Hardy (left) singles winner, Dillwyn Rosser RU.



MO65 Steve Jackson (right) singles winner, Barry Featherstone RU.



MO75 Brian Dobson (left) singles winner, Brian Phillips RU.



Mixed Doubles **Shayne Baillie & Richard Winter** (right) winners, Mandy Akin & Darren Withey.



MO45 Dermot Hurford & Nigel Stiles (centre) doubles winners, Darren Withey & Andy Normile RU.



Ladies **Keeley Johnson & Rachel Woolford** (right) doubles winners, Karen Hume & Mandy Akin RU.



MO55 Dermot Hurford & Darren Withey doubles winners. (Chris Harland & Mark Taylor RU).



MO65 Mark Haydon & Mick Lowe doubles winners.



MO70 Paul Temple & Aubrey Waddy (left) doubles winners, Dennis Champion & John Odell RU.



MO75 Nigel Belle & Brian Dobson (right) doubles winners, John Woodliffe & Lance Kinder RU.



MO40 Mark Belle & Matthew Belliere contestants.



Sam Mueller, Darren Withey & Jane Belle.



Sheppard, Smith, Hume, Bond, Woolford, Redfern enjoying the buffet.



Nigel Stiles & Steve Jackson at the bar!



Sally..... & Howard Cherlin enjoying the food and wine!



George Aplin & Brian Phillips just good friends!



Dillwyn Rosser & Stuart Hardy sporting the in colour red.



The Smithumes, ah they look so happy together!



President Phil Ayton & Aubrey Waddy enjoying the food.



Ros & Barry Featherstone & Christine Howes Cheers!

MORE PICTURES CAN BE FOUND ON THE GB VETS WEBSITE





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2018-2019

I am delighted to report that our Club remains in good heart. Our finances are in good health and we continue to make progress in both our membership and our outreach to all parts of the United Kingdom.

This year has also seen further strengthening of the traditional weekends with the Fitzwilliam Club (run by **Steve Jackson**) and whilst the traditional York weekend (run by **Adrian Wright**) took a year off in 2018, it will take place again on the weekend of 25-26 th October. **Nick Sheppard**, who is now our Hon. Match Secretary has also initiated a new Cambridge weekend, but circumstances conspired to delay it until the summer.



Tom Hendry, Chairman

A Chairman can only be as good as his supporting Committee. We are lucky that we have a strong and hard-working Committee who continue to dedicate their time to our Club. I thank them on behalf of all our members. **Di Hendry** has now been our Treasurer for three years and has mastered all the details of running the financial side of our Club. We were delighted that **Nick Sheppard** took on role of Match Secretary. He has already arranged new fixtures and revived some that had lapsed. It remains a difficult task however, since many active players have so many options.

The Festival of Squash has now become a popular event held in early November (with great support from the RAC Woodcote Park and **James Dubois**). Last year our GB Vets Team had a great day and wrested the trophy off The Army for the first time in four years. A great day was had by players and supporters. Do put it in your diary for November 3rd, either to play or support your team!

Our Club Tournament remains one of our strengths. We have successfully extended the range of categories to include "Non-County players" Men's O40 and Mixed Doubles with great success. Our Club is hugely in debt to **Geoff Howes** for his continued hard work to ensure its success over many years.

Slightly further afield, a number of our members played in the 2018 World Masters in Charlottesville USA at the end of July 2018. We were thrilled to celebrate the achievements of all our members. A special mention, however, goes to **Lance Kinder** who won the Over 80's title. Congratulations also go to **Karen Hume, Mandy Akin** and **Ian Ross** who won silvers in their categories.

Moving back home, many of our members continue to excel in Regional and National Masters events. All these details are always recorded in Nigel's splendid Club Newsletters.

At the recent 2019 British National Masters held in Nottingham, GB Vets recorded an amazing haul of 8 winners and 6 runners-up. The winners: **Mandy Akin** WO55, **Karen Hume** WO60, **Bett Dryhurst** WO70, **Mark Woodliffe** MO55, **Stephen Johnson** MO65, **Howard Cherlin** MO70, **Adrian Wright** MO75 and finally **Vinnie Taylor** MO80. Congratulations to them all!

I would especially like to extend my thanks to **Nigel Belle**. Nigel not only takes on the bulk of the work that keeps our Club going, including the Membership files, production of newsletters and the web-site content, but he also runs a significant number of matches. Oh, and he also plays in many of the Masters' weekends and this year will captain the Over 75 English Team- alongside **Darren Withey** and **Keeley Johnson** who will captain their respective teams.

I have forgotten how many times over the last few years I urged our younger members to come forward and serve our club, but this is still not happening to the extent that we need. Your Committee continues to work hard to find new blood and energy to help run the GB Vets. So please volunteer if you are able to help in any way, perhaps by arranging matches, tours or, indeed, in any way you are willing to contribute to the further development of our Club.

To highlight this challenge, I have given notice that, in order to speed up this process, I have announced that I will give up the Chairman's role of the GB Vets Club after the 2020 AGM when Di will also resign as Treasurer.

We need to move forward and ensure that our club will continue to flourish. In the meantime, thanks for all your continued support.

Tom Hendry
Chairman

YOUR COMMITTEE 2019/20

At the 56th AGM held at Colets, Thames Ditton on 31st March 2019 it was proposed by Vinnie Taylor, seconded by Mandy Akin and carried unanimously that your Committee for the coming year would be as below.

Geoff Howes *Tournament Director*, **Nigel Belle** *Hon. Secretary*, **Nick Sheppard** *Hon. Match Secretary*, **Robert Smith, Karen Hume** *Committee members*, **Philip Ayton** *President*, **Tom Hendry** *Chairman*, **Di Hendry** *Treasurer*.





2019/2020 FIXTURES YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

One of our Club's main objectives is "to arrange matches, at home and abroad, between the Club and other teams".

Those of you who have participated in any of these matches in the past will know that they are extremely enjoyable, competitive fun usually culminating with an evening meal and liquid refreshments after the match.

We currently have some 6 members who between them arrange and run between 2 and 5 'friendly' fixtures each. This season we ran just 15 matches – this compares with over 60 just a decade ago!

So we need more fixtures and this is where we need your help!

Surely the Club you are a member of and play at would be interested in arranging a fixture against a GB Vets team? Yes, the squash calendar is now pretty hectic with leagues, tournaments, competitions etc but there are still plenty of dates, especially early season (Aug/Sept) or late season (May/June) where a fixture could be accommodated.

We are looking to arrange at least 30 matches in the coming season. Can you please help? We do hope so.

Please contact Nick Sheppard, Match Secretary if you would like further information and/or to arrange a fixture against your Club.

OLYMPICS UPDATE

With grateful thanks to Ian McKenzie, Editor of Squash Player magazine, and articles in the 2019 Issue 1.

As you have no doubt heard Squash has again failed to be recognised as an Olympic sport.

Squash's bid for a place in the 2024 Olympic games in Paris was halted within a few days of its launch when the IOC (International Olympic Committee) stunned the sporting world by recommending breakdancing, surfing, climbing and skateboarding for the Paris programme – but not squash.

The WSF (World Squash Federation) and PSA (Professional Squash Association) feel they were misled by the IOC's original bid criteria, which caused squash to spend significant sums of money on a marketing campaign, a video production and transporting a glass court to Buenos Aires.

As such the WSF and PSA appear to be considering a claim for compensation from the IOC.

If you wish to learn more, then articles in the Squash Player magazine by Andrew Shelley (Chief Executive of the WSF) and a feature article by Rod Gilmour are certainly worth a read.

DROPPED BOLLOCK TROPHY

In the Autumn 2018 Newsletter I posed the question to that well known Lancashire Decadent Andrew Beeston whether or not this trophy is still being played for. Well the answer is.....yes, just!

The Decadents league was started in around 1980, ran for 20 years or so with some 8 teams from Lancs, Cheshire and West Yorks. Now there is only a doubles fixture for diehards but vigorous players between West Lancs and Queens Halifax.

I understand there is now a 'decadent let' awarded under, I can only say, spurious circumstances and a 'kissing the bollock' ceremony.

I think the Editor now needs to draw a veil over this whole episode! But thank you Andrew for bringing this vitally important aspect of our wonderful game that is squash to our attention!

2019 HOME INTERNATIONALS

No less than 44 GB Vets members represented their Country in the Home Internationals which have taken place over the last 4 weeks in Cardiff, Galway, Edinburgh and Nottingham.

England took the titles in all Men's and Women's age groups except MO75 where they came second to Scotland. Congratulations to all!

FINAL POINTS:

1st England 716, 2nd Scotland 389,

3rd Ireland 330, 4th Wales 292.

Full reports and pictures of all matches can be found on the England Squash Masters website.

BILLY GRAHAM

Billy Graham arrived in a small town to preach a sermon. Needing to post a letter, he asked a young boy the way to the post office. When the boy had told him, Dr. Graham thanked him and said "If you come to the Baptist Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven," The boy replied, "Thanks, but I don't think I'll bother as you don't even know your way to the post office."





'FRIENDLY' MATCH REPORTS

FULL REPORTS AND PICTURES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE

HURLINGHAM

John Woodliffe & Lance Kinder got matters going in the doubles but lost 3 close games. Thereafter we won all 4 singles. **Francis Sancisi** at No.1 was in his usual commanding form and although did drop a game came through 3/1.



14th MARCH

WON 4-1

Alan Boulden at No.2 won 3/0 as did **Mick Murray** at No.4 both too strong and consistent for their opponents. **Ash Chakraborty** at No.3 won 3/1. As usual the après squash was superb.

DORKING

GB Vets won – only the second time in 9 encounters! **John Woodliffe & Lance Kinder** made a great start winning 3/1. **Nigel Belle** at No.4 lost 3 close games but **Alan Boulden** No.2 made up for that loss by winning 3/0.



19th MARCH

WON 3-2

Dave Parker at No.3 had a fantastic see-saw match but eventually lost 10/15 in the 5th. It was left to No.1 **Simon Hughes** to win the match for the GB Vets which he did 3/0 against fellow GB Vets **Mike Stewart**.

PURLEY

Having narrowly lost last time we were up for revenge with a stronger team. **Adam Rich** was up first against fellow GB Vet **Fabio Goriup**'s son. Experience over speed and recovery, Adam won 3/1. The Ladies, **Mandy Akin** at No.3 and

22nd MARCH

WON 5-0

Karen Hume at 5, both lost a game but won their matches 3/1. **Andy Davies** at No.2 had a relatively easy game and won 3/0 whilst **Fergus Burnett** at No.1 managed to sneak the 5th so a 5/0 victory for the GB Vets.

BECKENHAM

Unfortunately Beckenham's No.1 pulled out at the last minute through injury but his replacement, based on current 'squash levels' meant **Andy Davies** had a +7/-7 handicap playing PARS to 11. A fantastic game evolved with Andy's fitness eventually winning the day. **Karen Hume** No.4, in her annual



12th APRIL

WON 3-2

battle with fellow GB Vet **Ian Smith**, came out a 3/1 winner whilst **Adam Rich**'s opponent was too strong and he lost 0/3. Although **Dan Sweeney** at No.3 had revenge and won 3/0, **Nigel Belle**, England O75 Captain at No.5 lost to the younger man 1/3. So a 3/2 win for the GB Vets.

R.A.C. PALL MALL

John Goodrich at No.3 with his accuracy and dogged determination was just not quite enough and he lost 1/3. **Adam Rich** at No.4 had a relatively easy ride winning 3/0 whilst **Karen Hume** No.6 was unable to repeat her British National Masters win and lost 0/3. **Mandy Akin** at No.5 got

15th APRIL

LOST 2-4

to 2/2 but her legs and body would not respond to the challenge and she lost 2/3. **Andy Davies**' fitness won the day 3/1 and **Fergus Burnett** at No.1 was no match for his opponent losing 0/3. So a 4/2 win for the RAC.

ASHTED

4 singles and 2 doubles, all matches PARS to 15. **Alan Boulden** No.3 having just won the first 17/15 then went on to win 3/0, whilst **Graham Jolly** at No.4 had an easier time and also won 3/0. **Neil Davies** at No.2 looked to be in control at 2/1 but eventually lost 2/3. The everlasting duo of



18th APRIL

DREW 3-3

John Woodliffe and **Lance Kinder** having won the first succumbed to the more consistent opponents 1/3. A very enjoyable marathon match of **Dave Smith** and **Nigel Belle** ended with defeat 1/3. So a very honourable draw but more importantly a 12/10 win in games for the GB Vets!

SURREY SPORTS PARK

5 singles and a doubles. The ever young **John Woodliffe** and **Lance Kinder** lost to a pair of spirited ladies who were young enough to be their granddaughters! **Dave Parker** won a hard fought match 3/1 whilst the ever dependable **Alan Boulden** having won the 3rd went down 1/3 after another close battle.

24th APRIL

LOST 2-4

Neil Davies at No.3 having let the first game slip 16/18 then went on to win a well earned 3/2. So after a thoroughly enjoyable and competitive evening the GB Vets came a close second at 2 games to 4!

OXSHOTT

4 singles PARS to 11 and 1 doubles to 15. **Dennis Champion** No.4 took on fellow GB Vet **Patrick Fleming** and lost 0/3 and **Karen Hume** No.3, not at her best, also went down 0/3. Not a good start! However **Andy Davies** No.1 and **Adam Rich** No.2 got the GB Vets back into the match both with 3/1

26th APRIL

LOST 2-3

wins. So at 2/2 the decider was the doubles – **Nigel Belle** and **Mick Lowe** taking on fellow GB Vet **Mike Shattock** and partner. 0/2, 2/2, 14/14 in the 5th... then Oxshott sneaked this thrilling game 17/15 and the match 3/2. Pure enjoyment!





NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • MEMBERS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS •

NEW MEMBERS

We warmly welcome the following new members who have joined since publication of the last Newsletter, February 2019:

Allen Barwise	–	Wigan & Kendal
Scott Hews	–	Bromley CC
Angela Varey	–	Aylesbury
Leo Kingston	–	Rochdale

'LOST' MEMBERS

If you know the whereabouts of any of the members listed below please notify the Hon.Sec.

Alf Barker	John Barton
Tim Higginson	Robert McIntosh
Geoffrey Mortimer	Aubrey Smith

OBITUARIES

It is with great sadness we report, rather belatedly, the death of Tom Ransley in March 2018. He was a member since 1986.

Apologies

DAVID WRIGHT JOE RICHARDSON

Humble apologies from the Editor who omitted David and Joe from my email announcing all those GB Vets who were to represent their Country in the Home Internationals.

David played No. 2 for Wales in the MO60 in Cardiff and No.1 in the MO65 in Edinburgh.

Joe played No.5 for England in the MO65 in Edinburgh.

2019/20 HANDBOOK

As you are probably aware the Handbook is now printed every 2 years – and this is the year!

So if you haven't yet advised the Hon. Sec. of any change in your details – Address, Telephone number(s) email etc. please do so now to ensure inclusion in the next Handbook.

***** STOP PRESS *****

BRITISH OPEN RESULTS

The GB Vets recorded no less than 6 Winners and 6 Runners Up!

WINNERS

MO45	JONATHAN GLIDDON
MO55	MARK WOODLIFFE
MO65	STEPHEN JOHNSON
MO70	HOWARD CHERLIN
MO75	MIKE CLEMSON
WO55	MANDY AKIN

RUNNERS UP

MO55	EAMONN PRICE
MO65	STUART HARDY
MO70	IAN ROSS
MO75	ADRIAN WRIGHT
MO80	LANCE KINDER
WO70	AVERIL MURPHY

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ALLAM BRITISH OPEN

Hull
21/26 May 2019

EUROPEAN MASTERS

Vienna
21/24 August 2019

GLEN RAGOU TOURNAMENT

Sutton Coldfield
10 August 2019

GB VETS GOLF DAY

Surbiton
9 September 2019

YORK TOUR

York
25/27 October 2019

FESTIVAL OF SQUASH

RAC Epsom
3 November 2019

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT DATES

NORTH

Carlisle
13/15 September 2019

EAST

Grantham
4/6 October 2019

MIDLANDS

Wolverhampton
8/10 November 2019

WEST

Winchester
30 Nov/1 Dec 2019

SOUTH

Colets, Thames Ditton
17/19 January 2020

