



2015 ALBC 321 Challenge Cup



Winners



Finalists

Because of the busy fixtures, this competition was a shortened 321 round-robin format, where a team of three players play six ends of Triples, six of Pairs and finally six ends of Singles over set period of two hours. It was open to Cabrera, Indalo, Mojacar and Almeria Bowling Clubs. This year all clubs were represented, giving us a total of twenty-four teams which were drawn into four groups of six who played over the two days allocated, Friday 23rd and Sunday 25th. On completion when all groups had played three games the winners of group A played winners of group B and likewise groups C and D to play off in the Final.

Unfortunately the weather was not good on the Sunday and hats off to everyone sticking to their task despite heavy rain at times. Because of this, delays were inevitable and with the clocks going back, bad light and prospect of more rain, the final couldn't be played until Wednesday morning of 28th October.

The quality of play was excellent throughout the Final between the strong Almeria team of John Fitzgerald, Chris Ewer, Reg Birmingham and the equally strong team from Indalo, Richard, Lois Swaine and Ruth Compton. John's team won the Triple and Pairs. A fight back was required in the Singles. Richard Swaine took on this task and fought well to win. Unfortunately for Richard it wasn't enough to alter the result which was a win for John, Chris and Reg to take the Championship.

John's team played the Cabrera winners of group A in the semi-final. Dave Jenkins, Gill and Terry Young played well but couldn't manage the onslaught by John's team winning comfortably. John and Sue Mannall with Barbara Ruscoe of group C, played a strong game against Richard Swain and team, scoring winning scores with the pairs and singles. However Richard and company won the triples and overall score. Both, finalists then had four points. Shot difference then came into play resulting in the Swain's and Ruth Compton reaching the final.

I addressed all players on the Sunday evening after the semis and presented the equal cash prizes to the losing teams of John, Sue Mannall and Barbara Ruscoe together with Dave Jenkins, Terry and Gill Young after announcing that the final will be played Wednesday 28th October at 10am.

After the Final on Wednesday, John Fitzgerald, our Captain, thanked the supporters for coming and myself for running the competition with the help of Dave Allen.. I then continued with my appreciation of all players and helpers making this competition so enjoyable. Special thanks to Brenda Tidswell, Dave Allen, for completing the many involved score cards. Also during the competition for Dave assisting me with the scoring management and Colin Wright for checking that we were correct !!!!!together with standing by for umpiring when required. Thanks also to Bryan Hughes and Jim Pike for ensuring equipment was available and maintaining playing conditions on the carpet. Were good. The Trophy was then presented with cash prizes to the winners and runners up and photographs taken by yours truly.

Next year after popular requests we will be playing this competition over three days as a complete round-robin event where everyone plays each other in their groups. The dates are currently a problem as Indalo are running an Invitation Fours on the same dates as our programmed fixture date for the 321 Challenge Cup. As this competition is very popular with Indalo members I, it will be a hard choice to what competition they would like to participate in.

Vic Parsons
Competition secretary

