

2014 MASTER HOME INTERNATIONAL ENGLAND

Event Dates:	Friday 9 th - Saturday 10 th May 2014		
Address:	Nottingham Squash Rackets Club, Tattershall Drive, Nottingham		
England Teams:	<u>Men's O45</u>	<u>Men's O65</u>	<u>Women's O45</u>
	David Youngs (Captain) Andrew Cross John Hanson Steve Mcloughlin Duane Harrison Mark Hildred Reserve Murray Scott	Martin Pearse (Captain) Barry Featherstone Aubrey Waddy Chris Goodbourn Larry Grover Tony Wheeler Reserve Martin Day	Andrea Santamaria (Captain) Rose Bamber Nicky Horn Diana Parums Rachel Woolford Kay Fallows Reserve Sue Smith

MENS OVER 45 RESULTS SUMMARY

Team					Total	Position
		20	20	20	60	1
	1		17	17	35	2
	1	7		6	14	4
	0	9	18		27	3

For the detailed results of each session please click [here](#)

MENS OVER 45 REPORT

This is my first report as Captain of the England over 45 team so hopefully it will pass ok. Eamon Price captained our winning team last year in Dublin but has since moved up an age group and the year before that Steve Mcloughlin led the England over 40's to defeat also in Dublin so has now been replaced.

Nottingham was the venue for this year's home Internationals and our team was made up of National champion Andrew Cross, Steve Mcloughlin, John Hanson, Duane Harrison, Mark Hildred (making his debut) and myself.

Scotland were our first opponents on the Friday night. Being captain is all about making good decisions, my first one was to leave myself out of the first match and play the other 5, perfect start 5-0 winners. Hildred, Mcloughlin, Hanson, Harrison all won their matches 3-0 with Andrew Cross beating Alan Thomson 3-1 at number one. Alan is a fantastic advert for squash and is the most ever capped Scottish player so when he won the opening game against Cross we wondered if there might be a shock on the cards, however, Cross returned to court and won the next 27 points to leave an interesting score line of 6-9 9-0 9-0 9-0, he isn't National Champion for no reason.



Friday nights trip to the pub was far more organised than Mcloughlin's drinking session in the Hotel bar in Dublin last year and we all returned to the hotel around 1am and in memory of Andrew Cross trip across Edinburgh a few years back we were all at the correct Hotel (too long to tell the whole story).

Saturday saw us take on Wales, I came into the side replacing Duane Harrison. Hildred was again very impressive winning his match 3-0 and this was followed swiftly by Mcloughlin also a 3-0 winner. Cross made the match safe before John Hanson (impressive all weekend) beat the Welch captain Ian Fenner-Evans for a handful of points. The only interesting match seemed to be my match with Gary Hales, 9-0 the first to me and 6-0 up in the second when I asked for a let which was never a let! I got the let then explained to the marker I didn't want it, presumed he would accept that, his response was "you've asked I've given so you have to play a let so accept it", I don't want it though was my comeback, fairly angry now he removed his glasses and gave me a warning, never had one of them before and with it I lost the next 6 points!! I won the game 10-9 and the third 9-0 for my victory but was again warned about my conduct on court by him at lunchtime!! At the end of all this we won the match 5-0 so would head into the final match against Ireland knowing victory would leave us as champions.

Harrison returned to the team replacing Hildred (had to go shopping with his girlfriend) and with some hard hitting and one lob (failed attempt) and two drop shots (one successful one not) ran out a fairly comfortable winner to set us on our way. Mcloughlin followed with probably his best ever performance beating Adrian Leeson 3-0, however he also received 2 warnings from the same referee as Youngs had earlier and maybe the two most placid players in the over 45 team have another side to them!! Cross then proved why he is the National champion beating Michael Cowie in an amazing match 3-1, both players deserve credit for such an excellent game. That was the match won and title confirmed before John Hanson and myself wrapped the performance up with two more victories. My victory a little more interesting as my opponent wore a baseball cap for the entire match.

I would like to thank Dave and Adrian for all their hard work organising the weekend and to the Nottingham Squash club for hosting the event. My final thoughts would be to wish Glen Ragou a speedy recovery from his illness and hopefully have him back in our side asap.

David Youngs (Captain)

MENS OVER 65 RESULTS SUMMARY

Team					Total	Position
		18	17	20	55	1
	4		6	8	18	4
	8	17		18	43	2
	1	16	4		21	3

For the detailed results of each session please click [here](#)

MENS OVER 65 REPORT



As a firm believer in fate, on Friday 9th, after a stressful National Cricket problem, plus on arrival at the Club being informed a close friend and his family had been in a severe car crash (luckily out of danger now), everything comes in threes...

So when your Chairman managed to lose his first International tie since 1999 to Alex Everingham, to send Scotland 1 up, it wasn't a good omen. Especially when Ian Ross at no 1 played out of his skin on the slow courts (having saved three match balls on the fourth) to beat a distraught Barry Featherstone to put the Scots ahead 2-1, after Chris Goodbourne had overcome Peter Wilson 3/1.

However, both Aubrey Waddy at 2 and Larry Grover were in no mood to take any prisoners and recorded 3/1 and 3/1 victories over Chris Wilson and Alex Sinclair to keep England's unbeaten record at O65 level.

Wales, missing one or two of their regulars, were beaten 5/0, the highlight being Tony Wheeler's debut, giving Chris Leach no chance, 9/1 9/1 9/2 to start the ball rolling. Barry Featherstone faltered 9/7 but then upgraded to 9/1 and 9/1 v Steve Evans and both Chris Goodbourn, 9/3 9/3 9/2 v Leighton Jenkins and Larry Grover 9/3 9/1 9/2 v John Patrick were far too clinical. Only Mike Mooney at 2 gave Aubrey Waddy something to think about, in an even contest 10/9 4/9 9/3 10/8 to the Englishman.

Last up was a very, very tired Ireland, who had only just come off court with Scotland losing 4-1, only Gotto winning.

At 5, Tony Wheeler was far too strong for Ciaran Roche, 9/3 9/3 9/0 as was Larry Grover at no 4-- 9/3 9/3 9/0 v Harry Cullen. The long playing Tom Cantwell, a regular in the Irish team for 40+ years, took a game off Chris Goodbourn, whilst Aubrey Waddy gave John Keilty no quarter. Irony here was these matches were marked with PAR scoring as well for timing comparisons etc and although JK got only 3 points in the first game, if it had been PAR scoring he would have won it 11-7 !!!

Ditto the Goodbourn v Jenkins match 12-10 15-13 11-7.....

As it was left to the tournament's best player David Gotto, 50 years the Irish no 1 and World Class, to show his all court game and speed beating Barry 8/10 9/6 4/9 2/9 to give Ireland their lone point.

Scotland were easily in second place.

Dinner was at the Hotel, everyone enjoyed themselves, speeches from MP, Di Parums and David Youngs, and all of course thanked Dave Hardern, Adrian Wright, Nottingham Squash Club and the 2 markers, Andrew Hood and Karl Murray for their hard work. (Hood especially was thanked for managing to get annoyed—like most of us do from time to time! -- with a cheeky Youngs who asked for a let, got it and then said he didn't want it... but he still got it, received it and served out.

On a serious note MP asked all present to reflect for a moment on the tragic terminal brain tumour of Peter Farr and the illness of the Lancashire Hotpot, Glen Ragou. Since then it has transpired another much loved player, Ian Bradburn has prostrate cancer. Both the latter two are in daily contact and laughing and joking. Just like on the squash court..... Everyone wished them all well.

One outcome of the 4 Countries meeting was a referendum asking all 45 Age Group players, Mens and Ladies, if they wanted PAR to 11 or HiHO in the Home Internationals.....some might be surprised, especially the WSF, but the result was 39 for HiHo against 9 for PAR 11..!!

Lastly, American Irish Over 45 Andre Maur, agreed with MP to try and arrange a USA v England series, after the efforts of Richard Millman in the USA fell through last month.

Martin Pearse (Captain)

WOMENS OVER 45 RESULTS SUMMARY

Team					Total	Position
		20	20	20	60	1
	1		2	8	11	4
	0	20		20	40	2
	1	16	3		20	3

For the detailed results of each session please click [here](#)

WOMENS OVER 45 REPORT



Report to follow.