<u>Bowlers Malti Jagħtu Wirja Rispettabbli fil-European Championship of Champions</u>

Tim Malta spiċċa dawn il-kampjonati Ewropej kuntent wara żewġ kompetituri minn tlieta laħqu l-fażi tat-Top 8.

Bir-rehhieħa ta' dawn il-kampjonati Ewropej mis-sena l-oħra - l-Isportiva tas-Sena 2021, Sue Abela - il-Malta Bowling Association (MBA) kienu ngħataw eċċezzjoni sabiex itellgħu lit-tieni aħjar kompetitura mill-kampjonati nazzjonali ta' dis-sena, Cynthia Frendo Duca, mal-champions nazzjonali tal-bowling f'Malta, Sue Abela u Kenneth Arpa, biex hi wkoll tikkompeti fost iċ-champions nazzjonali tal-pajjiżi Ewropej l-oħrajn.

F'dawn il-kampjonati dehru bowlers professjonali li flimkien urew l-aqwa livell f'dan l-isport. F'kompetizzjoni b'bosta logħbiet perfetti ta' 300 u anke konverżjoni tal-isplit impossibbli 7/10 f'punt, il-Maltin rnexxielhom jikkompetu fost l-aqwa plejers fl-Ewropa.

L-ewwel fażi kienet ta' sittax-il logħba sabiex jgħaddu l-aqwa 16 atleti miż-żewġ kategoriji separati. Ir-rappreżentant Malti Kenneth Arpa kien l-unika Malti wieħed f'Tim Malta li m'għaddiex għat-tieni fażi, minkejja logħba stupenda ta' 279. Arpa spiċċa s-16-il logħba b'medja ta' 185.8 u rranka fit-32 post fost 35 irġiel.

Min-naħa tan-nisa, iż-żewġ Maltin, Abela u Frendo Duca, laħqu t-tieni fażi wara li lagħbu skor medju ta' 194.6 u 200.4 rispettivament. Sfortunatament, it-tnejn li huma ma rnexxielhomx jikkwalifikaw għall-fażi li jmiss għat-Top 8. Abela spiċċat fl-14-il post waqt li Frendo Duca spiċċat fl-għaxar post; hi ma kkwalifikatx fost l-aqwa tmien nisa għal 25 pins biss wara tmien logħbiet oħra.

<u>Maltese Bowling Continues to Impress in European Championships</u>

Team Malta content with two respectable Top 8 finishes at the European Championship of Champions.

Going into the European Championship of Champions with a defending European champion in Sue Abela, Team Malta put up a respectable showing amongst Europe's very best this past week.

The European Championship of Champions is the tournament known as the European Championships in the sport of bowling. In this prestigious competition, only the national champions (male and female winners of each country's respective national championships) are invited to play at this top level. Having one of the reigning European champions from last year's edition in Sue Abela, the Malta Bowling Association was allowed to send up the next woman in line to compete against the likes of seasoned professionals and Europe's elite – this was the runner-up in this year's national championships (which was also won by Abela), Cynthia Frendo Duca. From the men, the male Maltese national champion, Kenneth Arpa, was the lone representative.

In a competition filled with multiple perfect 300 games and even a seemingly impossible 7/10 split conversion on one occasion, the first step of these Championships was to qualify for the Top 16 after 16 games. Kenneth Arpa was the only Maltese who failed to qualify amongst the steep competition and finished 32nd while averaging 185.8 per game. His high game of the tournament was 279.

From the women, both Maltese representatives – Cynthia Frendo Duca (200.4 average) and Sue Abela (194.6 average) – managed to make the initial cut. However, they were soon knocked out after failing to make the following cut into the Top 8; Frendo Duca missed the cut by just 25 pins after another eight games.