

## OCTOBER 2019 – BOWLING NEWSLETTER

October passed in a blur as once again we had quite a couple of both National and International Events apart from the usual leagues. Now we shall be preparing for the month of the dead ☺

### DOUBLES CISK LAGER

Top 3 as per Week 20: Gilette (121), MedSea Shipping Agency (114), Ballbarians (94) and The Ronin's (90). MedSea Shipping Agency and Double trouble still need to play week 20 though.



The MSV Life Leagues are well under way in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round. Okmalta.com are leading division 1 (84), while Fina and Turu's Knights both have 80 points, with Fina enjoying a better position due to higher pinfall. Supreme lead Division 2 (84), followed by Blitzkrieg and Brutal Legendz tied on (80). After week 11 the leaders of division three are Vintage (78), The George's (57) and Move It (56).

### COMPOSITE AVERAGE

The top bowlers as per composite average as at end October are: Justin Caruana Scicluna (215.62), Mauro Anastasi (213.02), and Mark Spiteri (208.86), the latter just a couple of decimal points ahead of Kenneth Arpa and Philip Gruppetta. In the female category Sue Abela retained the top spot (208.75), followed by Cynthia Frendo Duca (203.80) and Sara Xuereb (199.98).

High U21 Youth Bowlers are: Sara Xuereb (199.98), Raquel Xuereb (167.25) and Ruslana Grima (143.99), whilst for the boys we have: Matthew Magro (200.14), Nicholas Muscat (197.10) and Miguel Xuereb (193.81).

### NATIONAL RECORDS

This will be a memorable month for Sue Abela, as after a long successful career she managed to bowl her first official 300 game. After a long list of 290+ games, plus a number of 299s, she succeeded in placing her name as the first and only woman in Malta to bowl an official perfect game. This 300 was bowled during the MAPFRE MSV Life League Division 1 on 17<sup>th</sup> October.



Another record was broken, this time by Team Fina where they managed to beat the National Record of 4 men team game, rolling an impressive 1044. Previous record (1017) had been bowled by okmalta.com way back in 2016.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Tot.		
Matthe	9 / 18	8 / 37	9 / 57	X / 87	X / 117	X / 146	X / 166	X / 182	6 / 189	X / 209	209		
Philip G	X / 30	X / 60	X / 90	X / 120	X / 150	X / 180	X / 210	X / 240	X / 270	XXX / 299	299		
Sue Abe	X / 29	X / 49	9 / 69	X / 99	X / 129	X / 159	X / 189	X / 219	X / 249	XXX / 279	279		
Justin C	X / 30	X / 60	X / 90	X / 120	X / 150	X / 177	X / 197	X / 217	7 / 237	X / 257	257		
<b>Team FINA</b>											<b>29.40</b>		
											<b>Diff. 298</b>		
Game TOT.	<b>1044</b>		TOT. Pin. fall.	<b>1859</b>		TOT. H&Cp	<b>0</b>		TOT. Bonus	<b>0</b>		TOT. Points	<b>1859</b>

**SENIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Eden Superbowl held the 22<sup>nd</sup> Senior Malta Open which attracted 105 competitors from various countries with 9 Maltese participants: 3 lady and 6 men. We've had some massive scores locally with Sue Abela rolling her personal best and a new senior record with a 1455, only for Dennis Mercieca to break it the following day, with a massive 1475, including a 300 game, which is his 4<sup>th</sup> perfect game. Sue and Dennis both won 2 squads each, with Mark Spiteri ending in 2<sup>nd</sup> place both times.



Contrary to last year, when only Sue made the cut, this year we had 4 Maltese, qualifying for Sunday. Dennis and Sue qualified in 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> place with a 2930, and 2904 respectively. Mark rolled a 2827 to grab 13<sup>th</sup> place, whilst Giancarlo Tolu rolled a good 288 game coupled by 9 pins handicap for a 297 total to succeed in qualifying with the turbo.



Kenneth Arpa placed 32<sup>nd</sup> (2683), Paul Gray 54<sup>th</sup> (2573), Josephine Borg 66<sup>th</sup> (2495), David Fenech 92<sup>nd</sup> (2233) and Marthese Cossai 94<sup>th</sup> (2218).

Final Stage 1 – 20 competitors had to play 4 games, for the top 8 to qualify. Mark missed out by 4 pins, placing 9<sup>th</sup> with an 874, whilst Giancarlo placed 18<sup>th</sup> (773).

Final Stage 2 – the seeded 5-8 players joined the 8 players who made it from stage 1. Dennis & Sue tried their best to place top 4 to go through to another stage, but unfortunately Sue place 9<sup>th</sup> (846) and Dennis 10<sup>th</sup> (827).



An exciting final ensued with Steven Jeeves beating Abed Ellatif Mahamid from Israel, rolling a 300 game in the first match. This tournament was very well organised and the level of scoring was incredibly high.

## BRONZE CUP

This month we also had the 6<sup>th</sup> Bronze Cup where we had 32 bowlers, most of who were youngsters and Special Olympic Bowlers. We had 12 females and 20 males competing.



After playing 4 games to determine who the top 6 will be, it was Keith Farrugia who lead the men's section (726). Damian Pisani finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place (660), followed by Travis Barbara (653), Kieran Seguna (648), Ian Howard (641) and George Camilleri (628).

In the ladies' division, Sandra Xuereb lead with a 622, followed by Ruslana Grima (645), Angele Azzopardi (625), Natasha Bianchi (617), Kathryn Fenech (605) and Jessica Farrugia (604).



The Round Robin was played the following day, and with only half the pinfall carried forward, all scores were very close.

Natasha only won one match and finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place, whilst Ruslana won two encounters to drop to 5<sup>th</sup>. Angele won three games to place 4<sup>th</sup>, and Jessica won four games to clinch the 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The top position was open till the last frame as Kathryn was leading by 18 points, and she had to face 2<sup>nd</sup> placed Sandra. The latter bowled a 169 scratch, added to 23 pins handicap to beat Kathryn's 147+20 efforts to snatch her first title.

In the men's section the top 3 spots were very close. In the end, it Ian Howard who managed to win the honours beating Damian by 5 points and winning 3 matches. Pisani had to content with 2<sup>nd</sup> place, whilst young Travis Barbara clinched the 3<sup>rd</sup> place. George Camilleri came a close 4<sup>th</sup>, Keith dropped to 5<sup>th</sup> whilst the youngest, Kieran placed 6<sup>th</sup>.



Below find this year's Bronze Cup Champions are: Sandra Xuereb and Matthew Howard, who both won their first titles.



## 24th JIC SINJOOR INTERNATIONAL YOUTH TOURNAMENT

We had 10 Maltese bowlers who went to participate in the 24<sup>th</sup> JIC Sinjoor in Belgium which is a stop in the European Youth Tour. These were Dwayne Zahra, Miguel Xuereb, Juliana Bonanno, Matthew Magro, Sara Xuereb, Philip Gruppetta, Kathryn Fenech, Kayden Lagana, Chris Fenech and Edward Xuereb.



Kayden played in Category B placing 3<sup>rd</sup> with a 1001 and securing a place for step 1 from a total of 17 players.

Chris participated in category C and playing a 952 placed 9<sup>th</sup> from a total of 18 players. His sister Kathryn placed 11<sup>th</sup> with her 782, from 11 players.

Dwayne and Edward played in category D. Edward rolled a 1109 to end in 18<sup>th</sup> place, whereas Dwayne played a good 1223 to clinch 3<sup>rd</sup> place and advance to step 1. There were 44 players in this category.

In group E we had Matthew and Miguel. Matthew's 1147 saw him place 7<sup>th</sup>, just 12 pins shy of the cut. On the other hand, Miguel rolled a 1263 to place 3<sup>rd</sup> and also bag a place in step 1. 32 players played in this category. Sara also bowled in this category but obviously in the girls' section and though her 1102 placed her in 6<sup>th</sup> position, only 4 made it through to the next round as there were only 18 players.

Philip played in group F and his 1174 series placed him in 14<sup>th</sup> place from 36 players. Juliana participated in same category but in the ladies', rolling a 1011 to finish in 13<sup>th</sup> place from 19.



STEP 1 – 8 players from Group E had to play 3 games to place top 3 to go for the semi-finals. Miguel could only manage a 501 to finish in 6<sup>th</sup> place.

In Group B Kayden rolled a good 584 to nip the 3<sup>rd</sup> place and move on to the semi-finals. He faced Andrii GADIATSKYI from Ukraine and beat him 183-161 to secure a place in the finals for a best out of 2 games. This time he faced Denmark's Tobias KASTFELT BRYDE and although he nipped the first game by 1 pin, he lost the 2<sup>nd</sup> for a 369-344 total meaning. This meant 2<sup>nd</sup> place for Kayden, the youngest player in this contingent.

In Group D Dwayne moved 1 step further. Rolling an impressive 630 in 3 games he shot to 1<sup>st</sup> place, meaning a place in the finals guaranteed. He faced Vince Van Der Loo starting with a big 244 to Vince's 223. Dwayne lost the 2<sup>nd</sup> game by 4 pins, but he won the total pinfall 445-428, to clinch the title of this Youth Stop.



## SOFIA INTERNATIONAL OPEN 2019

We had 3 local bowlers who went to participate in the Sofia International Open, namely Neil Sullivan, Daniel Grech and Cynthia Frendo Duca.



After playing their squads, Daniel placed in 156<sup>th</sup> position with a 1062, Neil bowled a 1094 to place 138<sup>th</sup>, whilst Cynthia rolled a brilliant 1348 series which placed her in 5<sup>th</sup> position from a total of 200 players. This meant she proceeded directly for the 3<sup>rd</sup> step. She then played an 820 series in 4 games, placing 4<sup>th</sup> and missing out on a place in step 4, but placing a very good 12<sup>th</sup> position in an open which is popular with PBAs. In the end it was Tomas Käyhkö from Finland who won this open.



## EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS OF CHAMPIONS – ANKARA TURKEY

Our National Champions Mauro Anastasi and Sue Abela went to participate in the European Championships of Champions which were held in Ankara Turkey.



Sue's played a 1545 in the 1<sup>st</sup> squad which placed her in 16<sup>th</sup>. Her 2<sup>nd</sup> squad was a 1558 for a total of 3103 and up to 15<sup>th</sup> place, to nip the chance to play with the top 16 and try to qualify with the top 8.

Mauro's first series was a 1559 which landed him in 26<sup>th</sup> place. He improved to a 1637 on day 2, and climbed to 22<sup>nd</sup> place, but unfortunately it was not enough to make the cut with the top 16.

On to the next step, Sue started with a good 1500 by game 7 and she was within reach of making it top 8. However, an unfortunate last game saw her drop to a 147 to place in the 12<sup>th</sup> position



The eventual European Champions were Glenn Morten Pedersen of Norway and Jolene Persson Planefors from Sweden.

The upcoming competitions are now the Bank of Valletta Youth Championships which has 3 categories: U12, U16 and U23. Play will be on 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November. Closing date is today.

Internationally we will also have our 2 athletes who will represent us in the AMF World Cup in Indonesia: Tiziana Carannante and Philip Gruppetta who won the right to represent Malta.

We also have more positive news by our youths who travelled to the Irish Junior Open, but that comes with November news!

In the meantime, continue to follow us on facebook, and our webpage: [www.bowlingmalta.org](http://www.bowlingmalta.org)

I wish you all a good day!

Regards

Liliana