



MBA Newsletter: August 2023

Introduction

Hello all! This is the latest of the Malta Bowling Association's monthly newsletters – this one detailing pertinent MBA happenings in August for the Association as a whole, as well as its members.

Despite being a relatively quiet month – partly due to the Santa Marija break – August 2023 was a big month for some of our members.

Nicholas Muscat breaks 5-game national record in 6th edition of COTT

In the August edition of Eden Superbowl's Clash of the Titans (COTT) competition, Nicholas Muscat emerged as the victor after rolling a spectacular 5 games.

In this process, he also smashed the record books after setting a new national record for the best 5 game series.

Our male national champion rolled a total of 1285, averaging 257.00 throughout. The youth obliterated the previous record formerly held by Justin Caruana Scicluna, who in 2019, rolled a 5-game series totalling to 1209; Caruana Scicluna had formerly averaged 241.80 during the 2019 MTBA Masters event.

Muscat rolled the scores 264-259-239-244-279 to claim the national record as his own while easily winning the day tournament. Muscat finished this 5-game series a whopping 115 points better than 2nd placed Mikhail Mallia – the 10-year-old averaged 204.00 scratch and a personal best 1020 before going on to win the MBA Silver Cup a few days later...but more on that later. Congratulations!

Meanwhile, the female category was won by Melissa Swift. Swift averaged 212.80 and was the only woman to be able to average 200+ scratch over this 5-game series. Swift concluded with a total of 1099, finishing with a great series of scores: 202-227-226-214-195. She was closest trailed by Cynthia Frendo Duca who finished as this COTT's runner-up with a total of 1019 – 80 points behind Swift.

After 6 COTT events, the Team Brunswick duo of Kayden Laganà and Sue Abela still lead the overall COTT standings.

M.B.A.
Malta Bowling Association
Vista Point, Flt 5, Xemxija Hill,
Xemxija, SPB9021
VO 0253

E: info@maltabowling.org
W: www.maltabowling.org

Affiliated with: SportMalta KMS/A136, MOC, EBF, IBF

MBA Silver Cup 2023: Youth winners triumph over experienced competitors

10-year-old Mikhail Mallia and 13-year-old NSS student Jade Barbara were crowned the winners of this year's MBA Silver Cup. The tournament was hosted on the 26th and 27th of August after being first delayed from late July due to the water leakages that were dripping over the lanes earlier this summer.

Thanks to the staff and care provided by Eden Superbowl, this issue was resolved as quickly as it could have been – similarly to the rescheduling of this tournament altogether. Now back onto the winners!



Describing how two of the youngest members in the Association won this competition, here is an excerpt from a press release published to the press by yours truly:

After six games of qualifying, both eventual winners qualified amongst Top 3 positions; 13-year-old Barbara qualified for the round robin finals in 3rd place while Mallia finished qualifying in 1st place.

During qualifying, Mallia bowled the best game of the tournament after rolling a 278 scratch game. In this game, he struck on every shot but one in which he scored an 8-spare.

During the round robin finals, the Top 8 from each category played seven direct encounters – one versus each other finalist. Half of their total pinfall from qualifying was carried over into this final stage, the scores they got during these one-on-one matches were added onto that total throughout, and bonus points were given depending on the result of the direct encounter; 20 additional points were given to the winner of each direct encounter and 10 points were distributed evenly amongst competitors that drew in one of these finals matches.

Within the male category, Mallia retained his 1st place position after 7 games. The reigning national U12 champion also bowled the best game of the round robin finals after rolling a great 241 scratch score.

Mallia won 6/7 of his direct encounters and earned this title with some separation from the rest of his competitors; 2nd placed Travis Barbara – another two-handed youth bowler – finished with a total that was 235 points short of Mallia's final total.





13-year-old Jade Barbara won her first individual honour by winning this year's Silver Cup. Despite qualifying in 3rd place, Barbara was an underdog on paper to win the tournament; Barbara had 17 handicap points per game throughout this competition, making her just the sixth best player on paper going into the finals (judging by the finalists composite average since the start of 2023).

However, the young teenager clearly was not fazed as she phenomenally went on to win all 7 of her direct encounters in the round robin finals – the only competitor in this year's edition to do so from both gendered categories.

Two-handed youth Travis Barbara finished a distant 2nd place while BOV 2nd Division bowler for "Malta International Airport" Aaron Belli finished in 3rd place in his first tournament in more than 7 years. Belli climbed up after qualifying in 7th place while Travis Barbara – Jade Barbara's brother – improved from his 3rd place qualifying spot.

The podium for the female category was rounded out by BOV Premier League bowlers Sandra Xuereb in 2nd place and youth bowler Kathryn Fenech in 3rd place. Xuereb climbed the ladder from 6th place while Fenech was the top seed after qualifying before the round robin finals commenced.

M.B.A.
Malta Bowling Association
Vista Point, Flt 5, Xemxija Hill,
Xemxija, SPB9021
VO 0253

E: info@maltabowling.org
W: www.maltabowling.org

Affiliated with: SportMalta KMS/A136, MOC, EBF, IBF



M.B.A.
Malta Bowling Association
 Vista Point, Flt 5, Xemxija Hill,
 Xemxija, SPB9021
 VO 0253

E: info@maltabowling.org
W: www.maltabowling.org

Affiliated with: SportMalta KMS/A136, MOC, EBF, IBF



Dwayne Zahra & Matthew Magro join the Trident Pro Team

Maltese youths Dwayne Zahra and Matthew Magro have both been signed into the Trident brand's Pro Team this past month.

In social media posts published on August 25th, Trident – the brand that is currently manufacturing the Association's national kits as part of the agreed 2-year deal – welcomed them both, citing them each as "one of the most promising Maltese bowlers".

Best of luck boys!



M.B.A.
Malta Bowling Association
Vista Point, Flt 5, Xemxija Hill,
Xemxija, SPB9021
VO 0253

E: info@maltabowling.org
W: www.maltabowling.org

Affiliated with: SportMalta KMS/A136, MOC, EBF, IBF

Danial Swift – New EBF Level 1 Coach

We would like to congratulate Danial Swift for obtaining his EBF Level 1 coaching certification. Swift was presented with his Certificate of Achievement by Mark Spiteri at the end of August and is now under way to complete his necessary hours of coaching on the lanes.

Well done and well deserved!





Leagues

Due to frequent pauses in the league schedule, only 3 weeks of bowling were played in the BOV Premier League from 4 Mondays and only 2 weeks of bowling down in the BOV 2nd Division were played from 4 Tuesdays.

Regardless, the respective campaigns are off and running and the league tables are finally beginning to take shape.

Top of the BOV Premier League at the end of August were OK Malta. They are looking back to their best, winning over 90% of their matches at the time of writing. They ended August with 36 points from a maximum of 40.

Right behind them in 2nd place is Turu's Knights. They are currently the only team within a single match's points distance away from the league leaders.

Behind them are a pack of close teams, namely Team Brunswick, Powerfruit, and Team Boom round out the Top 5 with just 4 points separating 3rd from 5th.

21/08/2023 Week 5 **BOV Premier League - Summer 2023** Page 1

Monday 20:00 **Eden Superbowl** Sanction: Lanes 9 - 18

Team Standings												
Place	#	Team Name	%Won	Points Won	Points Lost	Ave p/gm	Scratch Pins	Pins + HDCP	High Game	High Sers	HDCP Game	HDCP Sers
1	9	OK Malta	90.0	36	4	785	11782	11794	882	2311	844	2472
2	7	Turu's Knights	85.0	34	6	739	11095	11542	815	2311	844	2398
3	4	Team Brunswick	65.0	26	14	783	11755	11944	899	2474	914	2522
4	5	Powerfruit	60.0	24	16	754	11314	11455	830	2414	834	2426
5	1	Team Boom	55.0	22	18	735	11026	11230	799	2371	825	2419
6	2	Bank Of Valletta	55.0	22	18	695	10435	11041	802	2204	851	2351
7	6	TWIN	50.0	20	20	694	10419	11109	758	2152	805	2278
8	8	The Underdogs	20.0	8	32	637	9564	10359	751	2118	811	2298
9	10	BOV	15.0	6	34	677	10162	10969	770	2072	823	2234
10	3	Emma's Kitchen	5.0	2	38	612	9185	10085	677	1894	737	2074

Review of Last Week's Bowling.....

Lanes	Team Name	HDCP -1	HDCP -2	HDCP -3	HDCP Total	Last Wk WON	Team Name	HDCP -1	HDCP -2	HDCP -3	HDCP Total	Last Wk WON
9-10	BOV	783	734	737	2254	0	Turu's Knights	815	787	751	2353	8
11-12	TWIN	776	759	743	2278	6	Bank Of Valletta	835	713	675	2223	2
13-14	The Underdogs	710	777	811	2298	8	Emma's Kitchen	692	597	677	1966	0
15-16	Team Brunswick	698	765	775	2238	2	Team Boom	782	825	706	2313	6
17-18	Powerfruit	794	780	742	2316	2	OK Malta	823	775	797	2395	6

Lane Assignments

	9-10	11-12	13-14	15-16	17-18
Today	5-8	4-10	7-2	6-9	1-3
Next Week	6-4	7-9	1-5	10-3	2-8

Last Week's Top Scores

Scratch Game	823	OK Malta	801	Bank Of Valletta	799	Team Boom
Scratch Series	2395	OK Malta	2272	Turu's Knights	2262	Powerfruit
Handicap Game	835	Bank Of Valletta	825	Team Boom	823	OK Malta
Handicap Series	2395	OK Malta	2353	Turu's Knights	2316	Powerfruit
Men						
Scratch Game	266	Steve Cassar	237	Travis Barbara	235	Nicholas Muscat
Scratch Series	641	Travis Barbara	638	Nicholas Muscat	627	Mauro Anastasi
Handicap Game	266	Steve Cassar	252	Travis Barbara	239	Dwayne Zahra
Handicap Series	686	Travis Barbara	638	Nicholas Muscat	631	Matthew Muscat
Women						
Scratch Game	227	Tiziana Carannante	223	Alja Bergauer	220	Cynthia Duca Frendo
Scratch Series	599	Alja Bergauer	581	Cynthia Duca Frendo	575	Sue Abela
Handicap Game	237	Alja Bergauer	232	Tiziana Carannante	227	Cynthia Duca Frendo
Handicap Series	641	Alja Bergauer	602	Cynthia Duca Frendo	599	Melissa Swift

Season High Scores

Scratch Game	899	Team Brunswick	882	OK Malta	830	Powerfruit
Scratch Series	2474	Team Brunswick	2469	OK Malta	2414	Powerfruit
Handicap Game	914	Team Brunswick	883	OK Malta	851	Bank Of Valletta
Handicap Series	2522	Team Brunswick	2472	OK Malta	2426	Powerfruit
Men						
Scratch Game	266	Steve Cassar	259	Rankin Camilleri	259	Philip Gruppetta
Scratch Series	697	Philip Gruppetta	695	Nicholas Muscat	685	Miguel Xuereb
Handicap Game	266	Steve Cassar	259	Rankin Camilleri	259	Philip Gruppetta
Handicap Series	697	Philip Gruppetta	695	Nicholas Muscat	686	Travis Barbara
Women						
Scratch Game	266	Sue Abela	255	Tiziana Carannante	223	Alja Bergauer
Scratch Series	662	Sue Abela	661	Tiziana Carannante	599	Alja Bergauer
Handicap Game	266	Sue Abela	260	Tiziana Carannante	237	Alja Bergauer
Handicap Series	676	Tiziana Carannante	662	Sue Abela	641	Alja Bergauer

28/08/2023 22:32 Page 1 of 3

BL5-2016/AS licensed to Neil Dent Eden Superbowl

M.B.A.
Malta Bowling Association
 Vista Point, Flt 5, Xemxija Hill,
 Xemxija, SPB9021
 VO 0253

E: info@maltabowling.org
W: www.maltabowling.org

Affiliated with: SportMalta KMS/A136, MOC, EBF, IBF

High bowlers during the month of August were:

Week 3: Nicholas Muscat (OK Malta – 675) & Sue Abela (Team Brunswick – 652).

Week 4: Nicholas Muscat (OK Malta – 695) & Tiziana Carannante (Turu's Knights – 661).

Week 5: Travis Barbara (The Underdogs – 641) & Alja Bergauer (Team Boom – 599).

In the BOV 2nd Division, Vintage have gained early separation at the top of the league standings after just 4 weeks of play. They have collected 27/32 points, granting themselves a win percentage of 84.4%. 2nd placed Royal Shock have a win rate of 68.8% so far on 22 points.

Following Royal Shock are Brutal Legendz and Malta International Airport tied on 20 points with the former ahead on total pinfall. Strike Force complete the Top 5, currently placing 5th with 18 points.

29/08/2023 Week 5 of BOV 2nd Division - Summer 2023 Page 1
Tuesday 19:45 **Eden Superbowl** Lanes 9 - 18

Team Standings												
Place	#	Team Name	%Won	Points Won	Points Lost	Ave p/1gm	Scratch Pins	Pins + HDCP	High Game	High Sers	HDCP Game	HDCP Sers
1	7	Vintage	84.4	27	5	606	7283	8660	684	1945	791	2256
2	1	Royal Shock	68.8	22	10	671	8053	8650	799	2131	861	2257
3	2	Brutal Legendz	62.5	20	12	640	7688	8456	716	1953	796	2193
4	6	Malta International Airport	62.5	20	12	581	6981	8286	645	1808	749	2120
5	3	Strike Force	56.3	18	14	582	6989	8315	645	1832	762	2183
6	9	Trust Payments	50.0	16	16	543	6525	7875	618	1791	731	2130
7	5	The Flintstones	46.9	15	17	550	6989	8030	644	1791	769	2156
8	4	Lucky Strike	25.0	8	24	511	6140	7757	563	1567	696	1966
9	10	RSB	25.0	8	24	518	6222	7680	593	1677	731	2091
10	8	The Splitpins	18.8	6	26	502	6035	7652	564	1601	698	2003

Review of Last Week's Bowling....

Lanes	Team Name	HDCP -1	HDCP -2	HDCP -3	HDCP Total	Last Wk WON	Team Name	HDCP -1	HDCP -2	HDCP -3	HDCP Total	Last Wk WON
9-10	Trust Payments	580	552	602	1734	0	Royal Shock	758	730	769	2257	8
11-12	The Flintstones	769	719	668	2156	2	Strike Force	686	762	735	2183	6
13-14	Lucky Strike	659	644	634	1937	0	Vintage	724	751	791	2266	8
15-16	The Splitpins	616	590	597	1803	0	Malta International Air	657	669	734	2060	8
17-18	RSB	643	731	717	2091	6	Brutal Legendz	631	679	749	2059	2

Individual High Averages

Bowlers must have a minimum of 27 games before they will be listed for high average recognition.

Last Week's Top Scores

Scratch Game	721	Royal Shock	693	Brutal Legendz	684	Vintage	
Scratch Series	2131	Royal Shock	1945	Vintage	1891	Brutal Legendz	
Handicap Game	791	Vintage	769	Royal Shock	769	The Flintstones	
Handicap Series	2266	Vintage	2257	Royal Shock	2183	Strike Force	
Men	Scratch Game	204	Lennard Hilli	203	Melvin Galea	203	Gabriel Gauci
	Scratch Series	592	Melvin Galea	561	David Fenech	551	Lennard Hilli
	Handicap Game	233	Gabriel Gauci	228	Lennard Hilli	224	Daniel Magro
	Handicap Series	623	Lennard Hilli	613	Melvin Galea	613	Aidan Zammit
Women	Scratch Game	198	Marthese Cossai	183	Michaela Briffa	175	Josephine Borg
	Scratch Series	568	Marthese Cossai	499	Michaela Briffa	459	Jessica Farrugia
	Handicap Game	218	Marthese Cossai	203	Michaela Briffa	203	Josephine Borg
	Handicap Series	628	Marthese Cossai	559	Michaela Briffa	555	Jessica Farrugia

Season High Scores

Scratch Game	799	Royal Shock	716	Brutal Legendz	684	Vintage	
Scratch Series	2131	Royal Shock	1953	Brutal Legendz	1945	Vintage	
Handicap Game	861	Royal Shock	796	Brutal Legendz	791	Vintage	
Handicap Series	2266	Vintage	2257	Royal Shock	2193	Brutal Legendz	
Men	Scratch Game	252	Joe Cassar	247	Malcolm Pace Debono	215	Phillippe Vancell
	Scratch Series	633	Joe Cassar	625	Phillippe Vancell	592	Melvin Galea
	Handicap Game	257	Malcolm Pace Debono	253	Joe Cassar	233	Gabriel Gauci
	Handicap Series	649	Phillippe Vancell	636	Joe Cassar	623	Lennard Hilli
Women	Scratch Game	198	Marthese Cossai	192	Tessa Bonnici	184	Mary Galea
	Scratch Series	568	Marthese Cossai	514	Mary Galea	499	Michaela Briffa
	Handicap Game	225	Tessa Bonnici	218	Marthese Cossai	210	Mary Galea
	Handicap Series	628	Marthese Cossai	592	Mary Galea	589	Tessa Bonnici

High bowlers during the month of August were:

Week 2: Joe Cassar (Royal Shock – 633) & Tessa Bonnici (Vintage – 490).

Week 3: Joe Cassar (Royal Shock – 602) & Marthese Cossai (Vintage – 453).



Composite Averages as of the End of August

Top 3 Males:

Kayden Laganà (214.51), Nicholas Muscat (211.14), Mauro Anastasi (203.18).

Top 3 Ladies:

Sue Abela (196.68), Tiziana Carannante (185.71), Cynthia Frendo Duca (181.60).

Alja Bergauer (186.00) is technically 2nd in these composite average ranks, though this is only derived from 6 games so far, in contrast to the 125+ games from the other three respective ladies.

Top 3 U21 Boys:

Kayden Laganà (214.51), Nicholas Muscat (211.14), Nicolai Mallia (198.22).

Top 3 U21 Girls:

Ruslana Grima (174.78), Karlise Bartolo (165.87), Kathryn Fenech (163.57).

Alja Bergauer (186.00) is ranked first in this list, though as stated earlier, the sample size so far is very small. Next newsletter will include her in these lists without the asterisks.

Top 3 Seniors:

Mark Spiteri (198.01), Sue Abela (196.68), Kenneth Arpa (195.22).



Additions into MBA Records

During this past month of August, three additions were marked into Association records:

- Nicholas Muscat: New National Record – Best Ever 5-game Series.
- Mikhail Mallia: Junior High Games over 269 (U18) – 278 scratch game scored during Silver Cup 2023 Qualifying.
- Tomas Caruso: Junior High Games over 269 (U18) – 278 scratch game scored during Cisk Doubles League Week 11 on August 30th, 2023.

Upcoming Events: September 2023

With the Summer Tournament already done and dusted, the only remaining event this coming month is the National Senior Championships. This prestigious competition shall take place between the dates of September 16th-18th. A fortnight following this, there is the annual 2023 Malta Senior Open hosted by Eden Superbowl, occurring on the dates October 4th-8th.

Till then, have a great month. If you have any issues with anything, do not hesitate to contact one of the members from the Committee.

Regards from your PRO,

Kyle

M.B.A.
Malta Bowling Association
Vista Point, Flt 5, Xemxija Hill,
Xemxija, SPB9021
VO 0253

E: info@maltabowling.org
W: www.maltabowling.org

Affiliated with: SportMalta KMS/A136, MOC, EBF, IBF