



British Foosball Association

March Newsletter 2007

The 2007 BFA AGM was held on the January 28th in Liverpool. Congratulations go to new BFA Chair Boris Atha, Treasurer (still) John Worthington and Committee Members David Morgan (Secretary), Jude Fitzgerald (Vice Chair), Jon May (Corporate), John Shovelton (Webmaster) and Ben Mason (League and Youth Development). The AGM revised the constitution, creating a Women's Officer role, and formalising a structure of BFA policies to give more clarity and direction to Committee members. The AGM also voted for a maximum membership fee of £5 a year – the final figure to be decided at the Committees discretion. This is in part due to pressure from ITSF to formalise the membership into active members, and partly a desire to finance the desired improvements to BFA services in the coming years.

Forthcoming Tournaments: **20-22 April: Hereford Open (Tornado)**

A successful Liverpool Open was held at The Casa Bistro, Liverpool on the 26th and 27th January. Special thanks go to BFA chair Boris Atha for promoting and supplying the tables, Johns Worthington and Shovelton for directing the tournament and Dave Ziemann for head refereeing. This was particular complex due to the introduction of ITSF rules from 2007, and great clarity and instruction was provided all the way through by Dave and his team.

Jon May played outstandingly to take Open Singles from Boris Atha. Mayya Racy pipped Hannah Ramlee in Women's Singles. Alex Shovelton and Juj Sohi overcame the Swiss pairing Rob and Tom Pfiffner in Open Doubles. Kudos to novices Rich Marsh and Colin Fallon for a fantastic 7th in this event, They also took novice doubles from Manchester's George Eid and Mark Crump, while Warwick's Andrew Nubbert and Way Shong were overpowered in Semi-Pro Doubles by the Pfiffners.

For further information and all the latest details please check out:

www.britfoos.com

If you would like to include anything in next month's newsletter please e-mail it to newsletter@britfoos.com



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Joe Hamilton

Joe is one of the bright stars of the UK game, with outstanding performances leading to selection for the UK team at the World Cup in 2006. He recently ventured to the Superbowl of Foos in Kentucky, coming home with mountains of trophies.

What's your favourite moment in foosball?

When Rhys and Alex beat Kane Gabriel and Olavo Tavares in the World Cup Group Stage match against Canada, on sweat ball, to draw the match 8-8. It was amazing to get that result against such a good team, who fully expected to beat us.

And your worst moment?

I really can't think of any bad moments! I've not been playing for that long and I've really been enjoying myself. If there was anything, it would be generally underperforming in singles competitions in the UK.

Aspirations for this year?

I'd like to go to a lot more international tournaments, gaining more experience, I'd like to try and qualify for Italy

Funniest moment in foosball?

Its difficult to pick out "funny" moments on the table because when it gets to the business end of a tournament the serious competitive side needs to take over, but off the table there are too many to mention, I have a great time socially at every tournament and its one of the reason I love the game so much.

Toughest Opponent (not including Rob Atha!)

Obviously the top players in the UK are all hard to play against, probably Alex Shovelton sticks out. However from travelling I have also played many top players throughout the world, with Dave Gummeson being the toughest so far.

Where do you rate UK foos on the International scene?

I think when I first started it seemed apparent that there were few players in the UK that could go abroad and make an impact. But now with the standard rising within the UK I think there are plenty of players who can play on the big stage and get results. Which bodes well for our next world cup team!!

Any pre-tournament rituals?

I always eat Weetabix dry before a tournament, and I never wear underwear. So nothing unusual.



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Phil Williams organised a fantastic tournament at The Griffen, Southampton on February 10th and 11th. The Southern England Open 2007 had a prize fund of £2000, large enough to attract Rob Atha back to these shores, where he hoovered up the double of Open Singles and Open Doubles (with Norm Cloney). The star of the Open events was undoubtedly Tom Burdett of Warwick, a fantastic 2nd in OS, and a 3rd with Steve "Mr Angry" Lyall in OD. Rising star Joe Hamilton and Dave Bareham were double-dipped in the final, revenge by Atha and Cloney for their earlier defeat. Burdett also found time to win the Rookie Doubles with Rob Davey from Lyall and James Harrold. Davey was probably the unluckiest player at the tournament going out in the group stages of OS, losing on sweat ball to finalists Burdett and Atha.

Louise Herring came over from Ireland to gain an expected victory in the Women's singles, beating Hannah Ramlee in the final.

There was a rollerball DYP in the evening, and guess what Burdett managed to win this one as well, accompanied by the "unlucky" Davey, from Canadian pro-master Kane Gabriel and Ireland's Peter Morris.

Thanks as is becoming traditional go to the Shoveltons and Dave Morgan for organisational expertise on the day(s).

Player of the Year Update

Open Doubles - top 5

Pos	Name	Sex	Nat	OD
1	*Atha Rob	M	GBR	180
2	*Shovelton Alex	M	GBR	173
3	*Sohi Jujhar Singh	M	GBR	161
4	*Hamilton Joe	M	GBR	148
5	*Bareham Dave	M	GBR	141

Open Singles - top 5

Pos	Name	Sex	Nat	OS
1	*Sohi Jujhar Singh	M	GBR	218
2	*Shovelton Alex	M	GBR	179
3	*Burdett Tom	M	GBR	162
4	*Ziemann Dave	M	GBR	157
5	*May Jon	M	GBR	154

Womens Singles – top 5

Pos	Name	Sex	Nat	WS
1	Ramlee Hannah	F	GBR	115
2	<i>Herring Louise</i>	F	IRL	85
3	Brown Cath	F	GBR	36
4	Wong Caroline	F	GBR	35
5	Brice Sarah	F	GBR	31