



British Foosball Association

May Newsletter 2007

Hereford 2007

What A Weekend! Poker, Beer, Nightclubs
And even some Foos.....



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Minutes of the BFA EGM

Sat 21 April 2007, 6pm, Cricket Pavilion, Hereford (Hereford Open)

Present :

Committee Members Boris Atha, Jon May, Dave Morgan, John Shovelton, Ben Mason

Full Members Rob Moss , Chaz Allen, Dave Oates, Nigel Davies, Chaz Allen, Mayya Racy, Matt Cotterill, George Eid , Rob Kay, Alex Shovelton, Joe Hamilton, Stephen Lyall, Tom Burdett, Frank Drayton, Rob Davey

1 Constitutional changes

1 - Clause 2.2.1 add new

d. Appointment of committee members is subject to ratification by a simple majority of the AGM or an EGM if required.

Amendment passed unopposed.

2 - New clause 2.2.11 - power to remove EC members

2.2.11 Any Executive Committee member who fails to act in accordance with Section 1: Purpose of the BFA, or 2.2.10, may be suspended or expelled from the Executive Committee by unanimous vote of the remaining Executive Committee members. Any decision to expel an Executive Committee member, or suspend him/her for a significant period, must be ratified by a simple majority at a general meeting.

Amendment passed unopposed.

3 - Committee procedures - (a) Para 2.4.2(c) to change

in line 3 "elected members" to "members", to allow the appointed and ratified posts to have equal committee voting powers.

In line 4 replace 'seven' with 'nine' to reflect increase in committee size.

Amendments passed unopposed.

4 - Membership Categories

Clause 4.1.1 - replace 'four' with 'five'

Insert new 4.1.1.d - Club Membership: category from groups of players in a venue, team or local foosball society or association (e.g. university)

(c) Corporate membership provision now 4.1.1.e

Amendments passed unopposed.

2 Ratification of appointed Committee posts

John Shovelton and Caroline Wong **ratified unopposed** as Webmaster and Womens Officer respectively.

3 Bye-Elections for BFA Committee

Alex Shovelton elected to committee.

Ben Mason to take over as Vice-Chair from Jude Fitzgerald.

One committee post remains vacant.



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ITSF Master Series Event

Garlando Foosball Tournament

**Friday 4th May – Sunday
6th May**

**Held on 17+ World
Championship Garlando
Foosball Tables**

**Rootes Social Building
University of Warwick
Coventry
Warwickshire
CV4 7AL**

Friday 4th May:

15.30 - Warwick vs BFA - 7 a side Football

20.30 - Super Melee + KO

Saturday 5th May:

11.00 – Open Singles

13.00 – Open Doubles

15.00 – Novice Doubles

16.00 – Women's Singles and Women's Doubles

17.00 - Junior Doubles

00.00 – Last game called

01.00 – End

Sunday 6th May:

10.30 – Registration for Masters Singles closes

11.00 - Masters Singles

12.00 - Amateur Singles

13.00 – Semi-Pro Singles

15.00 – Amateur Doubles, Semi-Pro Doubles &
Masters Doubles

20.00 - Open Singles & Open Doubles Finals

23.00 - End

Event formats:

OS/OD – Straight DE: WB 5.5 LB 5.3

MS/MD – Straight DE: WB 5.5 LB 5.3

SPS/SPD – Groups (7.1) then DE: WB 5.3 LB 9.1

AS/AD – Groups (5.1) then DE: WB 9.1 LB 7.1

ND – Groups (5.1) then DE: WB 7.1 LB 5.1

WSWD – Groups (7.1) then DE: WB 9.1 LB 7.1

JD - Straight DE: WB 7.1 LB 5.1



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Warwick Open 2007

The FIRST EVER UK tournament to feature LIVE Commentary!

All players are eligible for the Open Events. Players may enter **ONE** further ranked doubles event of their ranking or above, and **ONE** further ranked singles event of their ranking or above. The exceptions are Novices, who may enter Novice Doubles *as well* as ONE further doubles event and **ONE** further singles event. Additionally, those born on or after 01/09/88 are allowed entry to Junior Doubles.

The venue holds a large capacity, with an all day bar license (until 11.00pm), multiple display screens and full PA system. BAR FOOD (burgers, pizzas etc) is located in the venue (meal deal currently being negotiated) and alternative restaurant food is within 30 seconds walk of playing area. The campus' mini-supermarket is a 2 minute walk from the venue.

Food breaks will be staggered throughout the day.

ITSF Rules of play will apply.

Registration

All pre-registered teams will be entered in the draw but will be forfeited if not present when their match is called. Named doubles partners of pre-registered players will be pre-registered for rank-appropriate package unless otherwise notified. The Organisers reserve the right to alter the programme to ensure the smooth running of the event.

Rankings

Overseas players not ranked in Garlando or ITSF competitions will be provisionally ranked as semi-pro, USTSA/EuroTornado Pro-Master, P4P Master/Elite or International Garlando Semi-Pro = Pro. Players will be treated as having their highest rank based on BFA Garlando or International Garlando or ITSF points lists (ITSF total points - SP 50-99pts, Pro 100-199pts, PM 200+pts - IGR points SP 100-499, Pro 500-999, PM 1000+)



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Estimated Prize Fund Breakdown:

	ND	WS	WD	AS	AD	SPS	SPD	MS	MD	OS	OD	JD
1	£25	£15	£25	£35	£65	£50	£100	£70	£120	£100	£170	100%
2	£15	£10	£15	£30	£55	£45	£60	£60	£90	£80	£140	Payout
3	£10	£5	-	£25	£45	£35	£40	£50	£60	£60	£120	
4	-	-	-	£15	£25	£20	-	£35	£30	£40	£90	
5-6	-	-	-	£15	£20	£15	-	£20	-	£25	£55	
7-8	-	-	-	£10	-	-	-	£15	-	£20	£35	
9-12	-	-	-	£5	-	-	-	-	-	£15	£25	
13-16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£15	£20	
17-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£10	-	
25-32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£5	-	

Entry Packages:

Novice (ND, AS, AD, OS, OD) – Men £12; Women £14

Amateur (AS, AD, OS, OD) – Men £16; Women £20

Semi-Pro (SPS, SPD, OS, OD) – Men £22; Women £28

Pro (MS, MD, OS, OD) – Men £32; Women £40

Pro-Master (MS, MD, OS, OD) – Men £44; Women £52

All players must pay £5 table fee (for the weekend), or £3 (for one day only). All tables will be set to free play. **First time tournament players are exempted from this fee and will only pay for the events they enter.**

Entry Fees Per Event:

Super Melee - £3 for everybody (not included in package deal)

OS/OD – PM £13; P £10; SP £7; A £5; N £4

MD/MS – PM £10; P £7; SP £7; A £7; N £7

SPD/SPS – SP £5; A £5; N £5

AD/AS – A £4; N £3

ND – N £2

WD/WS - PM £10; P £7; SP £5; A £3; N £2

JD - £2 for those eligible (not included in package deal)



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Entry Fee Discount Deal:

Any entrant who brings along **TWO new players** to the tournament will be entitled to a discount of £5 from his or her entry fees. Similarly, any entrant who brings along **ONE new female player** will receive a £5 discount. For the purposes of this offer, any player who has attended a local BFA Garlando series, an international event, or a Tornado tournament will count as having participated in a previous tournament. **Maximum discount per player: £5.**

How to get there:

The University is well situated in the middle of England with ample parking space at weekends. The tournament itself will be running on central campus. Buses run to and from Leamington Spa and Coventry every fifteen minutes, for those of you catching the train. Full travel arrangements for cars, trains, buses and even bikes can be found at <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/about/visiting/> . The AA also offers a separate route planner guide, which can be found at: http://www.theaa.com/travelwatch/planner_main.jsp

Rootes Social Building is located in the middle of campus, next to the student Union building and visible from the Arts Centre. Should you get lost on campus please just ask a passing student to point you in the right direction.

Accommodation:

For a list of nearby accommodation in Coventry, Kenilworth and Leamington Spa, see: <http://www.warwickfoos.co.uk/open.php#accommodation>

Small Print:

Womens singles/doubles are included in packages for women. The prize fund may vary according to turnout . Any event with fewer than 3x competitors or teams will be cancelled. Friday Super Melee is not included in package deals, deadline for entries is 8.30pm draw, no phone-in registrations permitted for the Super Melee . Only those born on or after 01/09/88 are eligible for Junior Doubles The promoter reserves the right to refuse entry All prize money must be collected on the day. No refunds will be given on package deals All players must agree to abide by the BFA code of conduct and teams will face disqualification for violent or abusive conduct.



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Hereford Open – 20th-22nd April

Our man at the tournament, *Alex Shovelton* gives his take on the weekends top action.

The Hereford Tornado Open was different. The setting of a cricket pavilion in the sports field of a school was certainly that, 5 tables in the main room and a further 2 in the changing rooms made for an interesting atmosphere, while the lack of indoor space was handily complemented by the awesome weather. Food was provided at the venue all weekend and the various pre-planned social activities made this less of an event and more of an all round foosing experience.

Friday kicked off with Under 18 singles, in which a strong performance from Bristol's James Oates saw off the local competition and put him firmly in the driving seat for selection to attend the ITSF World Championships in October. Special mention must go to Hereford's Chris Hughes who, after suffering an epileptic seizure just minutes before the start of the event, went on to finish 2nd. The DYP later in the evening made for a number of strong pairings, with John Shovelton and Joe Hamilton eventually taking 1st place ahead of Oli Deakin and Dave Bareham. The now standard night in whichever expensive, sweaty, rubbish music-playing local club then followed. We even managed to get a few of the coffin dodgers out!



After 5 hours sleep and brushing off the hangovers it was time for some serious foos. Saturday kicked off with the "Ranked Singles" event, this was a singles competition split by ranking points rather than category in a truly unsubtle attempt by organiser Ben Mason to increase his own chances of winning. Thankfully it didn't pay off, with Chaz Allen, Tom Burdett and John Shovelton taking the Sub 1050, Sub 1550 and Over 1550 titles respectively.

The over 1550 final was a particularly good match, with eventual player of the tournament Juj Sohi taking Shovelton to the final ball in a packed Home changing room! The Open singles event gave Sohi the opportunity to prove he is still second only to Rob Atha, and he did so in style, taking the title against Bristol's Rob Davey who was in the form of his life. Warwick rookie Dan Kingston managed an impressive 4th place finish, taking some, ahem, top pro scalps on the way and again demonstrating Warwick's ability to produce great players on any table.



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Hereford Open Report (continued)

Women's singles was a close-fought event that was difficult to call with a particularly strong field consisting of 4 World Cup and World Championship GB representatives, but it was Malaysian UWE Student Cai Mei Khoo that prevailed with a win over Mayya Racy in the final. Rather predictably Rob Davey and Tom Burdett took the Rookie Doubles title.

Saturday evening was Poker Night. The foosing massive took over Karlos pool club until the small hours of Sunday morning in a thoroughly entertaining two table, 20 player tournament at the end of which John Phipps and organiser Ben Mason eventually split the first prize.

Sunday was the business end of the weekend. Open Doubles, Pro-Am and Women's Doubles were all events that could have been won by a number of teams, so competition was intense. Sohi continued where he left off and with partner Tom Burdett saw off the strong Bristol teams of first Alex Shovelton and Jon May in the Winners final then Rob Davey and Mike Amsden in the Grand Final to take first place. The Open Doubles competition was a similar affair, after a heated Losers' Final match between Shovelton & Burdett and Hamilton & Bareham that went to the wire, a spirited performance in the final couldn't prevent the form player of the weekend taking yet another title, this time with Mike Amsden on the same side of the table. Women's Doubles was a 3-way battle between Hannah Ramlee & Mayya Racy, Louise & Sarah Brice and Cai Mei Khoo & Pinday Matharu, with the Brices eventually taking the title and keeping it in "the shire".



Thanks must go to **Ben Mason** for his organisational efforts, **Mr and Mrs Mason** for the catering and **Foos4Fun** for again providing top quality tables. It was a cracker. Many thanks to Tom Stickland and Dave Ziemann for publishing the photos used in this newsletter on the web. Check out:

<http://www.britfoos.com/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?t=5097&start=0>

for more photos and links.



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Hereford Open – Results

Open Singles

1. Juj Sohi
2. Rob Davey
3. Joe Hamilton

Open Doubles

1. Juj Sohi + Mike Amsden
2. Alex Shovelton + Tom Burdett
3. Joe Hamilton + Dave Bareham

Over 1550 Singles

1. John Shovelton
2. Juj Sohi
3. Dave Bareham

Sub 1550 Singles

1. Tom Burdett
2. Jon May
3. Rob Davey

Sub 1050 Singles

1. Chaz Allen
2. Chris Haddon
3. Shafiq Haniff

Women's Singles

1. Cai Mei Khoo
2. Mayya Racy
3. Sarah Brice

Women's Doubles

1. Louise Brice + Sarah Brice
2. Cai Mei Khoo + Penny Mathews
3. Mayya Racy + Hannah Ramlee

Pro-Am

1. Tom Burdett + Juj Sohi
2. Mike Amsden + Rob Davey
3. Alex Shovelton + Jon May

Rookie Doubles

1. Tom Burdett + Rob Davey
2. Mayya Racy + Jon May
3. Shafiq Haniff + Nigel Davies

Under 18 Singles

1. James Oates
2. Chris Hughes
3. Jack Cutter

DYP

1. Joe Hamilton + John Shovelton
2. Oli Deakin + Dave Bareham
3. Cai Mei Khoo + Brian Harms



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Hannah Ramlee



Hannah is one of the top Woman players in the U.K. She has had good success in Open (with Oli D) and Mixed Doubles (with Alex S) and is always in the mix to win the Women's events. She represented the U.K. at the ITSF World Cup in Hamburg last May. Hannah regularly plays in Southampton at The Griffen, and is one of the keenest tournament attendees. Even more amazingly, although she works for a computer company and is obsessed by table football she somehow manages not to be a complete geek!

How did you get started playing?

There was a FAS in my hall of residence at uni and there was a group of us who used to play loads there. I only really started playing properly when I started working - we had a Garlando and a Bonzini at work and we played every lunchtime and had a couple of leagues going. I got hooked and clubbed together with some housemates to buy a table and have been playing ever since.

What's your favourite moment in foosball?

Winning RD at the Floatel with Oli Deakin. It was such a high - we absolutely stormed through without dropping a game, even against Ken Currin whose shots normally paralyse me with terror. Maybe one day it'll be Open Doubles instead.

And your worst moment?

Seeing my opponent crying after our game at the Hamburg World Cup last year.

Aspirations for this year?

I'd really like to qualify for the ITSF tournament in Italy. Judging by my results at Hereford I've really got my work cut out for me!

Funniest moment in foosball?

Has to be the Garlando Worlds 2004. It was such brilliant fun, only my second tournament ever and totally outclassed, yet still slopping a few wins. There was such a good bond between all the UK players who went, and met loads of cool people from all over the world who happily put up with my awful German accent the whole time. And me and Cath without a doubt had the best and funniest goal celebration dances ever!

Toughest Opponent (not including Rob Atha!)?

Probably Louise Herring. We keep meeting at tournaments, and each time she seems to have improved so much more!



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Hannah Ramlee

Where do you rate UK foos on the International scene?

UK foos has improved, though I think there's still a long way to go. It's great that more UK players are travelling to international tournaments so I'm sure the standard will keep getting better.

How do you find playing a game dominated by men?

It's great - women are much more scary to play against than men. There's not a huge amount of prejudice out there, and certainly not enough to put me off. You do find that a lot of pub players are very surprised when they see women who play without spinning the rods.

If you were chair of the BFA for the day, what one change would you make and why?

I'd put Boris back in charge, he's the man.

Any pre-tournament rituals?

The most successful ritual I know of is to stop off for a Zinger tower meal on the way to the tourney. KFC really fires you up.

Ahem. Thank you Miss Ramlee! Quite enough of that talk, no more questions for you if you are going to be like that!





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Rule Quiz #1 - How Many Time-Outs?

Our resident rules expert DZ explains why we all don't know as much as we think we do.

In last months Newsletter, we asked:

"What is the maximum number of time-outs that can occur in a best-of-3 match, when the match is played according to the following rules? Do not include medical or official time-outs.

- 1) Garlando
- 2) Tornado
- 3) ITSF"

In the Tornado rules, certain rule infringements result in a team being "charged" with a time-out. This means that the team effectively "burn" one of their time-outs. But what happens if they've already taken their normal limit of two time-outs in a game? In this case, they are also charged with a technical foul, which is a penalty shot on goal. However, after the technical is played, they are also entitled to take the full period allowed by the time-out. This is limited however, by the rule which says that the third technical foul by a team in one game causes forfeiture of the game. Therefore the first team can take 2 time-outs without penalty, followed by a further 2 with technical fouls. The second team can do the same, resulting in a total of 8 time-outs. At this point either team could call (or be charged with) a further time-out, although they would not actually take it because the preceding technical would end the game first. This could happen in each of 3 games in the match, resulting in a total of 24 time-outs.

The concept of the technical foul is not included in the Garlando rules, so the maximum number of time-outs is 12.

In the new ITSF rules the technical foul rules are essentially the same as for Tornado. However, you are NOT allowed to take the time if you request or are charged with a 3rd time-out. Rule 9.8 states:

"A team requesting more than two time outs per game shall be issued a warning and the request will be denied. If the team is in possession of the ball and the ball is in play they shall lose possession to the opposing five-man rod for serve. Subsequent requests will result in a technical foul."

So this means that the maximum time-outs under ITSF is the same as Garlando, 12, although for different reasons. So the correct answers are 12,24,12. So who won the competition? There were three entries, and they were all wrong. One entry said 6,6,6 and the other two said 12,12,12, which is closer to the truth. However none were correct, so the prize of free entry to the Open Events at the Warwick Open goes unclaimed.

Another Quiz Next Month!



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Upcoming Events

The next event is the **Warwick Open** (see the main feature for full details).

The **Oxford Open** will return on 16th and 17th June. This is the UK's longest running tournament, held since 2000.

On 6-8 July there will be the Multitable **UK Championships** for UK players only held at Pro-5 in Brislington, Bristol. The venue will also host the Bristol Open 2007 on the same weekend. More details on this event will follow soon, but it will be the showcase prestige event of the year, with the winner entitled to represent the UK at the ITSF World Championships in Italy in the Autumn.

The **UK Masters** will be held on Tornado as usual at The Floatel, Northwich and is in the diary for the 7th-9th September (Subject to confirmation).

On the International scene, a number of UK players are expected to go to the Bonzini and Tec-Ball World Championships in May, and the Roberto-Sport and Garlando World Championships in July

Caroline Wong (one of the Bar Kick regulars) is coordinating a trip to the **Bonzini World Championships**, to be held on the 17th to the 20th of May. Check out the International Events section of the Britfoos forum or contact "Poach" on the forum for more information.

The Tec-Ball World Championships is to be held on the 25th to the 27th of May in Borgloon, Belgium. The full information package (in English) is available at: <http://www.speedplay.be/albums/21265/WCSTECBALLflyer2007.doc>. At the moment there are a number of potential British Team Members including Rob Atha, however, due to the lack of available tables in the UK, a large turnout of top players is not expected. If you are planning on going, please contact BFA Chair, Boris Atha at chair@britfoos.com, to discuss whether you would be eligible for the Team Event – this could be your chance to represent your country! If the UK enters a team (minimum 5 players) then we earn significant ITSF Ranking points. More details are available in the International Events Section.

July sees the Roberto-Sport (13th to 15th) and Garlando World Championships (18th to 22nd), the Garlando in particular expected to see a large UK entry. The final ITSF WCS event is in Las Vegas in September, from the 26th to the 30th, and again a number of UK foosers are expected to combine a fantastic week away at the unique cultural phenomenon that could only be found in the USA, while still finding time to play top quality foosball against the World's highest standard of players.



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Shorts

The first regular BYP at The Bank, Keynsham, Bristol was won by Mike “the slag” Amsden and Dave Bareham, from Rob Davey and Chris Bulley. A good turnout of 8 teams saw Oli Deakin and Nigel Davies winning one of the WC groups, to ensure that pre-tournament favourite, Alex “the lesser of the twins” Shovelton got knocked out before the final stages. As Chaz Allen wrote on the Britfoos forum: “This tournament was awful. (sic) How am I supposed to play on brand new tables with new balls in good light?” The next BYP event will be held on Saturday 19th May.

The April BYP at the Bush was won by Alex Shovelton and Jon May, beating Joe Hamilton and John “also the lesser of the twins” Shovelton in the final. World Cup groups, with best of three games led to the 2 group winners playing off in the Grand Final, with 6 teams present.

The Chetwynd Mini Tournament on March 16th was won by complete newcomers/foos-sharks (delete as appropriate) Johns Shovelton and Worthington. They won in a playoff against Peterborough pair Paddy Dunleavy and Scott Walding, following a two way tie at the end of the mammoth group stage of 19 players.

To include any results in this section of the newsletter, please e-mail newsletter@britfoos.com.

Player of the Year Update

Open Doubles - top 5

1 Alex Shovelton	216
2 Jujhar Sohi	213
3 Joe Hamilton	187
4 Mike Amsden	186
5 Dave Bareham	185

Open Singles - top 5

1 Jujhar Sohi	280
2 Alex Shovelton	206
3 Jon May	182
4 Tom Burdett	179
5 Dave Ziemann	174

Women's Singles – top 5

1 Hannah Ramlee	115
2 Sarah Brice	65
3 Mayya Racy	50
4 Caroline Wong	40
5 Cath Brown	38

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