



All 3 divisions had started but now we will have a short break. In fact, division 3 will resume on 2nd September, division 2 on the 3rd, and division 1 on the 12th of September.

Standings Div 1 (after 5 weeks): Fina (39), okmalta.com (32), Turu's Knights (32)

Standings Div 2 (after 5 weeks): Brutal Legendz (32), Supreme (30), and Up Your Average (28). However, Blitzkrieg and BOV still need to play week 5.

Standings Div 3 (after 3 weeks): The George's – 22, Vintage 22, Move It – 20.

The Doubles Cisk Lager League is now during the 8th week. Standings as follows: Medsea Shipping Agency (48), Lucky Strike (42), Gillette (41) and Ballbarians (40).

COMPOSITE AVE

Now that more than half the year is over, Mauro Anastasi leads the composite average (213.62), followed by Justin Caruana Scicluna (211.66), and Kenneth Arpa (207.40). In the ladies' division Sue Abela leads with a 208.90, followed by Cynthia Frendo Duca (203.39) and Sara Xuereb (198.85).

Top Youth bowlers (U19) are: Matthew Magro (200.86), Miguel Xuereb (196.79) and Nicholas Muscat (194.06) and for the girls: Sara Xuereb (198.85), Raquel Xuereb (167.78) and Ruslana Grima (147.36).

AMF WORLD CUP QUALIFYING

The AMF World Cup Qualifying Tournament attracted 21 players, 4 ladies and 17 males. The tournament's format was a set of 6 games on 3 consecutive days.

Cynthia Frendo Duca and Philip Gruppetta took the early lead on day 1, with Cynthia leading the ladies' category on 1241, a clear 107 pins ahead of Tiziana Carannante. Philip on the other hand was only leading by 25 pins, with Mark Muscat breathing down his neck, and Neil Sullivan in 3rd, 59 pins down.

Day 2 saw Tiziana catching up, and rolling a good 1276 series, to narrow the difference down to 10 pins, with Cynthia still in the lead. On the other hand, Philip succeeded in widening the gap to 78 pins over 2nd placed Mark Muscat, whilst Neil Sullivan trailed behind in 3rd.

Day 3 was intense, for both divisions. Tiziana rolled another good 1231 series, and succeeded in beating Cynthia, who could only manage a 1165 on the day. Final score was a 3641 for Tiziana, and a 3585 for Cynthia. Melissa bowled a good 1232 to clinch the 3rd place for a total of 3508 pins. Philip started somewhat shaky with two 180 games. He continued to bowl steady 200+ games. Mark Muscat came very close in the 5th game as he rolled a big 246 game, but in the end it was Gruppetta who emerged as the winner with a 69 pin advantage. Neil Sullivan ended in 3rd place with a 3607 total.

This will be the first time that Tiziana and Philip will be representing Malta in the 55th Qubica AMF World Cup which this year will be held in Indonesia in November.



SILVER CUP HANDICAP TOURNAMENT

We had 31 competitors for the 7th Silver Cup, 16 males and 15 females. This tournament is open to males and females who do not exceed 170 and 165 respectively.

Day 1 saw Kyle Camilleri rolling an amazing 1307 series, this being his personal best, to clinch the early lead, followed by the young Nicolai Mallia (1161) with a PB game of 204, and Albert Borg in 3rd (1144). The other 3 to make top 6 were Melvin Galea, Julian Baldacchino and Nicholas Falzon.



Raquel Xuereb lead the female section with a 1143, followed by young Kathryn Fenech (1055) and Liliana Spiteri (1027). Ruslana Grima, Natasha Bianchi and Angele Azzopardi were the other 3 to make top 6.



Round Robin

Raquel won 4 encounters and succeeded in retaining the top spot, followed by Kathryn Fenech who also won 4 matches and Liliana Spiteri won 3 matches to clinch the 3rd place. Ruslana placed 4th, Natasha 5th and Angele placed 6th.

Kyle won only 3 matches, but retained the top spot, while Julian Baldacchino won all his encounters to climb to 2nd place. There was some confusion over the handicap who would clinch 3rd place, and in the end it was Albert Borg who grabbed the last place for the step ladder. Nicolai placed 4th, whilst Nicholas and Melvin placed 5th and 6th respectively.



Step Ladder

Liliana faced Kathryn in the first match and managed to beat the youngest female qualifier with a big game 236-168. However, she then failed to keep the momentum and lost to Raquel 141-176.

In the male category Albert Borg managed to beat young Julian in a very close game 178-176. He then beat Kyle Borg 239-195, to force a decider. Kyle's superb performance in the previous rounds, deserted him as he could only manage a 154, and Albert's 162 was enough to see him being crowned champion.

This was Raquel's 2nd silver cup title whilst Albert won this competition for the first time.



1ST BOWLING BRNO

3 of our bowlers, namely Mauro Anastasi, Sara Xuereb and Daniel Grech went to participate in the 1st Bowling BRNO in the Czech Republic. There were 288 participants. Sara bowled 6 times – 1205, 1179, 1177, 1215, 1195 and 1194, inclusive of 48 handicap to place 44th. Mauro also bowled 6 times – 1211 – 1201 – 1144, 1110, 1067 and 1002 to place 48th, whilst Daniel bowled 4 times – 972, 981, 1069 and 1110 to finish in 123rd place.



YOUTH LONDON INTERNATIONAL

3 of our youths went to participate in the London Youth Open, namely Dwayne Zahra and Kathryn and Chris Fenech. After playing 24 games in 3 different squads, they took their best 8 games for the qualifying placing.



Kathryn's best series was a 1085. Chris Fenech rolled a 1373 to place a creditable 13th place from 110 bowlers, whilst Dwayne Zahra ended in the 8th position with a 1528 series. Thus, they both made it to the finals which were to be played the following day.



Having placed with the top 16, both Chris and Dwayne could skip step 1, and made it automatically to step 2.

Step 2 - Chris Fenech, who incidentally was celebrating his birthday on the day, faced Katie Tagg, who he beat 386-350. Dwayne faced Daniel O'Kelly and also won 395-365.

Step 3 – Both Maltese athletes lost their encounter, Chris against Alex McCarthy (357-396), and Dwayne against Callum Simons (399-322). However, they could still continue to play in the losers' brackets.

Step 4 – Chris beat Elyse Giddens in a close encounter (367-355), whilst Dwayne trashed Katie Tagg (376-284).

Step 5 – unfortunately Chris and Dwayne then had to face each other. The younger player won the first game 183-168. However, Dwayne fought back, winning the 2nd game 225 – 170 for a total 393-353.

Step 6 – Dwayne's opponent was Lewis Johnson, the latter quitting mid 2nd game due to an injury for a total of 195 to Dwayne's 367.

Step 7 – Dwayne then faced Ki Leighfield and lost 388-448. Leighfield ended as the eventual winner.

That meant that Dwayne placed in a brilliant 6th place, which was the 2nd best so far, after Sara Xuereb had won it in 2015. Chris finished also in a good position – 13th place, having placed 2nd in the U13. Dwayne was also given recognition for one of two most promising bowlers.



August will be a relatively easy month, more so since the Small Nations Cup Qualifying tournament has been cancelled. The only bit of interesting news is that 4 of our top senior bowlers will be representing Malta in the World

Senior Championships in Las Vegas. These are Mark Spiteri, Kenneth Arpa, Dennis Mercieca and Steve Cassar, and they leave on the 31st of August. We wish them good luck.

I wish you all a good day.

Regards

Liliana