

Welsh CA 2003

Volume 3, Issue 1

April 2003

Latest News

The biggest news of the close season is the news that John Grimshaw is standing down from the committee having been close to the helm of the Welsh CA, ever since being the driving force and founder back in 1986. John and his wife Julie have moved to Weston Super Mare to run a residential home. Garry McElwain has agreed to be acting treasurer until the AGM in July.

Teams

2002 saw three matches played by the Welsh CA. In July Wales lost to Scotland at the new Scottish national croquet centre at Meadows West in Edinburgh. Wales triumphed over Canada at Dyffryn in August to regain the Atlantic Plate, whilst September saw Wales lose to Belgium at Genval. In the Home Internationals Wales again finished third, ahead of Scotland, but behind England and Ireland.

Individual front

On the individual front John Evans finally won the Welsh Championship having been losing finalist on four previous occasions and Bryn Lewis won the Dyffryn Handicap weekend. Chris Williams represented Wales in the WCF World Championships in New Zealand in December. Tony Mrozinski again represented Wales in the European Championships in Jersey and again finished third. John Evans played in the Sonoma Cutrer World Championship. The 2003 event at Sonoma has been cancelled and it looks unlikely that the event will take place again.

Other news

Glamorgan finished third in the second division in the Inter Counties and so gained promotion to the first division for 2003. Unfortunately we will be without David Walters who has gone to work in the USA for a few years.

Changes at Dyffryn.

Last year I reported that there are plans at Dyffryn to move the tea room to the old restaurant area next to the main house near the lawns. This has not happened yet but is still planned.

Apologies for the late production of this newsletter, but I have been working away from home during the week for the last few months and have not found the time to produce it.

Dates to note for 2003

May31-June1 Handicap tournament (Dyffryn) £12

June 14-15 Home Internationals (Carrickmines)

June 25-26 Switzerland (Dyffryn)

July 25-27 Welsh Championship (Dyffryn) £20

Sep 19-21 European Championship (Jersey)

Please let Chris Williams know of your availability for any of the above events. It makes selections a lot easier if we know who is available rather than having to chase round. Send entry fees and annual subscription to Chris Williams. Make cheques payable to the Welsh CA (not to me). Do it now before you forget. Please note - *Places in an event cannot be guaranteed until money is received.* If you have to withdraw from an event after you have paid then your entry fee will be refunded (eventually!!)

Please note that the Handicap Weekend will again be two days this year. The closing date for the Welsh Championship will be Sunday 1 June. Places will be allocated on that date based on the current ranking list.

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Home Internationals 2002

Wales retained third place in the Home Internationals by beating Scotland 4-1 in their decisive final match; both countries having previously lost to England and Ireland. In the title decider England comfortably defeated Ireland to regain the title lost in Carrickmines last year.

For the first time the Home Internationals were played at Nottingham, which is probably the most central location for all the countries.

The draw, which was made prior to the start of play, again saw Wales pitted against England, Ireland and Scotland in that order. There were rumours that the draw had been fixed this year, unlike previous years when it had most definitely not been.

For a while in the first match it looked as if Wales might be in with a chance of beating England for the first ever time. Chris Williams missed the peg out having rushed the ball into the back of rover having done all three peels. In the second game he also missed the peg from virtually the same place, having allowed for the slope this time!! Ian Burrige took the first game against David Maugham. An impasse ensued in the second which resulted in the game being stopped and completed the next day.

Home Internationals 2002

Nottingham June 2002

England 3 wins
Ireland 2 wins
Wales 1 win
Scotland 0 wins

England beat Wales 4-0

DB Maugham unf IJ Burrige -15, +8
CD Clarke beat CN Williams +2tp, -26, +13tp
RJ Brown beat AJ Mrozinski +17, +25tp
CJ Irwin beat GSJ Tudor +17, +7
PC Trimmer beat WdeB Prichard +26, -3, +26tp

Ireland beat Scotland 4-0

MJ McInerney beat ID Bond +17tp, +21
S Williams beat PJ Kirby +1, +26tp
RN McInerney beat DJ Magee +8, +16tp
AE Cunningham beat CG Hopewell +6, -19, +3
AE McInerney unf B Rannie -4, +5

England beat Scotland 3-0

DB Maugham unf ID Bond +4, -14

CD Clarke beat PJ Kirby +19tp, +26tp
RJ Brown unf DJ Magee +1, -8
CJ Irwin beat CG Hopewell +26tp, +26tp
PC Trimmer beat B Rannie +5tp, +1

Ireland beat Wales 5-0

MJ McInerney beat IJ Burrige -11, +5, +17
S Williams beat CN Williams -13, +13, +18tp
RN McInerney beat AJ Mrozinski -4, +26, +13tp
AE Cunningham beat GSJ Tudor +10, -26tp, +4tpo
AE McInerney beat WdeB Prichard +13, +14

England beat Ireland 3-1

DB Maugham beat MJ McInerney +16tp, +26sxp
CD Clarke beat S Williams -2, +13, +26tp
RJ Brown lost to RN McInerney -26tp, -26tp
CJ Irwin beat AE Cunningham +5, +26
PC Trimmer unf AE McInerney +3

Wales beat Scotland 4-1

IJ Burrige beat ID Bond -11, +18, +25
CN Williams lost to PJ Kirby -26, -12tp
AJ Mrozinski beat DJ Magee +21, +9
GSJ Tudor beat CG Hopewell +5, +26tp
WdeB Prichard beat B Rannie +6, +18

Belgium v Wales (Quiller Barrett)

Belgium beat Wales by 11 games to 9 in a match held on Sept 14-15th, lakeside at the Chateau du Lac, Genval, near Brussels (possibly the nicest surroundings to play croquet in the world?) (cannot be as nice as Dyffryn -Ed)

Wales was represented by Quiller Barrett, Jonathan Bowen, Mike Evans and Tal Golesworthy and Belgium by Bruno Eeman, Tony Falcon-Uff, Koen Heidbuchel, John Swabey, Charles-Eric Vilain XIII and Gabor Weiner. (Belgium made team changes on day 2.)

The Belgian team's hospitality is legendary and the Welsh are still recovering from it.

Belgium: (CFB handicaps in parentheses)

Tony Falcon-Uff (6)
John Swabey (50)
Charles-Eric Vilain XIII (3.5) (Sat only)
Gabor Weiner (5) (Sat only)
Bruno Eeman (3.5) (Sun only)
Koen Heidbuchel (4.5) (Sun only)

Wales: (CA handicaps in parentheses)

Quiller Barrett (8)

Mike Evans (8)
Jonathan Bowen (6)
Tal Golesworthy (2)

Singles:

Barrett +13 Weiner
Bowen +2 ot Falcon-Uff
Bowen +10 ot Swabey
Eeman +5 ot Bowen
Falcon-Uff +14 Evans
Falcon-Uff +12 Evans (different game)
Falcon-Uff +18 Quiller
Golesworthy +13 Eeman
Golesworthy +11 ot Falcon-Uff
Golesworthy +1 ot Swabey
Golesworthy +1 ot Vilain XIII
Heidbuchel +16 Barrett
Heidbuchel +12 Evans
Swabey +18 Barrett
Swabey +3 ot Evans
Vilain XIII +19 Bowen
Weiner +9 Evans

Doubles:

Vilain XIII/Weiner +18 Barrett/Evans
Bowen/Golesworthy +6 Falcon-Uff/Swabey
Barrett/Bowen +2 ot Eeman/Heidbuchel

Welsh CA Website

Answers to all your Welsh croquet questions, such who played when and where and who won what can be answered at the Welsh CA website at

<http://www.butedock.demon.co.uk/>

The site contains all past Welsh croquet results in team and individual events.

Other matches in 2003

The Scottish CA defeated the Welsh CA 15-5 in their match at the new Scottish croquet centre at Meadows West in Edinburgh. Wales defeated Canada at Dyffryn in August to regain Atlantic Plate.

Past Representative Matches

CA 3-2-3 (H 2-0-2 A 1-2-1)

1992 3-3 Ebbw Vale Williams, Evans J, Dorke, Regan D
1993 3-7 Cheltenham Williams, Regan D, Dorke, Heath
1994 5-5 Dyffryn Evans J, Carter, Pristavec, Marsh
1995 6-1 Cheltenham Evans J, Gunasekera, McElwain, Thomas
1996 6-1 Dyffryn Williams, Evans J, Grimshaw, McElwain
1997 6-6 Cheltenham Williams, Gunasekera, McElwain, Thomas
1998 7-0 Dyffryn Williams, Evans J, Morgan
1999 4-6 Bath Williams, Evans J, Morgan, McElwain

Scottish CA (SCA) 2-2-2 (H 2-0-1 A 0-2-1)

1995 15-5 Dyffryn Evans J, Grimshaw, Harding, Pristavec
1996 8-10 Bush Grimshaw, Jennings, Evans M, Lewis
1997 12-8 Dyffryn Williams, Grimshaw, Pristavec, Lewis, McElwain, Trickey D
1998 10-10 Bush Williams, Pristavec, Walters, Lewis
2000 10-10 Dyffryn Williams, Trickey A, Lewis, Butt
2002 5-15 Meadows W Williams, Trickey A, Lewis, Evans M

Switzerland (ASC) 4-2 (H 2-1 A 2-1)

1994 9-11 Dyffryn Grimshaw, Evans J, Evans M, Lewis, Pristavec, Boon, M Regan
1995 5-15 Geneva Evans J, Evans M, Marsh, Lewis
1997 10-5 Dyffryn Prichard W, Prichard C, Evans J, Marsh, Ham
1998 11-8 Geneva Williams, Grimshaw, Evans M, Ham
1999 12-8 Dyffryn Grimshaw, Prichard C, Tudor, Mackay
2001 16-3 Geneva Williams, Mackay, Walters, Evans M

USA 2-0

1985 12-3 Hurlingham Prichard C, Croker, Prichard R, Peterson, Hilditch, Jones K
1992 7-5 Dyffryn Prichard W, Prichard C, Burrige, Williams, Dorke, Evans J

New Zealand

1996 0-9 Dyffryn Prichard W, Prichard C, Williams, Evans J, Mrozinski, Carter

Canada

1998 22-14 Dyffryn Prichard W, Evans J, Mrozinski, Grimshaw, Trickey A
1999 17-32 Toronto Williams, Evans J, Trickey A, Lewis
2001 19-13 Dyffryn Evans J, Pristavec, Mackay, Ham

Australia

1999 17-7 Dyffryn Prichard W, Williams, Evans, Grimshaw, McElwain, Tuthill

Welsh Championship 2002

John Evans finally won the Welsh Championship in his fifth final when he defeated surprise finalist James Mackay in straight games, though both games were close. John had earlier cruised through his block without dropping a game, whereas James had scraped through his block in third place having had only two wins. This year the weather at the Welsh Championship was not the customary hot dry conditions we have been used to over the years, but it was not too bad after the cold and wet first day.

Once again the twelve players were divided into two blocks of six, with the top player in each block going through into the best of three semi final whilst the second and thirds played single game quarter finals.

John Evans proved to be the dominant force in block A, though he was yet again a bit fortunate to beat Chris Williams; this time by 5. In the other block Tony Mrozinski won every game, but should have lost to James Mackay, only to finally triumph by 2. Four times winner Ian Burr ridge had his earliest ever exit from the tournament. Ian had to beat Garry McElwain in his only game on the second morning, but went down to the ever improving McElwain by 25. This year we welcomed an Australian Welshman in Jonathan Bowen to the tournament. Jonathan, who was on a year's sabbatical from his job in Canberra, found the competition a bit too tough in the main event, but managed a couple of useful wins in the plate.

The two semi finals saw John Evans against Sam Tudor and James Mackay against Tony Mrozinski. Sam topped John in the third and was on a finishing turn when he stuck in hoop 4 off John's ball which was for 5, whilst James beat Tony Mrozinski in 2 straight games.

This year the plate event was graced by new striped Barlow balls, bought especially to allow the plate to be triple banked on lawn 2, whilst the semi finals and final were played on lawn 1. The plate, kindly donated a few year's ago by Shaun Carter, was won by William Prichard.

Block A

- 1 John Evans 5 wins
- 2 Chris Williams 4 wins

- 3 William Prichard 2 wins (10 net points)
- 4 Paul Pristavec 2 wins (-19)
- 5 Kevin Ham 2 wins (-25)
- 6 Colin Prichard 0 wins

Block B

- 1 Tony Mrozinski 5 wins
- 2 Sam Tudor 4 wins
- 3 James Mackay 2 wins (2)
- 4 Garry McElwain 2 wins (-14)
- 5 Ian Burr ridge 2 wins (-36)
- 6 Jonathan Bowen 0 wins

Quarter Finals

- Mackay beat Williams +5
- Tudor beat Prichard W +8

Semi Finals

- Evans beat Tudor +17, -5tp, +11otp
- Mackay beat Mrozinski +8, +18

3rd Place

- Mrozinski beat Tudor +13

Final

- Evans beat Mackay +1, +5

Plate

- Won by William Prichard

Welsh Championship winners

| | | | |
|----|------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 91 | Burr ridge | beat W Prichard | -13, +14, +26 |
| 92 | Burr ridge | beat Evans | +9, +12 |
| 93 | W Prichard | beat Burr ridge | +8, -7, +4 |
| 94 | Williams | beat Evans | +24, +17 |
| 95 | Burr ridge | beat Williams | +11, +9 |
| 96 | W Prichard | beat Mrozinski | -3, +25, +26 |
| 97 | W Prichard | beat Burr ridge | -22, +15, +21 |
| 98 | Mrozinski | beat Evans | +25, -18, +17tp |
| 99 | Williams | beat Evans | -19, +13, +11 |
| 00 | Burr ridge | beat Tudor | +26, +9 |
| 01 | Williams | beat Burr ridge | +23, -26, +6 |
| 02 | Evans | beat Mackay | +1, +5 |

Player Numbers

The eagle eyed amongst you may have noticed that the England and Australian cricketers have a number below the logos on their shirts. This number indicates the order in which they have been capped for their country and is in the lower six hundreds for England and the upper three hundreds for Australia. We in Wales have decided to do the same for croquet and hopefully each player in this years Home Internationals will be wearing his number. There has been a bit of a debate as to which Wales matches are considered as full internationals. Obviously the Home Internationals are, but what about the status of our matches against Switzerland, the USA and New Zealand. On a number of occasions we have matched handicaps - should these matches be classed as full internationals. My feeling is that the matches since 1997 against Switzerland should, whereas those before this data were definitely inter CA matches. If this is the case then the following is a list of the Welsh numbers.

International Debuts

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Colin Prichard | 1980 (v England) |
| 2 Tristram Owen | 1980 (v England) |
| 3 David Croker | 1980 (v England) |
| 4 Robin Godby | 1980 (v England) |
| 5 William Prichard | 1980 (v Scotland) |
| 6 Vic Rees | 1981 (v Scotland) |
| 7 Robert Prichard | 1983 (v England) |

Welsh Rankings at the end of 2002

| | Grade | G | W | Index | %age |
|--------------------|-------|----|----|-------|------|
| 1 John Evans | 2272 | 32 | 19 | 2258 | 59.4 |
| 2 Ian Burridge | 2252 | 23 | 11 | 2224 | 47.8 |
| 3 Chris Williams | 2226 | 77 | 43 | 2277 | 55.8 |
| 4 Tony Mrozinski | 2221 | 38 | 26 | 2275 | 68.4 |
| 5 Sam Tudor | 2157 | 34 | 17 | 2144 | 50.0 |
| 6 William Prichard | 2084 | 16 | 8 | 2042 | 50.0 |
| 7 James Mackay | 2069 | 42 | 24 | 2044 | 57.1 |
| 8 Tal Golesworthy | 1848 | 28 | 17 | 1817 | 60.7 |
| 9 Paul Pristavec | 1832 | 49 | 27 | 1847 | 55.1 |
| 10 Garry McElwain | 1789 | 12 | 5 | 1784 | 41.7 |
| 11 Barry Marsh | 1716 | 11 | 7 | 1694 | 63.6 |
| 12 Jonathan Bowen | 1660 | 13 | 4 | 1647 | 30.8 |
| 13 Quiller Barrett | 1581 | 21 | 13 | 1571 | 61.9 |
| 14 Kevin Ham | 1497 | 23 | 7 | 1494 | 30.4 |
| 15 Peter Jones | 1467 | 11 | 3 | 1458 | 27.3 |

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 8 David Peterson | 1984 (v England) |
| 9 Richard Hilditch | 1984 (v Ireland) |
| 10 Ken Jones | 1985 (v USA) |
| 11 Danny Palmer | 1987 (v England) |
| 12 Dayal Gunasekera | 1989 (v England) |
| 13 Ian Burridge | 1990 (v Ireland) |
| 14 Lewis Palmer | 1991 (v England) |
| 15 Chris Williams | 1992 (v England) |
| 16 Peter Dorke | 1992 (v England) |
| 17 John Evans | 1992 (v USA) |
| 18 Tony Mrozinski | 1996 (v New Zealand) |
| 19 Shaun Carter | 1996 (v New Zealand) |
| 20 Barry Marsh | 1997 (v Switzerland) |
| 21 John Grimshaw | 1998 (v Switzerland) |
| 22 Mike Evans | 1998 (v Switzerland) |
| 23 Kevin Ham | 1998 (v Switzerland) |
| 24 Adrian Trickey | 1998 (v Canada) |
| 25 Garry McElwain | 1999 (v England) |
| 26 Chris Tuthill | 1999 (v England) |
| 27 Bryn Lewis | 1999 (v Canada) |
| 28 Sam Tudor | 1999 (v Switzerland) |
| 29 James Mackay | 1999 (v Switzerland) |
| 30 Dai Morgan | 2000 (v Ireland) |
| 31 David Walters | 2001 (v Switzerland) |
| 32 Quiller Barrett | 2002 (v Belgium) |
| 33 Jonathan Bowen | 2002 (v Belgium) |

Most Appearances For Wales

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| William Prichard | 59 (E19 I18 S17 A1 C1 NZ1 USA1 CH1) |
| Ian Burridge | 40 (E13 I13 S13 USA1) |
| Chris Williams | 40 (E12 I11 S11 A1 C1 NZ1 USA1 CH2) |
| Lewis Palmer | 28 (E9 I10 S9) |
| David Croker | 23 |
| John Evans | 21 (E5 I5 S2 A1 C3 NZ1 USA1 CH3) |
| Robert Prichard | 21 (E8 I7 S5 USA1) |
| Dayal Gunasekera | 18 (E6 I6 S6) |
| Tony Mrozinski | 17 (E5 I5 S5 NZ1 C1) |
| Colin Prichard | 16 (E6 I4 S2 NZ1 USA2 CH2) |
| Richard Hilditch | 10 (E2 I4 S3 USA1) |

| | |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| England | 23 (22 in Home Internationals) |
| Ireland | 21 (20 in Home Internationals) |
| Scotland | 19 |
| Australia | 1 |
| Canada | 3 |
| New Zealand | 1 |
| Switzerland | 4 (first 2 classed as inter CA) |
| USA | 2 |
| Total | 74 |