COMPETITION SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

5th June, 2013

Provincial Mixed Pairs - Kelvin – 8 tables won by David & Diane Greenwood.

NI Mixed Pairs – Kelvin – 6 tables won by David & Diane Greenwood.

East Down Teams – Spa GC – 11 tables won by Ed Andrew's team.

Belfast Pairs – Kelvin – Cancelled.

Senior/Inter B Pairs – Kelvin – 8 tables won by Rosemary Edgeworth & Ciara Burns.

Mr. Monty Pairs – SMCOBA - 15 tables won by Anne Hasson & Mary O'Sullivan.

Bangor Inter AB Chall. – Bangor GC - 7 tables won by Cal Jones & Barbara Collins

East Down Pairs – Spa GC - 11 tables won by Ruth Connolly & John Murchan.

North Down Pairs – C'boye GC - 7.5 tables won by Norma Franklin & Sandie Millership.

Northern Ireland Pairs – Kelvin - 17 tables won by John Murchan & Ciara Burns.

NI Schools' Teams – 15 tables – senior and intermediate won by BRA & novice won by Bangor Grammar.

Mid Ulster AB Chall. – Portadown GC - 9.5 tables won by Joan Baird & Ros Young.

Mid Ulster Pairs – Portadown GC - 16.5 tables won by Ian Lindsay & Robin Burns.

Seamus Blayney Memorial Trophy – Breffni -13.5 tables won by John Taylor & Iris Orr.

Louis Herbert Pairs – Jewish Inst. - 9 tables won by Barbara Collins & Alan Anderson.

Down Inter AB Chall. – Newcastle BC – 6 tables Joan Baird & Ros Young.

Northern Ireland Teams – Coleraine - 9 tables won by Diane Greenwood's team.

Inter A/Senior Pairs – Kelvin – 20.5 tables won by Kathleen Cassidy & Stanley Lowe.

The Helm Cup – La Mon Hotel - 24 tables won by Kelvin B Team.

Irish Schools' Teams – 24 tables – The Gold final was won by BRA and the consolation final by Bangor Grammar.

Our entrants in the Egan Trophy are Lindsay, Burns, Anderson & Greenwood and Mackenzie, Mackenzie, Hall, Hamilton & Tranmer. I would like to wish them all good luck this weekend at La Mon.

The winners of Premier 1 were Ian Lindsay's team.

The winners of Premier 2 were Harold Curran's team..

The winners of the Senior league were Clare Watson's team.

The Intermediate B League was won by June Spiers' team.

The Millership Cup was cancelled due to poor entry.

The Mackinnon Cup was won by the Lindsay team.

The Kelvin Cup was won by the Mackenzie team.

Entries in overall competitions were up in events held, but down due to poor scheduling between North and |South, bad weather and lack of interest in Intermediate events. The leagues were constant, but cup entries were disappointing. I tried to resurrect the Hyman and Agnew Cups but with no success next year. I intend to try and enlist the help of a number of Intermediates this year to help promote their events and encourage more entries.

I have been able to secure SMCOBA's premises definitely for some league nights on Tuesday so this should lighten the burden on some club nights which are always effected by matches. I would like to thank those clubs for their tolerance and support while I endeavoured to spread the load.

I would like to thank all the tournament directors who helped out at the leagues and events over the year. It is a thankless job and we are very lucky that our events run so seamlessly with such a very small, but dedicated team. Pat Johnston does a wonderful job at all our school events and where would we be without Alan Hill who goes from strength to strength as our premier director? I would swear he has improved with age, indeed I must say that at the Senior/Inter A pairs in particular where he had three sections, the event was seamless.

I would like to place on record that obtaining new tournament directors is extremely hard, they do not grow on trees. When someone new does step up, they should be helped and encouraged and not overly criticized by ungrateful players. We are an amateur organization that has been blessed with some tireless dedicated volunteers over the years. Anyone who is interested, please telephone me on 07709312612 for a chat.

I would like to thank all the clubs who hosted events for the NIBU over the last year, especially the people within those clubs who helped organize events and in particular Kelvin who shoulder the main burden and the La Mon hotel who have excelled in their first year as a venue. I am hoping to bring the Boat club on board this year as another new venue.

I will be circulating the proposed diary for next year by email and on the website to try and improve our scheduling and facilitate more input from clubs and members. I have again met with Paul Porteous twice to try and encourage more diary co-operation and am liaising with Jim O'Sullivan from Donegal, as well.

I am always striving to improve our competitions, so if anybody has any suggestions, or wants to offer any help, please, write to me in confidence at ***jmurchan@yahoo.co.uk*.**