

English Petanque Association Inter-Regional Championship

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th September 2006

Southern Counties Petanque Association - Team Manager's Report

The Players

Andy Barron

Ashley Odell

Barbara Burchell

Beth Godwin

Brenda Brown

Caroline Mann

Dave Cottrell

Dave Stubbs

Debbie Elcome

Glenn Floyd

Graham Elcome

Graham Galton

Harrison Ash

Ian Burchell

John Billet

John Inglis

Karen Lombard

Kath Knight

Mark Robertshaw

Matt Slater

Michael Tull

Mike Knight

Richard Patterson

Rob Padwick

Rod Fisher

Shane King

Steve Lombard

Stuart Hale

Trevor Treend

Wayne Webster

The 1st Division of the Inter-Regional Championship 2006 was contested by the Chiltern, Eastern, Isle of Wight, Kent, London, Northern, Southern, and West Midlands Associations. Each Association was represented by eight Adult and one Junior Team.

On a bright and at times very hot Saturday we played seven keenly contested Rounds, one against each of the other Associations. A number of games extended well beyond their allocated time which led to some Teams having to play throughout a very long day with little or no time between Rounds and having to maintain high levels of skill and concentration with very little time to rest and relax.

We completed the first day in 5th place having won three Rounds with 33 wins. At that point we shared the same number of wins with the Associations in 3rd and 4th places though with the lowest points difference.

SCPA – Saturday's Team Scores

Team	W	L	F	A	Diff
1	6	1	84	64	20
2	4	3	74	59	15
3	4	3	75	64	11
4	2	5	64	76	-12
5	0	7	34	91	-57
6	4	3	77	70	7
7	5	2	76	57	19
8	3	4	64	70	-6
J	5	2	78	72	6
Total	33	30	626	623	3

We played a further five Rounds on a similarly hot and sunny Sunday against the Isle of Wight, Kent, London, Northern and West Midlands Associations. Two of which had finished on Saturday above us in the Division and three below. As on Saturday all matches were hard fought and many extended well beyond their allotted time. Of the five Rounds we won two with 23 wins.

SCPA – Final Team Scores

Team	W	L	F	A	Diff
1	10	2	148	104	44
2	5	7	96	114	-18
3	6	6	118	107	11
4	5	7	111	127	-16
5	0	12	54	156	-102
6	6	6	118	124	-6
7	9	3	134	101	33
8	7	5	120	117	3
J	8	4	134	124	10
Total	56	52	1033	1074	-41

The Players

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Andy Barron

At the end of the competition, having won five of the twelve Rounds, we were in 5th place with 56 wins with a points difference of -41. We were just two wins behind the 3rd and 4th placed Northern and Eastern, eight behind 2nd placed Chiltern and twelve behind the winners, Kent. This was a very creditable achievement with only one win fewer than in 2005 when we finished in 3rd place.

Division 1 - Final Positions

		W	F	A	Diff
1st	Kent	68	1162	905	257
2nd	Chiltern	64	1162	950	212
3rd	Northern	58	1143	1068	75
4th	Eastern	58	1097	1043	54
5th	Southern	56	1033	1074	-41
6th	West Midlands	47	1000	1112	-112
7th	Isle of Wight	41	935	1133	-198
8th	London	40	922	1169	-247
		432	8454	8454	0

I would not usually pick out any particular Team for their achievements as we were all there as one Squad representing the Southern Counties Petanque Association and everyone contributed to the very best of their ability. However, this year there is one Team that deserves a special note.

Southern 1, Ian Burchell, Karen Lombard and Stuart Hale, finished with 10 wins with a points difference of 44. To do this playing as Southern 1 against some exceptional opposition was a brilliant achievement. They only were narrowly beaten into 2nd place as the top Team in Division 1 by points difference.

Division 1 – Top Three Teams

	Team	W	F	A	Diff
1st	Chiltern 4	10	152	94	58
2nd	Southern 1	10	148	104	44
3rd	Kent 8	9	134	68	66

The standard of play of our Teams and of those we played was very high throughout the competition. All of our players should be congratulated for the manner in which the games were played. Their attitude, commitment and behaviour over the whole weekend was excellent and a credit to the Southern Counties Petanque Association. Their heads did not drop in adversity, everyone played hard but in a good sporting spirit. They played with skill, a little bit of good luck, a little bit of bad luck and humour throughout the two long hot days of competition. The Umpires were called on only for the occasional measure.

We should all be justifiably proud of our representatives at the English Petanque Association Inter-Regional Championship 2006. My personal congratulations and thanks go to each and every one of the players. They made my job very easy and enjoyable throughout.

Bernie Miles
SCPA Inter-Regional Championship Team Manager 2006