

WELSH CROWN GREEN BOWLING ASSOCIATION.

***** NEWSLETTER 3 *****

Wales – v – Greater Manchester.

The first match of the Endsleigh County Championship 2019 was played on Sunday 5th May with Wales playing Greater Manchester. The Home venue was Broughton BC and the Away Aston CC.

For the Home game, the Referee was Mike Rhodes of Yorkshire with Assistant Referees Ashley Zepeda and Tom Lockyer. WCGBA President Dave Mathias was the host and there was good support from the Home crowd.

In the first four, Jason Jones (Abergele) drew the top name, Gary Ellis. Jason dogged his heels throughout his game pulling level at times before Gary finally pinned the game down to a 21-13 win. At number three, Andy Delooze (Esclusham) had an excellent game and led all the way to finish 21-3. Veteran Kevin Nicholas (Gresford Colliery) also played a tight game with few mishaps to end with a 21-8 win. Reserve Kris Charlton (Abergele) found himself with the closest game of the four but won 21-17.

With the second four, there was to be no let up in the Welsh camp. Robin Bennett (Cunliffe) stormed away to a 21-7 win and Lewis Scott (St Asaph) was to follow with 21-9. Kris Fearnley (Colwyn Bay Legion) and Mark Parry (Llanrwst) couldn't find their form, however and chalked up two losses.

In the final four, it was to be two wins and two losses. Mike Riley (Cunliffe) had a steady game and turned in a winning 21-10 with John Short (Beaumaris) not far behind with a 21-13 win. Paul Walley (Colwyn Bay Legion) and Geraint Booth (Llanfair PG) suffered the same fate as their team mates Kris and Mark losing 21-10 and 21-16 respectively. At Home the final scores were Wales 202, Greater Manchester 176.

At the Away venue, the overall match was much closer. Leighton Roberts (Esclusham) and John Bonatti (Llay) led off with 21-13 and 21-14 wins respectively. Ian Dutton (Esclusham) and Richard Zolman (Llay) were not so fortunate. Wales won the next three games with Ian M Jones (Cunliffe) with the best winning score 21-11, whilst Graham Rogers (Cunliffe) 21-16 win and Andrew Hughes (Cunliffe) 21-16 win saw the final scores Wales 386 and Greater Manchester 415.

It has been a hard and disappointing road for the Senior team over the last few years but, at last, we have something to celebrate. If Wales can carry over this winning feeling to their next match it will be a pleasure to be there.