



# K.P.A. CHAIRMAN'S CUP

## Sunday 16th September 2018

Held at Hartley Country Club

Forty five Kent players played in this Annual Event. 45 players who had played in this year's K.P.A. Regional Triples Qualifier Competitions and had failed to qualify to play for Kent in the Regional Championships at Hayling Island. The weather was good, the pistes looked good and Peter and Diane Bryant were chefs for the day manning the bar-b-que with early morning bacon rolls. Registration was well organised and everyone arrived at times, depending on which "flyer" they read, This "All Inclusive" day followed a good night's sleep in beds familiar to most, in familiar surroundings, and after the bacon and a complimentary coffee all players were perky and ready to start just before 10am. Fifteen teams.....not

good ! The morning was arranged on a "snaky" type of plan with three "timed" games of one hour max. Yes "timed snakes" a phrase to set even the most amiable of top players into a state of rampant moaning ? It worked....the three games were completed on time to allow for all players to enjoy a one hour lunch break together and minimum waiting for a game to start, pity about the byes caused by the odd number of 15 teams taking part.

At a couple of venues, including this one, home made cakes are made available (by Janet Dobson here) after the lunchtime burgers.....very nice too. The afternoon was played with two leagues of four for the Main competition ( made up of the top eight teams of the mornings play) plus two leagues, one of four and one of three teams for the Plate competition. Again three games all with a time limit of one hour followed by finals, which was to 13 points untimed. The two winners of the Main leagues played each other in the Main final, and similarly the top two teams of the Plate leagues played each other in the Plate final.



CHAIRMAN'S CUP WINNERS 2018—REG DOBSON—  
JANET GREENLAND and DENNIS GREENLAND



CHAIRMAN'S CUP RUNNERS-UP—AJAY KEEMER  
RICHARDS—BARRY SOILLEUX & CHRISTINE CLACEY

The two final games were played on open pistes with a large number of players staying to watch.

The Winners of the Main Final was the team of... JAN GREENLAND, DENNIS GREENLAND and REG DOBSON who beat the team of BARRY SOILLEUX, CHRIS CLACEY and AJAY KEEMER RICHARDS in a very close fought game. The Winners of the Plate Final was the team of NICK HOYLE, RICHARD BAKER and PETER SHILLINGHAM who beat the team of PAUL REILLY, SEAN REILLY and PETER O'SULLIVAN also in a close fought game.

The day finished just after 6pm.

It must be recorded that this Competition was a success in both the numbers taking part and the very generous prizes given by the KENT PETANQUE ASSOCIATION of both money and wine.....all players ended the day with either money or wine.....and hopefully a good day of petanque !

### **SOME FACTS...for the 2018 SEASON**

- 125 players played in this year's Regional Qualifiers making up 34 teams
- - 32 players qualified and were eligible to play in the Finals Championship Division
- - 14 players qualified and were eligible to play in the Finals Challenge Division 1
- - 7 players qualified and were eligible to play in the Combined Squad
- - 45 players were eligible and played in the Chairman's Cup
- - 7 players were eligible to play in the Chairman's Cup, but did not play



PLATE WINNERS—NICK HOYLE—RICHARD BAKER and PETER SHILLINGHAM



PLATE RUNNERS-UP—PAUL REILLY—SEAN REILLY and PETER O'SULLIVAN



Not sure of the Final personnel who actually represented Kent at Hayling Island for the Inter Regional Triples Finals, the make-up of the teams and their graded playing order ?.....but the overall results can be found on the Petanque English website.....[www.englishpetanque.org.uk](http://www.englishpetanque.org.uk)

### **KENT TEAM PLACING AT THE FINALS 2018**

CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION 1—Kent 4th

CHALLENGE DIV.1—Kent 3rd

CHALLENGE DIV.2—Combined Squad ( included some Kent players) 2nd

JUNIORS CHAMPIONSHIP—4th

### **And SOME HISTORY !.....**

Kent has always had good support from members playing in the Regional Triples Qualifier Competitions. A few years ago numbers started to drop.....not significantly...but enough for the then KPA Management to make a few changes to encourage participation. This included the sponsoring of two top teams from two designated Rounds of the Qualifiers, to represent Kent in two top European open Competitions.....namely at Dunkirk and a major competition at Zeist in Holland. Also to instigate a competition (the Chairman's Cup) for entry to all those players who had played in the Regional Qualifiers but did not qualify to represent Kent at the Finals. There would be a cash donation to assist with travel/accommodation for those two top teams going to Europe, and a corresponding free entry into the Chairman's Cup with prizes also donated by the K.P.A. These two subtle changes did stop the slide in participation, and did add a few extra participants.....not a significant number....but enough to have made the changes worthwhile. Sadly the European sponsorships are no more.....but the Chairman's Cup continues. Kent players are given some financial support for accommodation and kit when playing on the weekend of finals at Hayling Island.

Over the years Kent has had a great deal of success at the Regional Triples Championships, and can be proud of participation in a genuine selective process that recognises the best of teams and players and, at the same time, gives recognition to all those taking part.

REPORT BY RON YATES  
PHOTOS BY JACK MILNER  
SEPTEMBER 2018

