

Wolverhampton hosted the 3rd annual Sportsmanship Games. I was honoured to be the guest of honour, writes Meg Jordache, and also to play in the event.

It was a wonderful weekend of competition and friendship, and most of the teams were returning here for the third time.

The tournament is played with both handicap and scratch sections, singles, doubles, trios and five person team, with the sixth person playing a special singles event.

There is no prize money, only medals and honour are at stake, but the competition was as intense as any I have played, and the atmosphere tremendous.

I can understand why Diane Joyce (tournament manager) calls the tournament her friendly games, as she enjoys it as much as the players do.

For me it was like turning the clock back to the days when tournaments were a weekend get-together, not 'bowl-and-go-home' events.

SATURDAY

Saturday started with the singles followed by doubles. The scoring was good, but it would be unfair to single out individuals — the medal winners are listed elsewhere on this page.

After this it was back to the hotel, so that everyone could let their hair down and dance the night away. There was a raffle of course, with prizes donated by AMF Hemel, AMF Strykers and Go Tenpin magazine.

It was at this point in the evening that I had to get up and make my speech. Very nervously (as everyone will tell you) I managed to get through it. Only then could I really relax and enjoy the evening.

Next on the agenda was the dance competition, won by Herts of Gold from Stevenage. Then we had the splendid sight of John Pearce making a guest appearance as Tina Turner — as you can see everyone had a great time.

SUNDAY

Bright and early we played the trios, followed by what I can only say is the most enthusiastic team event of all. The bowlers, young or old, high or low average (hung over or not) really wanted to win this



Stockport Rams, Strykers Bushbury (winners) and Team Wantz the handicap team event top three.

FAIR PLAY

and fun ...

event — a perfect end to a great weekend.

While Diane and her staff did an extra quick job working out the final results, we enjoyed a splendid buffet.

I had the honour to present all the medals, and most noticeably all the bowlers stayed right to the end.

My thanks to Gill Holt for presenting the trios scratch medals — I was delighted to be a part of that team.

Another Sportsmanship Games over, a super weekend, but book your place early for Blackpool next year, because most of the 24 teams here have already staked their claim.

You can be a part of this special event on August 8th-9th 1998 by contacting Diane Joyce on 0159-505588.

You will enjoy it — guaranteed.

SINGLES		DOUBLES	
Scratch	Handicap	Scratch	Handicap
1. Barry Joyce	Mick Legood	1. Jenny Allen & Mike Costello	John Pearson & Derek Hall
2. Mike Costello	Wayne Eastforth	2. Simon Marshall & Paul Glen	Henry Pearson & Fred Wilmser
3. Ian Tucker	Neil Williams	3. Paul Smith & Ian Tucker	Wayne Eastforth & Keith Ankers
TRIOS		FIVES	
Scratch	Handicap	Scratch	Handicap
1. Neil Hamilton, Meg and Allen Jordache		1. Cockney's Rebels (Derby)	Strykers Bushbury
2. Pete Sanson, P.Smith, I.Tucker		2. Swindon Men	Stockport Rams
3. M.Costello, John Ersk, Rob Sportwood		3. The County Set (North Wales)	Team Wantz (Illericay)
6th MAN		TEAM ALL-EVENTS	
Scratch	Handicap	Scratch	Handicap
1. Mike Shaw	Jim Jacobs	1. The County Set	Stockport Rams
2. John Helling	Carol Dibley	2. Cockney's Rebels	Team Wantz
3. Terry Freeman	Alan Whyte-Heath	3. Swindon Men	Strykers Bushbury
INDIVIDUAL ALL-EVENTS		GOOD SPORT AWARD	
Scratch	Handicap	Natalie Joyce	
1. Mike Costello	Fred Wilmser		
2. Barry Joyce	Carol Dibley		
3. Simon Marshall	Wayne Eastforth		