

BRITISH PAIR GO 2008

Engineered for Success



The 18th Pair Go Championships were held on 8th June, again at the now regular venue of the Foxcombe Lodge Hotel at Boars Hill near Oxford. Again the hotel made the players very welcome and put on yet another huge and very tasty buffet at lunch time. However there was no lunch time concert this year, but Steve and Pauline Bailey's giant 13x13 board was laid out on the grass for players to play whilst enjoying the warm sunshine.



Last year's winners Kirsty Healey and Matthew Macfadyen beat Natasha Regan and Matthew Cocks again in the final (by 3.5), to take the championship for the twelfth time.

In the 7-pair handicap group the winners were Sam McCarthy and John Collins from Saint Albans. Unfortunately one Pair had withdrawn because of illness, so Tony Atkins acted as ghost (playing alternately left and right handed) in the first two rounds.

The Best-Dressed pair was Pauline and Steve Bailey with embroidered jackets.

The Furthest Travel prize went to Sinikka and Matti Siivola, who were visiting from Finland.

The fighting spirit prizes went to Edwina Lee and Pat Ridley in the Open and to Anna Regan and Piers Shepperson in the handicap section.

Every pair went home with something from the prize table of decorative and useful pairs of items, which ranged from plates and glasses to money and key boxes.

Tony Atkins won the Engineering Pair quiz, set by organiser Francis Roads. He scored 14 points for correctly matching pairs of inventions and naming the appropriate engineer.



Final game action: Kirsty and Matthew (right) against Natasha and Matt

Full results follow:

Main Tournament

No	Names	1	2	3	Wins
1	Kirsty Healey & Matthew Macfadyen	7+	5+	2+	3
2	Natasha Regan & Matthew Cocke	4+	3+	1-	2
3	Alison Bexfield & Simon Bexfield	6+	2-	5+	2
4	Vickie Chan & Sam Aitken	2-	7+	6+	2
5	Helen Harvey & Martin Harvey	8+	1-	3-	1
6	Jenny Radcliffe & Francis Roads	3-	8+	4-	1
7	Sue Paterson & Granville Wright	1-	4-	8+	1
8	Edwina Lee & Pat Ridley	5-	6-	7-	0

Handicap Tournament

No	Names	Grade	1	2	3	Wins
1	Sam McCarthy & John Collins	17k	8+	3+	2+	3
2	Sinikka Siivola & Matti Siivola	2.5k	7+	5+	1-	2
3	Roella Smith & Paul Smith	12k	4+	1-	8+	2
4	Pauline Bailey & Steve Bailey	9.5k	3-	8+	5+	2
5	Ingrid Jendrzewski & Alex Selby	3k	6+	2-	4-	1
6	Ghost	3d	5-	7+	xx	1
7	Elinor Brooks & France Ellul	6k	2-	6-	xx	0
8	Anna Regan & Piers Shepperson	11k	1-	4-	3-	0

Grades are shown to indicate which sides received handicaps.



Best Dressed and Furthest Traveled Pairs (left) and the Fighting Spirit Pair (right)

Other Pair Go News

Korea was the winner of the International Amateur Pair Go Championships in Tokyo for a second year with another strong pair of students, one of whom (Kang) had just won the KPMC International Baduk Championships. Top European Pair were the Russians, Natalia Kovaleva and Dmitriy Surin, who were sixth. There was no UK pair.

The same Russian Pair held on to their European Champions title at the European Pair Go Championships. It was held in Krakow in Poland in April 2008. Second were Jana Hricova and Ondrej Silt from Czech Republic. Again no UK pair was able to take part.

At the London Open, at the New Year, in the Pair Go competition 8 teams battled for the prize. It was won by Dominique Cornuejols and Toru Imamura.

British Champions Kirsty Healey and Matthew Macfadyen will be representing the UK in the first World Mind Sports Championships. These are being held in Beijing in October 2008. They will get their chance to play other strong Pair Go nations and professional Pairs from the orient in what will be the most exciting Pair Go event yet.

There is no IAPGC this year, but the 2009 EPGC will be in the Czech Republic next spring.

Currently a new World Pair Go Association is being set up to promote and organise Pair Go around the world (including the IAPGC).

Our thanks go to the Japanese Pair Go Association, British Go Association, British Pair Go Promotion Partners, Foxcombe Lodge Hotel, Francis Roads and Tony Atkins (editor).