

2011 Dutch Senior Open,

ISBT Senior Bowling Tour 2011 – Stop 5  
Chandra Bowling, Schiedam, Holland

3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Champions: Ron Oldfield and Petra Duplois

The International Seniors Bowling Tour for 2011 continued at Chandra Bowling in Schiedam, near Rotterdam in Holland. This is a well established stop on the tour, and always attracts a large entry. This year was no different, with 133 men and 46 women taking part, travelling from 17 countries. The format for the tournament was an eight game qualifying block, with re-entries allowed. Age bonus started at age 51 (1 pin per game), then increased a pin for every additional year of age with no limit.

The first squad was led by Andre Geelen (Bel), with a good total of 1837. In the second squad, Farida Pascoal-Blom (NL) showed that the ladies could also post good scores, with a total of 1623. The fourth squad brought a new leader, Dan Alquist with a huge total of 2031. On to Thursday afternoon, and local bowler Claribel Muis (NL) recorded a new leading ladies score of 1701, due to some very consistent bowling. The last qualifying squad ran on the Saturday afternoon, lead in the ladies section by England's Jan Hodge on 1717 to become the highest female qualifier.

Saturday night is the traditional get together on the Seniors Tour, and the bowl was closed for the evening to allow an excellent meal to be enjoyed by all the competitors and supporters.

Early Sunday morning saw the men qualifiers take to the lanes again. The top 36 men, plus 4 turbo qualifiers first bowled a four game qualifier, then the top 20 men bowled a further 4 games. Some familiar names were to be seen at the top of the list after 4 games, with Chris Vandamme (NL) and Ron Oldfield (Eng) taking the two top positions. Erich Caspari (Ger), winner of the last tour stop in Belgium was in third place after 4 games.

After 8 games, Ron Oldfield had edged into the lead, with Andre Geelen now passing Chris Vandamme for second place. 50% of the pinfall from the 8 games was to carry forward into the round robin final, so getting the high scores in these early final rounds was very important.

The top 12 ladies only bowled a 4 game semi-final, with 8 going through to the round robin final. Barbara Karnasch had failed to get to grips with the lanes during qualifying, finishing in a lowly 22<sup>nd</sup> place, but had qualified through the turbo system. Bowling in the semi-finals was a different matter, and she easily led after the four game block with 878, followed some distance behind by Angie Brown (Eng), winner of the last stop in Belgium.

Onto the round robin finals, and despite some high scoring, no perfect game had yet been achieved. However, in the first round robin game, Petra Duplois (Ger) found the shot, and with great support from all present achieved the first female 300 game in the

ISBT. This shot her from seventh place to second place in a single game, now closely chasing Barbara Karnasch. Petra continued to outscore all the other women, and ended up the easy winner. Jan Hodge moved from fourth to second thanks to a good last game, with Barbara Karnasch holding on for third position.

No 300 games were to be found in the men's division, but the scoring was still of a very high standard. Ron Oldfield kept his lead all the way to the sixth game, closely followed by Andre Geelen, Dan Ahlquist, and Carlo Greulich (Ger). At the start of the last game, Ron Oldfield held a 63 pin lead over Dan Ahlquist, with third and fourth places being only a single pin behind. Both Dan and Carlo hit strike after strike to start closing the gap to Ron. However, neither could hit enough strikes to catch Ron, who emerged the winner by only 23 pins from Andre in second place, and Dan in third place. In the six years of the Dutch Senior Open, Ron Oldfield has now won it three times, a remarkable record.

The tour now moves on to the Belgium Senior Open at the Bowlmaster Bowling Club in Brussels, Belgium from the 18th to 21<sup>st</sup> August. Full information is available on the ISBT website at <http://www.isbtbowlingtour.eu/>