

2011 French Senior Open

Contributed by Tony Brown
Friday, 21 October 2011
2011 French Senior Open
ISBT Senior Bowling Tour 201 - Stop 8
Planet Bowling, Lomme, France
12th to 16th October 2011



**Liliane Vintens Chris Vandamme
and Bruno Bequart - Bowl Owner**

Champions: Chris Vandamme and Liliane Vintens

The eighth stop on this years International Seniors Bowling Tour returned to the 40 lane Planet Bowling centre in Lomme, France. A total of 87 men and 29 women took part, travelling from throughout Europe. The format for the tournament was a pair of 6 game qualifying blocks combining to form a 12 game qualifying score. Re-entries allowed the lower of the two 6 game blocks to be replaced. Age bonus started at age 51 (1 pin per game), then increased a pin for every additional year of age with no limit.

From the start it was clear that high scores would have to worked for. Top of the qualifiers from the first squad was Guy Latry with 1299 including bonus. There were no major advances in the top score through the early squads, England's Gerry Wrathall sneaked into the lead with 1309 in squad 3. Squad 4 provided the first ladies score over 1200, with Farida Pascoal-Blom (Ned) making 1239 to go into the lead. Squad 5 brought the first really high men's block, with Germany's Bill Goldwasser totalling 1394 with bonus in Squad 6. Squad 7 saw the top scores significantly improve, with Germany's Erich Caspari reaching 1453, and England's Angie Brown making 1285 with her first entry. In squad 8, Petra Duplois started off well, but failed to quite catch Angie, falling a few pins short on 1260. In the men's section, England's Frank Stander made good use of his 31 pins per game bonus, to total 1305 with bonus, a little behind Werner Laun. Squad 9 saw Angie Brown and Liliane Vintens both post 1280, and the final Squad 10 was topped by England's Frank Lindsey, with 1398. At the end of qualification, the men's section was led by Bill Goldwasser on 2762, closely followed by John Bosch and Georgio Desimio. The cut for 38th place fell to Eric Poux on 2455, with England's Steve Wright missing out by a single pin.



Ladies finalists

The ladies section was comfortably led by Angie Brown on 2565, followed by Liliane Vintens and Petra Duplois. The cut at position 7 fell to Germany's Barbara Karnasch.

For those who had failed to qualify normally, there was a final opportunity on Saturday night to qualify through the Desperado squad. 12 men and 8 women took part, with Germany's Manfred Meier and Jersey's Paul Le Louran making it through. Unlucky for the second time was Steve Wright, who tied with Paul in second place on 235, but lost out by having a lower scratch score. In the ladies section, Uschi Diekhoff was the qualifier, with a 215 game. Sunday morning provided two further 4 games qualifying blocks for the men, with the scores resetting before each squad. Up until this point, Belgium's Chris Vandamme had not really showed his form, but led after the first block with 994. Desperado qualifier Paul Le Louran narrowly missed out from progressing through the

first round in 25th place.

The second men's round was also led by Chris Vandamme, ahead of Frank Stander by only 2 pins.

Again, Frank was showing he would be hard to beat with his 31 pins per game bonus. There was no further qualifying for the ladies, the top 7 plus one from the Desperado progressed straight into the round robin final.



Mens Finalists

In the men's section, the first game of the round robin final brought together the top two qualifiers, Chris Vandamme and Frank Stander. Frank took a surprise victory over Chris, who was starting with 28 pins less bonus per game. However, Chris then changed up a gear, and put in a succession of high games, including 290 and 269 to leave the remainder of the field behind. He eventually finished 118 pins ahead of second place Jurgen Preuss (Ger), and the youthful Frank Stander in third place.

In the ladies section, Liliane Vintens stated with a 215 first game, and then continued to score consistently better than all the other finalists, to finish the winner by a clear margin of 136 pins. There was a three way battle throughout the round robin between Petra Duplois, Ulla Caspari and Angie Brown for the other top places, with Angie finally stealing 2nd place from Petra in the last game by only 6 pins. Special mention also to Frank Standers wife Ruth, who put her 27 pins per game bonus to good use to finish in 6th place.

The tour now moves on to the final event of the year, the Rock Masters in Gibraltar from 14th to 21st November. Full information is available on the ISBT website at <http://www.isbtbowlingtour.eu/>

TalkTenpin.net - International Tenpin Journal

<http://talktenpin.net> Powered by Joomla! Generated: 26 October, 2011, 12:38