

IRISH PETANQUE ASSOCIATION

NEWS BULLETIN MARCH 2005

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was held in Dublin in late February 2005. The incoming officers, Denis Nightingale, Jim Ryan and Dave Beck were re-elected to the offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Finances are reasonably healthy, and current subscription levels will remain unchanged.

A subcommittee has been set up to examine sites in and around Dublin to host next year's Celtic Challenge. The committee includes Dermot Carroll, Richard Elvin and Pierre di Pizzo.

Jim Ryan is to canvass all members to show an expression of interest in the Home Nations in Luton in August. If the interest is low then Ireland will inform the other nations that it is only willing to participate as part of a mixed team, possibly called *The Boulebarians*.

A minor change has been proposed to the 2005 Calendar to take account of the flooding that occurred to the Cahir pistes. The Singles are now proposed for Tallaght in Dublin on the same date, and the Doubles will be moved to June in Cahir. It is proposed to hold the Irish Triples in Bangor in September.

A format has been suggested for the forthcoming interclub championship in late May. Each club will field six players. There will be six rounds, consisting of a triple, a double and a single. The club may opt for players to revolve, or to remain in the same designated position, and may bring substitutes.

Davey Beck has agreed to update the refurbished website on a monthly basis.

THE INTERNATIONAL SELECTION

To select a team for the World Championships in Brussels trials will be held on Sunday 3rd of April in Herbert Park. The trials will start at 10.30. Pre-entry is essential by Wednesday evening the 30th March.

THE IRISH SINGLES

These will be played in Tallaght's Sean Walsh Park on Sunday 17th April starting at 10.30. Pre-entry is required by Wednesday 13th April
Entries to Jim Ryan

CHANGES TO THE IRISH TEAM FOR SCOTLAND

Charles Clarke will replace Pierre di Pizzo on the Elvin-Degranges triple for the Celtic Challenge 2005. The Cahir team of Liam and Gerri Reidy and Mike Berry are unable to travel, and their places are being taken by the next team participating in the trials, also from Cahir, Jim Haide, Richard Cagney and Mark Haide.

The Celtic Challenge is being held in Inverness, and the first challenge is to find an efficient and least costly way of getting there.

Ireland are the current holders of the trophy, and will be striving to retain it for the 2006 Celtic Challenge in Ireland.