

The Celtic Challenge April 28-30 2023

Programme of events

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April

Meeting on Piste at N Down P.C.  
Free practice for all teams.

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> 0845 Briefing for team Captains  
0900 Team photographs  
0910 Opening Ceremony

Rounds 1,2,3 0930\* Ireland A v Ireland B  
Scotland v Wales  
1300\* Lunch

Round 4 1430\* Ireland A v Ireland B  
Scotland v Wales

Rounds 5,6 Ireland B v Wales  
Ireland A v Scotland

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> Evening Free

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 0900 Ireland B v Wales  
Round 7,8 Ireland A v Scotland  
Round 9 Ireland A v Wales  
Ireland B v Scotland

1300\* Lunch

Round 10-12 1430\* Ireland A v Wales  
Ireland B v Scotland

2000 Dinner in Pickie Bowling Club

\*These times are approximate

**IRELAND**  
**CELTIC**  
**SCOTLAND**  
**CHALLENGE**  
**WALES**

28<sup>TH</sup> – 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023



**NORTH DOWN PETANQUE CLUB**  
**BANGOR CO. DOWN**



The Irish Pétanque Association wish to thank North Down Petanque Club, Pickie Bowling Club for the use of their facilities, and our main sponsors of this weekend's event:-



The 2023 teams:-

**IRELAND** Chef d'equipe and Captain Billy Gleadell

A1 Colin Delaney, Sariff Antooaroo, Stephane Voinot , Kevin Meniel.

A2 Ben Lair, Sylver, Gilles, and, Franck Brétéché

A3 Jim Ryan, Des Spratt, Dave Beck, Terry Greene

A4 George Davidson, Kevin OMcBrien, Pat McCarthy, John Hennessy

B1 Philip Udron, Romain Beretti, Jimmy and Chloe di Fusco

B2 Michael McGrath, Steve Hickey, Dawid Zydorek, Rory O'Neil

B3 Yanness Bisseseur, Sujeet Roopchand, Akshay Ramke, Devendra Dabedoal.

B4 Jeremy Simpson, Carina and Robbie Beretton Billy Gleadell

**SCOTLAND** Chef d'equipe – Alison Swiffin Captain

1 Shirley Legge, Robbie Stronach, Derek Adam

2 Jimmy and Jonathan Crombie, Donnie MacIntyre

3 Ed Strachan, Kathleen Coupar, Marian MacIntyre

4 Carole Cheam, Paul Gillam, George Nisbett

**WALES** Chef d'equipe – Captain Tony Smith

1 Tony Smith, Ian Bailey, Sean Smith, Jeremy Clare

2 Jean-Yves Robic, Julie Bailey, Len Field, Scott Murray

3 Bernard and Vickie Adshed, Roger Griffin Jayne Dunn

4 Derek Jones, Stewart Spencer, John Attfield, Marie Jones

Tournament Director/Scorer

Scorer/Umpire

Transport co-ordinator

Catering organiser

Denis Nightingale

Dawn Kirk

Gavin Walker

George Davidson

The opening of the event will feature the Mayor of Ards and North Down Borough Council, Councillor Karen Douglas in the company of Billy Gleadell [President IPA], Alison Swiffin [President SPA], Tony Smith [President WPA] and Kevin McBrien [President North Down Pétanque Club] who are hosting this year's event. The Mayor and the three Presidents will officially open the proceedings by each throwing a boule.



Down through the years.

Since the Celtic Challenge was first held in 1989 [featuring only Scotland and Wales till 1991 when it included the newly formed Irish Petanque Association] the SPA and WPA have dominated the event with 14 and 13 wins respectively. Ireland has managed 5 wins but the records show that when the IPA finished runners up the margin of victory was slim – just a game or two here and there.

Let's hope Ireland have more success on their home patch in 2023.



Some members of the Ireland squad at the final qualifying event in North Down.

*“Come on you boys in green!”*