

BIIBC Under 18 Mixed International Series 2009, County Antrim, Ireland.

On Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October the British Isles Indoor Bowls Council held the above event at Country Antrim Indoor Bowling Club (Jim Baker Stadium) in Belfast. This is the first time this event had gone ahead.

On Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> October I travelled with my Mum and Dad to Edinburgh and we met up with the Scottish party and stayed in overnight accommodation. On the Saturday morning we all travelled to Edinburgh Airport and then flew onto Belfast. We arrived in Belfast safely and were transported by bus to the team



hotel. We left our luggage there and travelled by bus to County Antrim Indoor Bowling Club, where we had our lunch. After our lunch we were asked to change into our bowling gear,

of white bowling trousers and Scotland tops, ready for the opening ceremony.



Two teams each from Scotland, England and Wales, One team each



from Ireland and the Channel Islands, were contesting the competition itself. At the start of the competition we all walked into the stadium, accompanied by our own national anthems. This I felt was an honour to walk out onto the carpet, to the sound of “Scotland the Brave” and

representing your country at the same time. It is something I shall always cherish and never forget.

The eight teams were split up into two groups of four, and played in a round robin format. Each team was made up of six players with there being a single, a pairs and a triple. Both Scotland teams made it past the group stages, and won their sections. The team I played in was Scotland 1. We played England 2 in one semi-final while Scotland 2 played England 1 in the other semi-final.



Unfortunately both Scotland teams were beat in their matches against the “Auld Enemy.” This resulted in both Scotland teams playing each other for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> play off, which I am glad to say Scotland 1 defeated Scotland 2.

Overall apart from the result, the weekend was a great success. I would like to thank all the officials at the tournament for making it such a success and a well-run competition, from the first bowl through to the last bowl delivered.

I would also like to thank Aberdeenshire Sports Council for the Grant Aid Application that was allocated for myself.

Connor Milne  
Age 15.