

BRITISH PAIR GO 2017

Pair Go: Botany

The 27th British Pair Go Championships were held on 3rd June 2017

The venue used was the now regular location of the Red Lion in Hatfield; it is a very suitable venue as it is only five minutes walk from both the station and the historic old town area, has gardens and good meals.



The organisers, Francis Roads and Jenny Rofe-Radcliffe, were again pleased as there was an increase to 17 pairs, despite several of the stronger pairs not taking part this year. Most of this number was a large group from Cheadle Hulme School (CHS) and Manchester, which was recognised by the organisers presenting Martin and Helen Harvey with a special prize for arranging this.

In the top group the 2016 champions, Joanne Leung and Bruno Poltronieri, did not do so well and it came down to a final between Alison and Simon Bexfield and Natasha Regan and Matthew Cocke. In an exciting game, the last to finish, the final saw a win on time (and on the board) to Natasha and Matthew, making them champions for the seventh time.

In the handicap section it was Sue Paterson (Arundel) and Jack Nolan (CHS) who won all their games. They beat Megan Upton (CHS) and Martin Harvey (Manchester) in the final. Also winning all three games was the ghost, John Collins, who had to play by himself after his

partner withdrew a few days beforehand. The two fighting spirit prizes went to Jackie Chai and John Johnstone (Bournemouth), and Kathryn Ball (Manchester) and Reece Moore (CHS). Yansai Noeysoongnoen and Andrew Simons won the best dressed pair prize, on footwear tie-break from the organisers. The botany quiz was solved perfectly by Alison Bexfield and by Sue Paterson.

Thanks to the Japan Pair Go Association, all players were left clutching prizes and all DDK players went away with a certificate recording their achievement as well, which they proudly held in the group picture above.

Championship Group

No.	Names	1	2	3	Wins
1	Natasha Regan & Matthew Cocke	4+	3+	2+	3
2	Alison Bexfield & Simon Bexfield	7+	5+	1-	2
3	Ingrid Jendrzewski & Alex Selby	6+	1-	5+	2
4	Joanne Leung & Bruno Poltronieri	1-	7+	6+	2
5	Jenny Rofe-Radcliffe & Francis Roads	8+	2-	3-	1
6	Charlotte Bexfield & Zaki Betesh	3-	8+	4-	1
7	Yansai Noeysoongnoen & Andrew Simons	2-	4-	8+	1
8	Jackie Chai & John Johnstone	5-	6-	7-	0

Handicap Group

No.	Names	Grade	1	2	3	Wins
1	Sue Paterson & Jack Nolan	8k	6+	4+	2+	3
2	Megan Upton & Martin Harvey	15k	3+	8+	1-	2
3	Julia Woewodskaya & Pat Ridley	10k	2-	9+	4+	2
4	Hillary Bexfield & Edmund Smith	11k	7+	1-	3-	1
5	Helen Harvey & Daniel Gascoyne	9.5k	8+	10-	7-	1
6	Brigitte Bee & Gong Cheng	12k	1-	7+	10-	1
7	Lizzy Pollitt & Teddy McManus	11.5k	4-	6-	5+	1
8	Amy Upton & Rohan Neelala	19k	5-	2-	9+	1
9	Kathryn Ball & Reece Moore	20k	10-	3-	8-	0
10	Ghost (John Collins)	10k	9+	5+	6+	3

Grades are shown to indicate which sides received handicaps.



Pair Go Prizes, including those from Japan Pair Go Association (including special prizes for the first place-getters) and certificates for Double Digit Kyu players.

British Pair Go Championship Pictures



Final: Alison & Simon vs. Matthew & Natasha



Young players in action



Organisers at play: Jenny and Francis



Handicap final: Martin & Megan vs. Sue and Jack



Prize winners from top:
Champions: Natasha and Matthew
Best Dressed: Yansai and Andrew
Handicap winners: Sue and Jack
Special award: Martin and Helen, with Francis

More photos at <http://www.britgo.org/pairgo/photos2017>

Other Pair Go News

The 27th **International Amateur Pair Go Championship** was held in early December in its usual Tokyo location, the Hotel Metropolitan Edmont. Winners of the event were the Korean pair of Kim Sooyoung and Park Jongwook. They beat the Chinese Taipei pair in the final, who were second. Third was China and fourth to sixth were all Japanese pairs on four wins. The European Championship Pair (Rita Pocsai and Pal Balogh) won three games to take 7th place. The USA, Thailand and Vietnam also won three. The UK did not qualify to take part.

The third **World Students Pair Go Championship** was held at the same time. Winners were Fujiwara Akiko and Hirano Shodai. The second place was the other Japanese pair, with a Chinese Pair third and Korea fourth. For Europe, Laura-Augustina Avram from Romania and Johannes Obenaus from Germany won two games out of four. Julia Seres and Peter Marko from Hungary won one game.

More details of both events at <http://www.eurogofed.org/results/world/wpgc2016.htm>

This year the **European Pair Go Championship** was held 1st to 2nd April 2017 at La Maison de la Région in Strasbourg, France. 28 pairs from 14 countries took part in this event. The winners were the Russian pair Natalia Kovaleva and Dimitry Surin, second were German players Zhao Pei and Benjamin Teuber and third place went to Svetlana Shikshina with her brother Ilya Shikshin, from Russia. Ali Jabarin reviewed and commented the games, which were broadcast live on Pandanet. The UK's Joanne Leung and Bruno Poltronieri were 11th with three wins out of six.

Results at <http://www.eurogofed.org/results/pairs/epgc2017.htm>

The 2016 **London Open Pair Go**, on the second evening of the New Year Tournament, had 20 pairs taking part. The winners were the lowest graded pair at 10k: Gudrun Breitenbauch and Gerry Gavigan. They beat Yansai Noeysoongnoen and Andrew Simons into second place, by winning the final with a half-point margin.



London Pair Go final: Gerry & Gudrun

Results at <http://www.britgo.org/results/2016/londonpair>

Our thanks go to the Japan and World Pair Go Associations, British Go Association, The Red Lion, Francis Roads (Pair Go Organiser), Jenny Rofe-Radcliffe (Pair Go Assistant), Tony Atkins (Editor/photographs/London Pair Go) and John Collins (photographs).