O.I.B.A. – 2025/2026 COUNTY OVER 60's PAIRS FINAL

The 2025-2026 O.I.B.A. Men's Over 60's Pairs final was played on Wednesday 25th March at Oxford & District Bowls Club. The final was contested by Paul Costin (lead) and Omar Shariff (skip) of City & County and Gary Panons (lead) and John Hurren (skip) of Chipping Norton.

The first end Gary was holding shot with a very close wood to the jack, Paul had two seconds. Omar with his third wood played a firing shot and took Gary's wood out without moving the jack to pick up two shots, an excellent wood by Omar. On the third end Gary and John, who were not playing badly, they just couldn't get a foot in the game and were 8 – 0 down.

Ends 4, 5 & 6 went to Gary & John and who were now 8 – 4 down, a fight back looked like it was on the cards. However on the 7th end John took his own wood out of the head and dropped a six. Ends 8, 9 & 10 were shared both teams picking up 2 shots each, the score now at 10 ends was 16 – 6 to Paul & Omar. The next four ends Paul & Omar picked up 9 shots and the score at 14 ends was 25 – 6 to Paul & Omar. At this point Gary & John conceded. Paul Costin & Omar Shariff is the O.I.B.A. County Over 60's Pairs Champions for 2025/2026.

Final Result:	Paul Costin & Omar Shariff of City & County	25
	Gary Panons and John Hurren of Chipping Norton	6

There was some fine bowling by both teams however Paul & Omar had the edge and were worthy winners.

Thanks to Bill Turner & Oxford & District Indoor Bowls Club for hosting the final and the O.I.B.A. President Paul Saxton for presenting the trophies.