

## O.I.B.A. – 2025/2026 COUNTY TRIPLES FINAL

The 2025-2026 O.I.B.A. Men's Triples final was played on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April at Carterton Indoor Bowls Club. The final was contested by Craig Morphet (lead), Jamie Goodwin (two) and Joe Justin (skip) of Carterton and Nye Osling (lead), Matt Osling (two) and Gethin Osling (skip) also of Carterton. I. B. C.

I believe this was a first for the Oxfordshire Indoor County Triples Comp Matt, the father, playing with both his sons and have to be commended for reaching the final with two junior players so well done to Matt, Nye & Gethin.

With Craig leading Nye knew it would be difficult so he had to be on top form which he was. The first two ends were shared with the score being Joe's team 2 shots and Gethin's team 1 shot. End three Craig started well, the shot changed a couple of times however Joe drew shot with his last wood inches from the jack for 1. End three Joe's team 3 – 1 up. End four Gethin and his team were two down, Gethin with controlled weight hit the jack out to the side of the rink and was still 1 down. Joe drew shot for 2. End four Joe's team 5 – 1 up. End five saw Matt draw 2<sup>nd</sup> wood so Gethin with controlled weight hit the jack to the back of the rink for 2. End five Joe's team 5 – 3 up. The next three ends went to Joe's team picking up 9 shots; end eight Joe's team 14 – 3 up. Despite the Osling family bowling really well the experience of the opposing team and luck the game was not going their way. End nine went to Gethin's team picking up one. End ten Jamie had drawn shot however Gethin turned his second wood up for shot. End ten Joe's team 14 – 5 up. End 11 went to Joe's team picking up a four, now 18 – 5 up. Ends twelve and thirteen went to Joe's team picking up two shots to be 20 – 5 in front. End fourteen with Joe's team holding five Gethin had no choice but to kill the end which he did. End fourteen again Craig drew another toucher, I'm sure Joe must of run out of chalk with the amount of touchers Craig had. Again Gethin's team was down a number of shots. Gethin drew into the head and managed to get 2<sup>nd</sup> wood. End fourteen Joe's team 21 – 5 up. With that the Osling family decided to call it a day and shook hands with their opposing team, very gracious in defeat.

**Final Result:** Craig Morphet, Jamie Goodwin and Joe Justin                    21  
Nye Osling, Matt Osling and Gethin Osling    5

This was an excellent game; you had to see it to appreciate the high standard of bowling from all six players. What really came to notice was camaraderie between all six players supporting each other as well as their opposing numbers and especially to the junior players, so good to see. Yes Craig, Jamie and Joe won but the really winners was bowls and Carterton Bowls Club, a fine display of team bowling. Well done to Craig Morphet, Jamie Goodwin and Joe Justin who are O.I.B.A. County Triples Champions for 2025/2026, commiserations to Nye Osling, Matt Osling and Gethin Osling you all played well, the score did not reflect the quality of your bowling.

Thanks to Carterton Indoor Bowls Club for hosting the final and the many club supporters who turned out to support both their teams.

