



# THE WINKING WORLD

The Official Journal of the English Tiddlywinks Association

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FEBRUARY 1968

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## APOLOGY

The departure for Canada of the elected Editor of the Winking World, Allen Astles has resulted in delay in publication. We apologise to all our readers.

## The 4th International Tiddlywinks Congress

At Warwick University, under the auspices of Etwa, an international congress, opened to all those interested in the Royal Game of Tiddlywinks took place on April 1st and 2nd 1967.

After the reading of the minutes of the last congress and of the last Etwa council meeting, matters arising from these were settled. There followed the usual confusion over voting rights, but when it became apparent that all individual members of Etwa could vote, there was a rush to join, and Etwa's already healthy financial position improved.

After Mr. Barham's Secretary's report had been read, one point of discussion arose. This concerned Winking World, centring round the best times for publication. It was considered that the best times were November and May, the cost of publishing three issues a year being prohibitive. Mr. Wilsher's Publicity Officer's Report was then read - this took the form of a letter as Mr. Wilsher was not present. This prompted extensive discussion as to the nature of the Publicity Officer's job and how it should be done.

Proposed changes to the rules were discussed. It was agreed that no wink going off the mat should be replaced on top of another wink. A change was made in Rule 8 of the present book, the word "shot" being substituted for "turn" in line 8. There was inconsequential discussion about squidgers. Rule 9 (c) was also mentioned as it was later in the congress.

On Sunday morning there was an international match between England and Ireland; the semi-finals and final of the Silver Wink Competition were also played.

The Treasurer's Report was the first item on Sunday's agenda. Discussion centred around Mr. Crick's donation and the Silver Wink Competition: we were also informed that £1,500 had been paid to the National Playing Field Association.

Winking World was discussed, various changes were suggested, but ultimately it was decided that Winking World should be produced as heretofore until the congress of next year, which would be an Iftwa Congress.

Elections followed. Those elected were:-

Honorary President: (subject to his acceptance which he has not yet given), Spike Milligan

Additional Honorary Vice-President: Guy Consterdine  
Chairman: Patrick Bonham  
Vice Chairman and Treasurer: Jonathan Mapley  
Secretary: Charles Relle  
Editor of Winking World: Allen Astles  
Public Relations Secretary: Alan Cook  
Council Members:  
Diane Jacks, Stuart Clark, John Mesher, Stephan Jeffris  
Auditor: Stuart Clark  
Secretary-General of Iftwa: Nigel Shepherd  
Assistant to the Secretary-General of Iftwa: Paul Atkinson.

Other business: Guy Consterdine thanked the Etwa council for all the work they had done: members were asked to submit designs for an Etwa tie to the Secretary; Alan Cooper proposed a national pairs competition, and was promptly delegated to run it; a list was taken of clubs wishing to play against the Canadian Touring Team (this was later cancelled).

It was also decided to play a Wales v England International in the future.

#### International Match

England v Ireland

At the Warwick Congress 1967 the Queen's University, Belfast provided the mainstay of the first Irish team to challenge England for the Bombay Bowl, although at the Manchester Congress the previous year a friendly international had been played in which England kept her undefeated record. Once again England emerged victorious, scoring 67 points with a strong team. It should be remembered England's margin of victory is the narrowest ever, and great credit is due to her opponents.

#### Semi-final and Final

rounds of the Silver Wink Competition - 1966-67

These took place during the Warwick Congress. The draw for the semi-finals produced some excitement and it turned out that Exeter were to play Belfast, and Cambridge were to play Nottingham. The winners of these matches were Cambridge and Exeter.

The final was an extremely close and hard fought contest. Exeter led by one point at the end of the first round and Cambridge by two at the end of the second. The third round saw Cambridge prevail on all four mats, scoring 23 points and despite a magnificent final effort by Exeter the lead gained proved decisive, helped out by a 6-1 by the Cambridge first pair, A.G. Hoare and E.A. Wells who, had played consistently well throughout the tournament. So Cambridge though losing the last round 18-10 won the Silver Wink for the first time.

The Prince Philip Silver Wink Competition - 1967-68

This year's competition has been organised by the present holders, Cambridge. A total of 21 teams have entered, one fewer than last year, though not all those who entered in 1966-67 actually played their games. Whilst most of the teams come from Universities where winking is

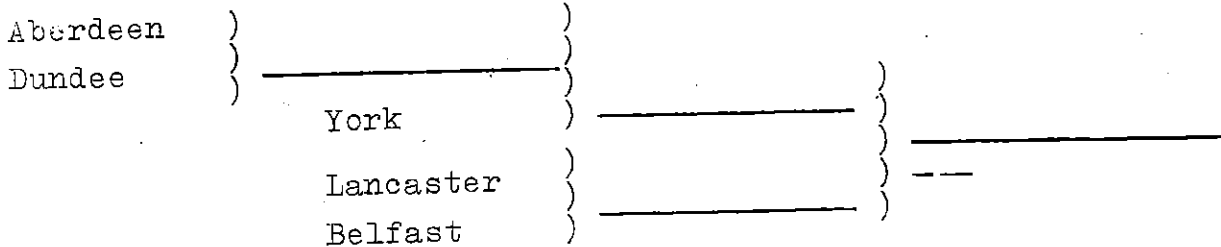
established and who have entered this competition before, it is pleasing to receive several from clubs who did not play last year, because no teams existed in their universities. These include Manchester, Dundee, Sheffield and Loughborough. A total of £10 - 10s. has been raised for the National Playing Fields Association, and I wish to thank all participants in this respect.

One of the most difficult problems has been the arranging of the draw. Whilst the guiding principle in the early rounds is that travel should be reduced to what is reasonable, the Scottish and Irish Universities have always presented a problem, because of their remoteness. Previous organizers have therefore given them a relatively easy draw. This year I have however departed from this practice, and made a draw which I hope is reasonably equal, and this ofcourse means asking the distant clubs to travel to play their early matches. Lancaster seems the obvious choice of a centre, though it is a boat journey from Belfast and several hundred miles from Aberdeen and Dundee. In asking them to play therefore, I am involving them in a far greater effort than most other clubs but I sincerely hope my experiment will be justified and Group IV will be played as planned. Should it fail, next year's organizer must think again about this problem.

The draw is as follows:

		<u>THE DRAW</u>			
ROUND I		ROUND 2	ROUND 3	SEMI-FINALISTS	
	<u>GROUP I</u>				
Oxford	) _____				
Loughborough	) Bristol	) _____	)		
	) Aberystwyth	) _____	)	_____	
	) Exeter	) _____	)		
	<u>GROUP II</u>				
London	) _____				
Southampton	) _____				
Surrey	) _____	) _____	)		
East Anglia	) _____	) _____	)	_____	
	) Cambridge	) _____	)		
	) Leicester	) _____	)		
	<u>GROUP III</u>				
	) Nottingham	) _____	)		
	) Hull	) _____	)		
	) Manchester	) _____	)	_____	
Bangor	) _____	) _____	)		
Sheffield	) _____	) _____	)		

GROUP IV



Oxford v Cambridge  
1967

The Varsity match between two strong teams was won surprisingly easy by Cambridge who scored  $75 \frac{2}{3}$  points to Oxford's  $36 \frac{1}{3}$  points. Oxford had five of the very competent team which achieved their biggest ever win over Cambridge in 1966, and Cambridge also had five old quarter blues. Those who had not seen or read of the successful Cambridge challenge for the Marchant Trophy expected an Oxford win, but it was soon apparent that the Cambridge team of winkers and drinkers had improved greatly over the year. In execution and in tactics both universities showed an even higher standard than in most years, and it was hardly surprising that Cambridge won the Silver Wink.

England v Wales

On June 17th, 1967 eight English Tiddlywinkers from Cambridge, Exeter and Altrincham made their way to Aberystwyth where they were awaited by the Welsh team who hoped to wrest the Bombay Bowl from them. The event was organized by Allen Astles, secretary of the Welsh Tiddlywinks Association, whose emigration to Canada is much to be regretted. Despite the presence of the Mayor of Aberystwyth Wales failed to beat England, losing  $44\frac{1}{2}$  to  $67\frac{1}{2}$ . A further challenge from them is expected.

LONDON LEAGUE

As explained in the last edition of Winking World, the eighteen teams in the league last session were grouped into three divisions. The winners of divisions a and c were Bancroft's and Gradwink respectively but first place on points in division b was shared by Aviawink and Ealing II. As their match records had both been composed of some conceded games, however, for which they were given 63 to 0, it seemed hardly fair to give first place to Ealing II because they had gained a total of 250 match points against Aviawinks 228, so the initial proposal for the Final (the play off between the divisions) was a four teamed tournament. However, Aviawink conceded the honour to Ealing II leaving three teams in the final as last year.

The final was held on July 2nd in the University of London Union. It was played by Jon Mapley's system, the mathematical intricacies of which are not going to be repeated (see WW 10), but can be summarised. There are seven rounds played on only four mats altogether. Each pair of each team plays six games (and has one bye), and if things are arranged properly, each game is against a different pair of the other teams. Thus each pair has a

potential maximum of 42 points.

The timing of different games was so varied (despite the 20 minute time limit) that many games were started before the previous round was completed. This meant that by the sixth round most of Jon's schedule had gone by the board. However, despite the organized chaos, Gradwink were clearly taking the lead during the fourth round, and increased that lead as the match went on. In fact, out of their ten games from the fourth to the last round inclusive they won nine, totalling 48 points. Their final score was 80. Bancroft's and Ealing II stayed neck-and-neck through the match, but Ealing finally inched past with  $56 \frac{2}{3}$  against Bancroft's  $52 \frac{1}{3}$ . So it was that London tiddlywinks was turned upside-down, with Bancroft's, winners for the last three years, coming in third while Gradwink, which has been scraping an existence without regular meetings, practices or a home ground for the last four years, played a whole season without losing a game and somehow clinched the league final.

Individual scores showed the expected variation: Souber and Halsey played superbly for Gradwink without dropping a single game, to score 35; Robin and Stephan Jeffries (Gradwink) dropped only one game and gained  $26\frac{1}{2}$ . Welsby played by himself for Ealing and scored highest for them with  $24 \frac{2}{3}$ . Bancroft's scores were all about even. Mapley and Hogg coming highest.

Teams: Gradwink: Halsey and Souber, Jefferis and Jefferies, Bonham and Mitchell.  
Bancroft's: Hogg and Mapley, Scott and Thames, Weavers and Woolmer.  
Ealing II: McAndrew and Lakra, Gann and Johnson, Welsby (solo).

The annual autumn meeting of the league was on October 17th. The officers of league council (elected in May at the A.G.M.) this session are Miss G. Griffiths (chairman), John Mapley (deputy chairman and treasurer), and Pat Bonham (secretary). Representatives of twelve clubs attended the meeting to discuss matters of policy, plans for coming events, and this session's fixtures. Among the first category was a decision that the Council will not be responsible for London University's match fixtures until further notice. It was also decided to do away with the present system of rounds to be played by fixed dates; instead, having defined which teams are in which division, each team must play the others in its division once some-time during the session, preferably before Easter. Council also waived subscriptions for this session as the finances are well in the black. As for coming events, the social event planned was a party at Surrey University (for which funds had already been obtained) before Christmas to which anybody from all clubs in the league will be invited.

Final business of the autumn meeting was the fixture list. Last year, of the 45 matches that should have been played, only 23 were played, 15 being conceded and 7 not even reaching that stage. To cut down on this failure rate, the meeting reduced the number of teams to 14, in two divisions. This will give each team 6 matches, and there should be a maximum of 42 games instead of last year's 45. The divisions and teams are:

Northern: Bancroft's, Interwink, U.C.II, Old Ealoniens, Westfield, Ealing II and Bradwink.

Southern: Royal Holloway, Aviawink, Gipsy Hill, Surrey U., U.C.I, Ealing I, and Philippa Fawcett College.

It should be pointed out that University College I is not necessarily a better team than U.C.II and similarly for Ealing Grammar School. No reply was received from St. Gabriel's College (who entered two teams last year) and the National College of Food Technology team have too many existing fixtures to enter this year's league. There are about ten other very active clubs in London, most of which were contacted but it appears that they play the game as an entirely social activity, and would rather not play in an organized league. Perhaps they do not realise that nearly every league match is three-quarters a social event that would probably have been arranged even if there were no league!

### The Northern League

In the last few months a league has been started in the Manchester area. It has had a very successful beginning and should soon rival its southern counterpart in numbers and skill.

The league started as a direct result of the Northern Junior Championship demonstrating further the value of this event. It is to be hoped therefore, that the south will also soon have a regular competition of this form. It all started, as it so often does, when a few people from Chadderton Grammar School entered the championship "for a laugh". They were so impressed by the game that they started a club at school, and then, since there was at the time no organized inter club competition, they initiated the moves which resulted in the league.

Already, within a month of the start of the league another club has been formed as a direct result of the league. The club is at Sale Girls Grammar School and the other teams in the league come from Chadderton Boys Grammar School, Manchester Grammar School, Manchester High School, Altrincham Boys Grammar School (a first and second team) Altrincham Girls Grammar School and North Cestrian. This makes eight teams in all and we have heard that there are other teams in the district who may join the league next year. If there are any clubs wishing to join the league, or merely trying to arrange friendly matches, please contact: Jeremy Shepherd, 18 Meadow Bank, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire.

The league is operated in a slightly different way from the southern one. Instead of giving two points for a win etc. the points actually scored in the matches count. This year each team is playing every other team once only and there have not been enough results yet to include a league table but there should be one in the next Winking World.

E.T.W.A. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st AUGUST, 1967.

Balance 1.9.66	13. 7. 9	WW10 at cost	4.17. 5	
Club membership 1967		Less sales	<u>1.13. 6</u>	3. 3.11
Senior 18.10.0		WW11 at cost	4. 7. 6	
Junior <u>1.10.0</u>	20. 0. 0	Less sales	<u>6. 0</u>	4. 1. 6
Individual membership		Bank charges		7. 0
Life 14.14.0		General stationery		2.14.10
Other <u>4. 7.6</u>	19. 1. 6	General postage		
Donations	6. 5. 0		3. 4. 6	
Commission	9.17. 6	Less received	<u>17. 0</u>	2. 7. 6
WW0 Sales	8	N.J. Expenses 1967		3. 0. 0
WW1 Sales	1.11	Prince Philip Trophy		
WW3 Sales	1.11	66/67 expenses		2.17. 9
WW5 Sales	1. 6	Travelling expenses		
WW6 Sales	1. 6	Irish team		8. 0. 0
WW7 Sales	1. 6	Balance 31.8.67		53.11. 1
WW8 Sales	1. 6			
WW9 Sales	10. 0			
Sales of Rules	13. 0			
Congress '67 Receipts				
£140.15. 0				
Less Rootes				
Hall	<u>127.19. 1</u>			
	12.15.11			
Less				
Postage	<u>2.17. 7</u>			
	9.18. 4			
	<u>£80. 3. 7</u>			
				<u>£80. 3. 7</u>

Notes on Accounts

1. Membership rates. These remain unaltered for 1968.

Club membership - Senior £1; Junior 5s.

Individual membership - Life 2gns or 5s. per year.

2. Individual membership. There are seven new life members:

G.J. Stamper, G. Courtney, P.J. Downes, G. Wulsher, J.F.W. Last, R. Jefferis and S. Jefferis.

3. E.T.W.A. gratefully acknowledges the following donations:-

M.F.C. Crick - £5 and S.C. Clark - £1 5s.

4. The above sales of W.W. 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 bring the net costs of these publications to £2 5s 9d; £4 5s 1d; £3 14s 6d; £5 10s 6d and £6 16s 6d respectively.

5. The commission included in the account is for the year ended 31st August, 1966. Commission for the current year was received after

31st August, 1967.

6. It is hoped that the cost of W.W. 12 will be considerably less than that of previous issues. However, there may still be W.W. sales monies outstanding. Does this ring a bell with anyone?
7. Secretarial postage was £2 17s and treasural postage was 17s 6d.
8. Stationery. "W.W. stationery" comprises unused stocks of paper, headings, etc. which will be used in future issues.
9. As yet, E.T.W.A. has still received no money for the small profits on the sales of SCOTWA ties. This has been outstanding for a considerable time although every effort has been made to trace it.
10. Once again, E.T.W.A. has donated £1 per head to the Irish team who travelled for so many hours to attend the 1967 congress. It was also decided that due to the rising costs of the Prince Philip Silver Wink Competition, the expenses should be paid by E.T.W.A.

J.L. Mapley (Treasurer)

S.C. Clark (Auditor)

#### Prices

Sets of winks now cost 5s 6d including postage and mats 30s including postage. These represent only small increases in both cases, and it is worth mentioning that they are the first since the introduction of official mats in 1961. It must also be remembered that the former prices did not include postage, although some clubs were neglectful of this.

#### Interpretation

The latest modification to rule 9 (c) appears to have caused some confusion. The following interpretation of it has been framed by the secretary of E.T.W.A. and approved by the Secretary General of I.F.T.W.A. Suppose that Green and Yellow are playing Red and Blue and that the order of play is G,R,Y,B, and that R and B are all squopped. If at the end of the free turns G has to free, he may free either opponent and that opponent has his turn in normal succession. If G frees both opponents R must have a shot, but Y is then at liberty to squop B and prevent him having a turn. If for some reason G fails to free he must move a wink aside uncovering R who must be allowed to have at least one shot before being squopped again. If he cannot free R, he must free B who naturally must not be squopped before he has his turn which follows that of Y. If he cannot free either opponent he must move a Y wink off a R wink, R then has a turn followed by Y. If he can only move a Y wink off a B wink, Y has a turn before B, but he may not squop B again with this turn. . . . Certain principles must prevail: that within the limits of this ruling those freeing have the choice as to which wink they shall free; that the clockwise succession of turns shall not be interrupted; and that if a wink has to be moved by hand to free another only one wink shall be moved, and only one wink need be freed.



## Around the Winking World

Rosie Wain writes from Cornell, U.S.A. that the Pan-American Winks Tournament was held at Waterloo University on October 27th & 28th. The teams present were Toronto, Waterloo, M.I.T. and Cornell. Columbia had previously been beaten by Toronto and Harvard did not send a team. Each team played all the others. Waterloo scored the most points and Cornell were second, beating M.I.T. by 1 2/3 points.

The mighty final was then played between Waterloo and Cornell. Cornell won in a blaze of publicity on radio and television and were presented with a trophy by the local radio station. 'Canada Dry' provided free supplies of their grapefruit drink 'Wink' all weekend and they promised to help the winners tour England next year. Quote from Bob Earl of the successful Cornell team "We won by judicious use of pot". Rosie Wain and her partner Phil Villar had the highest individual scores of the weekend and are thus North American Champions.

John Last, a founder member of the Ranelagh Wales Recreation Club team, Reavell and Company Lunchtime Winkers, who has done much to encourage socialable tiddlywinks in East Anglia - "we take it with drink", he says - has emigrated to the U.S.A. Before going he presented a trophy to be played for between his own club and Cambridge University. Our very best wishes go with him and we hope he will pay us a visit before long.

Many thanks to Michael Crick another occidental emigre for a second donation of £5 towards a Southern junior trophy.

Guinness scorecards are no longer available.

If any club or individual has a spare copy of WW 11 in good condition the secretary of ETWA would be most grateful - money will be refunded.

Etwa has no tie except the England team tie - at the Warwick congress it was suggested that there should be a members' tie. Designs should be submitted to the secretary.

It would be very helpful if clubs sent in news of matches and other interesting items to the secretary of Etwa or the editor of Winking World. The editor's task is to edit; the present editor who is but a substitute has had to write almost the whole of this issue.

### Miscellaneous Addenda

There will be an international match between England and Wales at the Warwick congress. All English clubs are asked to submit the names and addresses of their best pairs together with their playing records to the secretary of Etwa. We congratulate Terry and Hilary Mitchell on their marriage.

The 1968 Northern junior championship was won by Andrew Reid and Paul Wynn of Altrincham Grammar School.

The Marchant Trophy is still in the hands of Cambridge University who successfully defended their title against Altrincham Tiddlywinks foundation on February 11th.