

BRITISH PAIR GO EVENT 1999

The Kings Arms Hotel Stokenchurch

Sunday 23rd May 1999



This ninth Pair Go Championships was deemed special (9 being 3 squared). It attracted 31 pairs to the Kings Arms Hotel in Stokenchurch, a village on the A40 near to High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire. Players travelled long distances to take part and George Haig was awarded a special prize for having travelled back from Toulouse in France. Organisers this year were Elinor Brooks and France Ellul. France very kindly put some of the contestant up at his house the night before as the venue was not so easy to get to on a Sunday by public transport.

As usual competition was in three sections: the British Championship, the Open Handicap and Youth Handicap.

Best of the 11 pairs in the Youth Handicap were Brakenhale's Nicola Hurden and Shawn Hearn, with the runners up being a scratch team of Andrew Gale and Garry White (Brakenhale/Wildridings).

Handicap winners were Jini Williams (19 kyu Carmarthen) and Fred Holroyd (2 kyu Open University). Runners up were Yoko Sone (4 kyu Reading and Japan) and John McAnally (1 dan Manchester).

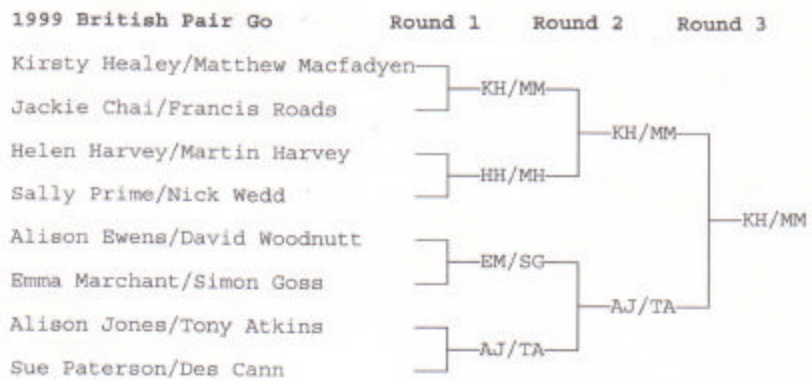
The top eight British pairs out played together to determine the Champions and to help select our representatives to the World Amateur Pair Go Championships. Kirsty Healey and Matthew Macfadyen from Leamington Spa were a half grade stronger this year as Kirsty had been recently promoted to 1 dan alongside Matthew's 6 dan and British Go Champion status. 1996 Pair Go Champions Alison Jones and Tony Atkins were expected to do well, and it was wondered if Sue Paterson and Des Cann would do well, inspired by their trip to the 1998 World Pair Go Championships.

In the Championship section winners for the third year running were Kirsty Healey and Matthew Macfadyen. They fought a close final with runners up Alison Jones and Tony Atkins. The other pairs on two wins were Emma Marchant and Simon Goss, Sue Paterson and Des Cann.

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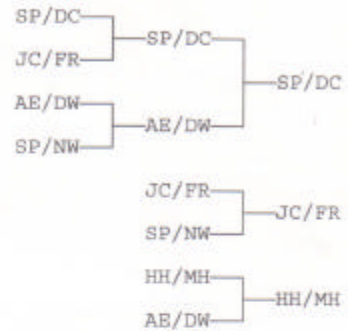
- Japan Pair Go Association
- British Go Association
- British PGPP

BRITISH PAIR GO
PROMOTION PARTNERS
Kirsty Healey
Alison Jones
Sue Paterson
Tony Atkins
Simon Goss
Matthew Macfadyen
Francis Roads
Helen and Martin Harvey



British Reps to the World Amateur
Pair Go Championships

1991 Sue Paterson/Jim Barty
1992 Kirsty Healey/Matthew Macfadyen
1993 Alison Jones/Andrew Jones
1994 Alison Jones/Nick Webber
1995 Kirsty Healey/Matthew Macfadyen
1996 -
1997 Alison Cross/John McLeod
1998 Sue Paterson/Des Cann
1999 Alison Jones/Tony Atkins (proposed)



Elinor's husband Bob was the judge in the Best Dressed Pair Competition. He was often seen staring at the ground because there was a separate best dressed feet competition following on from last year's complaints. Less bare feet were around this year because the British Summer had yet to arrive. Best dressed pairs were Sylvia Kalisch and Richard Parkins, very smart in red ball gown and red leather, and young Luise Wolf and father Thomas Wolf wearing Sunday best kimonos; youngsters Emma-Jayne Fairbrother and Tom Blockley had the best dressed feet.

This year the side competition was to suggest a Top 10 of popular songs that might just be connected to go. Runners up were Tony Atkins, John McAnally, Tom Blockley, Darren Fairbrother and Alistair Brooks. Winners were Kirsty Healey and Matthew Macfadyen.

Here are some of the suggestions:

Black and White
Losing My Favourite Game
The Winner Takes it All
Jump Trapped

Fred Holroyd and
Jini Williams on
their way to
handicap victory



BEST DRESSED PAIRS

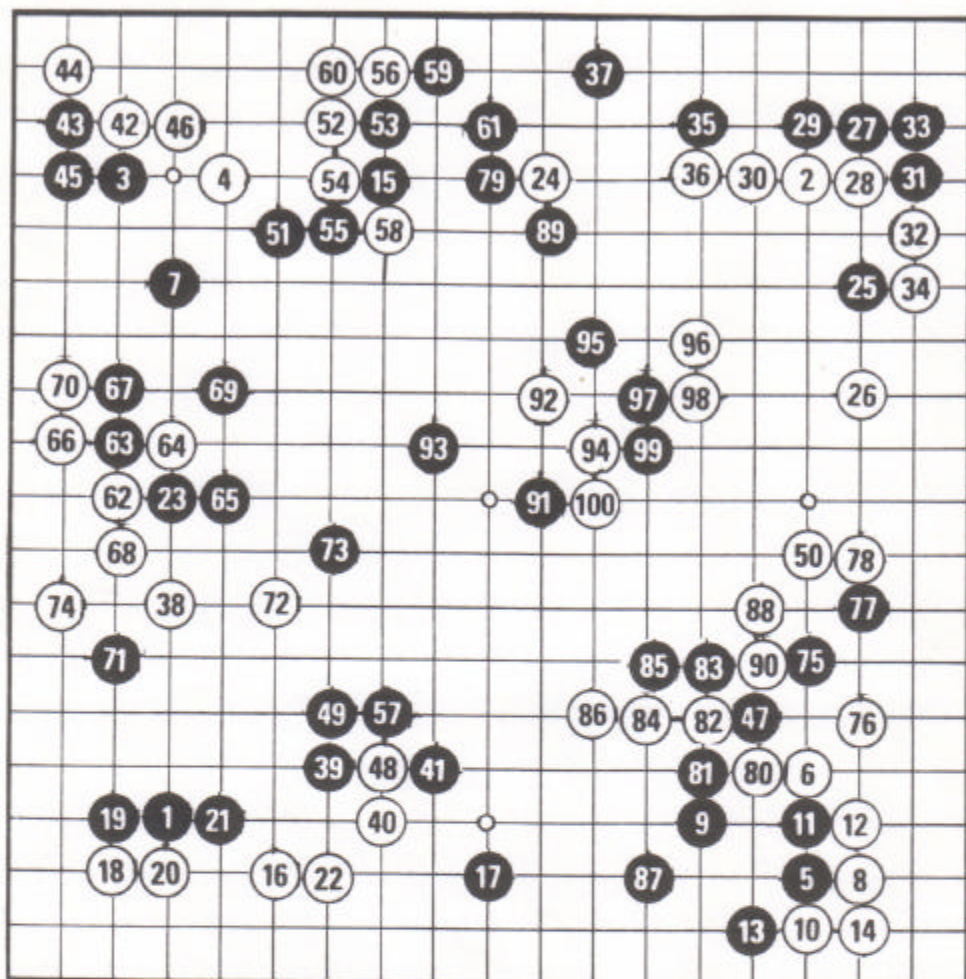


Luise Wolf and Thomas Wolf



Sylvia Kalisch and Richard Parkins

Black: Emma Marchant (8 kyu) / Simon Goss (2 dan)
 White: Alison Jones (2 dan) / Tony Atkins (2 dan)



This is the second round game to determine who would play Kirsty and Matthew for the title. The first 100 moves are shown. Emma and Simon had already done well to win their first game as Emma is still only 8 kyu, though at 17 years she still has time to reach the top of the BGA women's table. The ability she showed in this game typifies the high standard often drawn out of the weaker partner by the stronger partner. Simon teaches a weekly Master Class at Emma's school, Brakenhale, and some of his advice from there seemed to have paid off. The biggest mistake made was not connecting at 90. Eventually they slipped too far behind and Emma and Simon resigned.

The final game between Kirsty Healey/Matthew Macfadyen and Alison Jones and Tony Atkins will be described in British Go Journal 116.

Thanks must go to Elinor Brooks and France Ellul for arranging the event, to Sue Pitchford and Tony Atkins for doing the draw and to Bob Brooks for judging the competitions.
 Photos and text editing by Tony Atkins, British Go Association.