

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 4 July 2006



Day Two – Men's & Women's Doubles III Commonwealth Tenpin Bowling Championship

Today's Short Oil pattern at the Commonwealth Tenpin Bowling Championship in Melbourne was "very demanding", "mentally exhausting" and "not very forgiving" according to comments from players interviewed at the completion of the Women's Doubles.

The England duo of Katie Jowsey from Wakefield near Leeds and Fiona Banks from Sheffield top-scored with a combined pinfall of 2419 to take England's second Gold medal at the Championship, while sisters Sue Abela and Melissa Anastasi from Malta won Silver with 2349, in a welcome return to the dais after their Bronze medal performance in the Doubles event in Scotland in 2002. The ladies were born in Melbourne before returning to Malta with their family at an early age and have attracted an enthusiastic band of friends and family in their first return visit to Australia for more than 20 years.

Australia's Ann Maree Putney and Tracey Madden finished strongly on 2286 to overtake the Canadian pair of Jennifer Willis-Park and Caroline Lagrange for the Bronze. New Zealand's Julieanne Mollet had come out of the blocks at the start of play this morning with an impressive average of 210 for her first three games, but faltered in the final three to finish with partner Ivena Heald sixth overall.

In the Men's division, Malaysia's Doubles team of Mohd Noer Said and Isaac Russell stormed home in the final two games to clinch Gold, with Mohd Noer Said's 265 in the final game overtaking the 1-game record set by England's Nick Froggatt at the inaugural Commonwealth Championship in Scotland in 2002.

The young pair have had several recent successes at home, Isaac Russell winning the Malaysia leg of the Asian Bowling Tour in April and Mohd Noer Said notching up a memorable four Golds from seven Bowling events at the National Multi-Sport Games last month. Both Mohd Noer Said and Australia's George Frilingos shot 1324 today, and Frilingos' partnership with Australia's top-ranked Youth bowler, Glen Loader, produced a Silver medal tally of 2519, just 27 pins behind the Malaysian duo.

Another strong finish by England's Dominic Barrett and Jon Zadel resulted in a thrilling tie for Bronze with the New Zealand duo of Craig Nevatt and Jason Waters on 2463.

"Yesterday, ball speed was fairly critical – today, bowling faster was at a premium," commented George Frilingos who currently tops the Men's All Events tally.

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Play resumes at 9am Wednesday in Squad A of Mixed Doubles, with the second squad scheduled to commence at 1pm following lane maintenance – lane condition for tomorrow's event will revert to a Long Oil pattern.

Spectators are welcome at OzTenpin Bowl, Blackshaws Road, Altona North during the week of the Championship and admission is free. Full details of the III Commonwealth Championship schedule, participants, detailed scores and an extensive Photo gallery can be found at the Championship's official website - www.2006ctbc.com.

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