

Strictly business for weekend warriors

Today is the business end of this World Singles Champion of Champions qualifying series, out of which three players from each section will graduate to tomorrow's elimination finals. The reward for being top qualifier in each section is direct entry to the semi finals, while those finishing in second and third positions will battle it out tomorrow morning for the remaining places.

It goes without saying that on these magnificent Fendalton greens every shot will matter as those on or near the top of their section set themselves – like a champion jockey positioning a galloper at the home turn for their run to the finish line. There will be many big moments out there today – weather permitting (gulp!).

There were many big moments yesterday too - like the morning 'Battle of Britain' in men's section 2 between David Kingdon from Wales and England's Andy Walters which went to the Welshman in a canter. However, Kingdon failed to capitalise on his victory by losing his next two starts to South Africa's Bobby Donnelly, and, surprisingly, Dennis Mijnhijmer from Netherlands, who had just one win to his credit going into the match.

Ironically, after being written off as 'too far back', big Bobby came out with all guns blazing yesterday to collect wins over Munokokura Pita from the Cook Islands, Kingdon and Zimbabwe's Derek Robinson and is now very much in the mix.

The much anticipated battle between women's section 1 leaders Lorna Smith from Scotland and Malaysia's Noor Zafirah Noor saw Smith, a former world and Commonwealth Games champion, snatch the points in a tiebreaker, but she too fell to a giant-killing performance from Japan's Yoko Goda in their afternoon encounter. This section is now wide open and the showdown at 10.30 today will decide who graduates to tomorrow's medal race.

And while we're on afternoon duty, local ace Helen King finally banked some post-lunch points with yesterday's win over the previously undefeated Saskia Schaft from Netherlands, to sit in second place in women's section 2 and is virtually guaranteed a start tomorrow. Ironically, after two comfortable wins yesterday in the same section, Rosita Bradborn from the Philippines faces Fiji's Litia Tikoisuva today, with the winner also assured of a berth in tomorrow's action.

Despite dropping his first set for the week against Swaziland's Graham Byars yesterday, local star Ali Forsyth continued his cavalier winning streak in this event – it should be noted that he was unbeaten in his triumphant march to this title ten years ago at Warilla – and has well earned his place in Sunday's semi finals. Other certain qualifiers in men's section 1 are brilliant youngster Fairus Jabal from Malaysia and Scottish hard man Iain McLean.

The only other unbeaten player this week, David Holt from Australia, leads men's section 2 into the final day two wins ahead of the field, and although he faces aggressive Englishman Andy Walters this morning, David is a guaranteed starter on Sunday. But, the other two places from this section will be revealed when the dust settles between Walters, Kenny Chan from Hong Kong and Bobby Donnelly.

It's exciting stuff – and serious too – as will be demonstrated when women's section 1 sorts itself out with Noor, Smith, Aussie Noelene Abe and Tai Jim from the Cook Islands all on the same points, with only three spots in tomorrow's shootout available. Likewise in section 2 where the scenario of four contenders, Schaft, King, Tikoisuva and Bradborn battling it out for the three places in Saturday's finals race is too seductive to resist.



Yoko Goda (Japan)



Rosita Bradborn (Philippines)



Andy Walters (England)

2014 MEN'S CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS S1
LEAGUE TABLE AFTER ROUND 9

	Games Played	Game W - L	Set W - D - L	Shots F - A
1 NEW ZEALAND	9	9 - 0	17 - 0 - 1	214-79
2 MALAYSIA	9	7 - 2	12 - 1 - 5	175-104
3 SCOTLAND	9	7 - 2	11 - 1 - 6	171-105
4 CHINA	9	5 - 4	9 - 1 - 8	130-124
5 NAMIBIA	9	5 - 4	9 - 1 - 8	144-145
6 NORFOLK ISLAND	9	5 - 4	8 - 1 - 9	135-131
7 FIJI	9	4 - 5	9 - 2 - 7	142-122
8 BOTSWANA	9	4 - 5	6 - 0 - 12	110-170
9 ARGENTINA	9	3 - 6	7 - 0 - 11	120-157
10 CANADA	9	3 - 6	6 - 3 - 9	118-172
11 SWAZILAND	9	2 - 7	6 - 1 - 11	114-161
12 SRI LANKA	9	0 - 9	2 - 1 - 15	95-198

2014 MEN'S CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS S2
LEAGUE TABLE AFTER ROUND 9

	Games Played	Game W - L	Set W - D - L	Shots F - A
1 AUSTRALIA	8	8 - 0	13 - 0 - 3	153-93
2 ENGLAND	8	6 - 2	13 - 0 - 3	161-91
3 HONG KONG CHINA	8	6 - 2	11 - 1 - 4	153-98
4 SOUTH AFRICA	9	6 - 3	10 - 0 - 8	153-127
5 WALES	8	4 - 4	9 - 1 - 6	155-104
6 UNITED STATES	8	4 - 4	8 - 1 - 7	119-119
7 ZIMBABWE	8	3 - 5	6 - 1 - 9	94-147
8 COOK ISLANDS	8	3 - 5	5 - 2 - 9	107-140
9 JAPAN	8	2 - 6	5 - 1 - 10	89-146
10 NETHERLANDS	8	2 - 6	3 - 2 - 11	109-136
11 TURKEY	9	1 - 8	2 - 1 - 15	99-191

2014 WOMEN'S CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS S1
LEAGUE TABLE AFTER ROUND 8

	Games Played	Game W - L	Set W - D - L	Shots F - A
1 MALAYSIA	7	5 - 2	12 - 0 - 2	133-78
2 SCOTLAND	7	5 - 2	10 - 1 - 3	139-75
3 AUSTRALIA	8	5 - 3	10 - 0 - 6	149-99
4 COOK ISLANDS	7	5 - 2	8 - 2 - 4	114-87
5 JAPAN	7	4 - 3	7 - 1 - 6	106-99
6 UNITED STATES	7	4 - 3	6 - 0 - 8	101-110
7 CHINA	7	3 - 4	4 - 1 - 9	98-112
8 SOUTH AFRICA	7	1 - 6	1 - 1 - 12	78-139
9 PORTUGAL	7	0 - 7	3 - 0 - 11	60-179

2014 WOMEN'S CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS S2
LEAGUE TABLE AFTER ROUND 8

	Games Played	Game W - L	Set W - D - L	Shots F - A
1 NETHERLANDS	7	6 - 1	9 - 1 - 4	131-84
2 NEW ZEALAND	7	5 - 2	10 - 1 - 3	135-81
3 FIJI	7	5 - 2	8 - 2 - 4	114-96
4 PHILIPPINES	7	4 - 3	9 - 2 - 3	111-84
5 NORFOLK ISLAND	7	4 - 3	7 - 2 - 5	107-105
6 SPAIN	7	4 - 3	7 - 0 - 7	106-106
7 BOTSWANA	7	3 - 4	6 - 1 - 7	100-120
8 CANADA	8	1 - 7	2 - 0 - 14	81-169
9 HONG KONG CHINA	7	0 - 7	1 - 1 - 12	85-125