Deer Park manager two points off top spot in ten pin tournament

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Deer Park Golf & Country Club's popular Ten Pin Bowling Complex in Livingston was the venue recently for the prestigious Triple Crown Tournament, organised by the British Ten Pin Association.

The annual Tournament, for adult bowlers, this year brought together competitors from Scotland, England, Wales, Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and Guernsey in the Channel Islands. The bowlers competed for Gents and Ladies Singles titles, Doubles titles, Trios and other team events.

As well as the kudos of hosting the event, a highlight for Deer Park this year was the fantastic achievement of the club's own Duty Manager Stephen Gill, (26) from Livingston, who finished overall second in the Singles contest, narrowly missing out on first place by just two points, with a total of 962 to Pete Stephenson from England who secured a total of 964.

Stephen, who has bowled at Deer Park since he was just three years old, has another important connection to Deer Park in that his Granddad was a Manager of the Club in 1989.

He said: "Naturally I was gutted to lose out on first place by just two points but I am still very pleased with my overall performance on my home turf. It was a great weekend of competition and Deer Park is a worthy venue for this event. "We have held the Junior version of this event in the past too and I am sure we will be hosting many more in the future as we have put ten pin bowling on the map in Scotland for many years now. The location is always very popular with the bowlers and their families who make the trip here to compete. It was brilliant to see bowlers all the way from Guernsey come and take part."

Deer Park General Manager Stuart Cruickshank said: "We are so proud of Stephen — he is a great ambassador for bowling here at Deer Park. It's always an honour to be chosen as the venue to host these type of prestigious annual events — the organisers choose a leading Bowling Centre in the UK.

"It was our turn this time and we hope we did not disappoint by laying on a delicious banquet after the prize giving and making sure the competition ran like clockwork. We are known for our hospitality here at Deer Park."

"I would like to thank the organisers – The British Ten Pin Bowling Association – for all their support and for choosing Deer Park once again. I would also like to thank my staff who did a sterling job over the Saturday and the Sunday, both from a bowling point of view and from a catering standpoint. Everyone seemed to be really enjoying the food!"

He added: "Deer Park is one of the longest established Bowling Centres in Scotland and over the years has pretty much set the benchmark for this leisure activity. We were one of the first centres to introduce glow bowling and we have always had our own very active weekend Bowling Leagues for all ages which are very competitive and have spawned some great players. We have even had local youngsters win scholarships over to the American Universities to hone their bowling skills as it's a massive sport over there and it all began for them here at Deer Park."

Further details http://www.deer-park.co.uk.

Submitted by **CLARE GRAHAM**

