



Department of Sport and Recreation **NEWSLETTER**

THE COMPETITIVE EDGE ~ JANUARY 2025

Bermuda Sanshou Association



Damion Wilson:
Children's Taolu

Doniro Taylor

Yara Robinson

Yannick Courcy

Enrique Wilkin



Bermuda Sanshou Association cont'd

Cole Durham and Muryah Swan were among the gold medal winners at the Bermuda Open Wushu Championships at Whitney Institute Middle School on Saturday, November 2, 2024.

In the wushu Sanda [Chinese kickboxing] advanced men's division, Durham won gold, Kaelin Cox claimed silver and Che Beane took bronze.

Reyel Bowen defeated Durham 2-0 in an advanced men's single bout.

Swan won gold and Geraldine Sidders secured silver in the 13-16 years female advanced division.

In the mixed 10-13 years category, Yu'udai Trott took gold, Jacob Goodwin secured silver and Harrison Selkirk won bronze.

Meanwhile, in a 10-13 years' single bout, Jacob Goodwin defeated Ari Edness 2-0.

In the 12-16 years male advanced division, Michael Tristan Burgess won gold and Jonathan Trott took silver.

Hasini Chatura Suresh won gold in the 15-17 years women's novice category, with Varshini Srinivasan claiming silver.

In the adult female novice division, Ayesha Akbar took gold and Tierney Gibbons won silver.

Shaun Richards claimed gold in the novice/intermediate men's category, with Targun Saul winning silver and Kyle Smith taking bronze.

In the 7-9 years female category, Khushi Chatura Suresh won gold, Yara Robinson claimed silver and Liliana Selkirk took bronze.

Meanwhile, in the 6-9 years male division, Tristan Robinson secured gold and Doniro Taylor claimed silver.

Edness defeated Robinson 2-1 in a single 9-11 years' bout.

In the wushu taolu [forms] category, Cox won gold in the adult open hand. Talia Iris came second and Ammuakhu Sahnara finished third.

Swan won gold in the 13-16 years division, with Sidders taking silver and Enzi Johnston claiming bronze.

In the 9-10 years category, Robinson came first, George de los Santos finished second and LoNahjé Tota came third.

Yara Robinson came first in the 6-8 division, with Taylor coming second, Yannick Courcy finishing third and Enrique Wilkin placing fourth.

In the adult weapons, Cox won gold and Iris claimed silver.

Garon Wilkinson, the Bermuda Sanshou Association president, said "It was a fantastic event with well-contested bouts. We had 31 athletes take part [18 Sanda, seven Taolu and six in Sanda/Taolu].

"I was pleased with every athlete's performance. Our judges and officials also did an amazing job."

Krista Dyer has been recognised for her achievements in the sport of Sanda after being named the International Wushu Federation Athlete of the Month for November 2024.

Dyer, the island's most successful women's Sanda [Chinese kickboxing] competitor, has enjoyed plenty of success on the world stage in recent years.

She won a silver medal in the 65kg division at the World Wushu Championships in Fort Worth, Texas, gold at the Pan American Kungfu Championships in Markham, Ontario, both last year and a gold medal at the Pan American Wushu Championships in San Clara, California, in September.



Reyel Bowen, Talia Iris, Kaelin Cox - Open Weapons



Wushu Open Taolu Competitors

Bermuda Netball Association

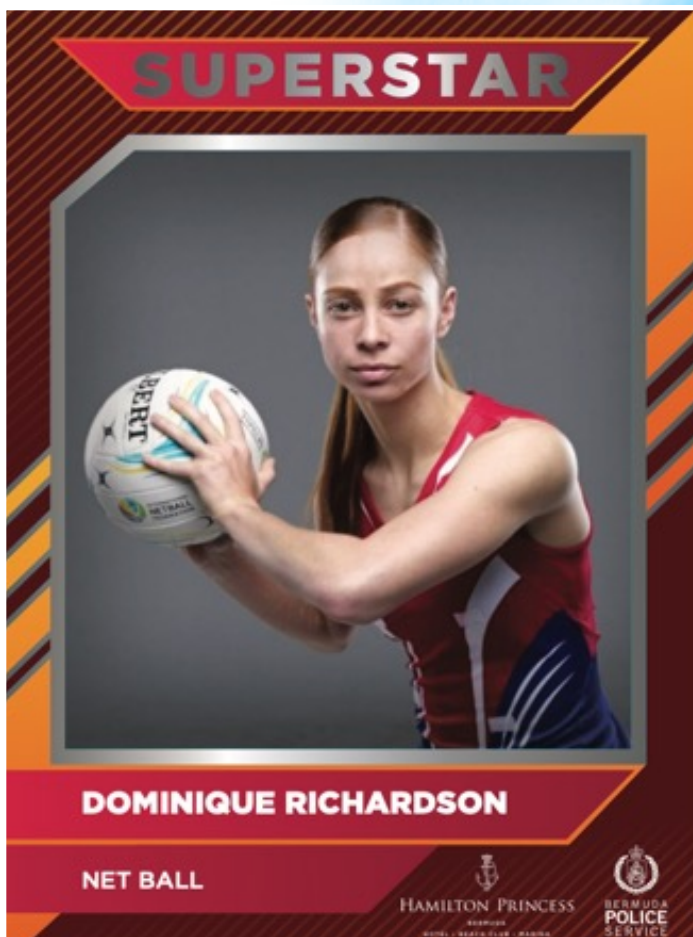
The Bermuda Netball Association is happy to share that our 2024/25 Winter League has resumed play, and the talent that has been showcased so far has been outstanding. Just as a reminder, games take place on Saturdays at Bernard's Park Netball Courts starting as early as 12pm with our Junior Divisions.

With the first round of matches being completed, here are the current standing in our respective divisions. Despite our 11&U being developmental, there are no leagues standings, but these players skill level and game knowledge has greatly improved since the beginning of the season. In our 14&U division, STORM holds the top spot while Phoenix Embers and North Village Lady Rams follows closely behind. The 18&U division sees a tie at the top of the table on points between Phoenix Fire and STORM, but Phoenix Fire has the upper hand on STORM with a higher goal difference while North Village Lady Rams sit in third. In our highly contested Senior division, Tigers occupy the top seat, with STORM in second and North Village Lady Rams in third. These teams are so close in points, that one win could shuffle around the standings. The remainder of the season looks like it's going to be a great one as teams continue to battle it out for the top spot.

Since October, the Bermuda Police Service have been releasing Elite Athlete Collectable Cards and over the Christmas break, our very own Superstar Dominique Richardson was highlighted! Dominique is one of Bermuda's elite netballers who has achieved many accomplishments in her netball career thus far. You can get your hands on one of these collectables for the kids by visiting the Police Station.

The Bermuda Netball Association has had the opportunity to highlight some of our top local netballers in an ongoing series with Bernews Sports Editor Stephen Wright. So far, we have been able to share a few of our Senior players stories and we look forward to sharing more. Feel free to read the stories on Bernews highlighting Akeyla Furbert, Danielle Raynor, Debre Evans and Kiante Lightbourne as they share their netball experiences.

If you are looking for a way to join the netball family, interested persons may contact the BNA at bdanetball@hotmail.com.



SUPERSTAR ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 2006 Denton Hurdle Winner & 2010 runner up
- 2013 member of the Women's National Netball team that participated in a tri-series versus the Canadian National Netball team
- 2017 Captain of the Senior Women's National Netball team - leading the team to a historic tie against the USA with one win, one draw and one loss
- 4th place finish at the Netball Europe Open in Scotland

Dominique Richardson started playing netball at the age of five in primary school.

By the age of 12, she was training with the Under 21 National Netball team, where she travelled with the squad to Florida for the World Under 21 Netball Championship. She played netball locally with clubs such as Welch's Concorde, King Jyrus and YMSC Lady Bluebirds.

She was a starter for the Women's National Netball team, playing at Centre and Wing Attack.

Injuries have forced Dominique to retire from international play. However, she currently plays locally for Phoenix Netball Club.

"We never lose, we learn!"

Bermuda Sailing Association

Campbell competed in at the Australian National Championships at Melbourne, in November finishing an excellent 8th overall, in the highly competitive Ilca7 division facing some of Australia's top internationals. He had recently become the New South Wales State Champion, but a knee injury sustained while racing just prior in Melbourne cost him some training momentum and he narrowly missed 7th place in the Nationals. He ended on a high note however winning the final race on the 6th day of competition. Campbell is building international experience towards his goal of competing for Bermuda in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. Towards that end in 2025 Campbell will be training in Tenerife, competing in Portugal and elsewhere but his big target for this year will be the World Championships in Qingdao, in China in May.

Orange Bowl Regatta, Florida, January 2025

Bermuda's young sailors proved their racing ambitions by abandoning their Christmas holidays and flying down to Florida on Boxing Day to compete against hundreds of the best young sailors in the world in the huge, annual Orange Bowl Regatta.

Overall results for the multi-race series were:

Ilca 6 Fleet, Dylan Menzies, 39th

Optimist Silver Fleet:

Benjamin DeCouto 135th, Rex Henagulph 147th

Optimist Bronze Fleet:

Sean Pedro, 158th, Calypso Coulter, 167th, Aaron Riker, 173rd, Alfie Jansma, 198th, James DeCouto 199th

Optimist Green Fleet:

Jacob Beale, 38th, Ethan Adelsberg, 45th, Hudson Pitcher 46th, Eamon Tiwari 60th

Bermudian Mustafa Ingham and the Sydney Hobart Yacht Race

Considered one of the most grueling ocean yacht races in the world, the Sydney Hobart Race started on Boxing Day, where the yachts were soon to face winds up to 45 knots and huge seas. In the event two sailors in different boats lost their lives in the violent conditions endured by this race that tested every competitor to the limit. Consequently, Bermudian Mustafa Ingham and his fellow crew members in Christian Beck's 100' maxi racer, "Law Connect" muted their celebrations after taking line honours for the second consecutive year at the Hobart finish. 28 of the 104 starters retired due to the conditions. "Law Connect" completed the 630 nautical mile race in just one day, 13 hours and 35 minutes. Ingham and crew surged to the front of the fleet when "Master Lock Comanche" the current race record holder and record holder also in the Newport to Bermuda yacht race, was forced to retire after suffering mainsail damage in the later stages of the race.



Campbell Patton racing the ILCA7 at 2024 Sail Melbourne in November



Mustafa Ingham, third right and crew onboard LawConnect clinched Sydney Hobart Race line honours for the second straight year.



Bermuda's young sailors at Orange Bowl Regatta in Florida.

Bermuda Bowling Federation



The United States Bowling Congress (Bermuda Branch) held its annual Doubles tournament on Sunday January 12, 2025. The winners were Elvin Thomas & Jamel Bean finishing with a combined pinfall of 1393. Narrowly missing out on the win was the team of Chanara Roach & Devina Burgess with a total pinfall of 1388. Marilyn Simmons & Dianne Jones rounded out the top 3 with a total pinfall of 1386.

Our Senior men's national team competed in the International Bowling Federation (IBF) World Cup in Hong Kong, China from January 5-14, 2025. LeVinc Samuels, Lamar Richardson, Dayvon Tucker and David Maycock competed in singles and team events over the 2-week period. For the singles event our bowlers were put into pools and matched head-to-head with bowlers from other nations. Special acknowledgment goes to LeVinc, who won majority of his matches finishing 2nd in his pool. This standing advanced him into the round of 32 where he faced off against lek Long Lam from Macao, China. LeVinc defeated Lam 2-0 (179-130, 204-159) which catapulted him into the top 16 round of competition. In this round, he faced off against Jaris Goh from Singapore. LeVinc was defeated by the score of 2-0 (235-206, 193-192).

In the team event, the bowlers competed in the Baker style format and finished the initial group stage on 24 points tied for 4th which was enough to advance them into the round 16. In the round of 16 Bermuda went head-to-head against Saudi Arabia. Our men were defeated by a score of 3-1 (191-187, 182-210, 184-161, 200-132). The team demonstrated true grit and great team chemistry despite all the odds stacked against them. They were 2 match wins away from securing a medal, which reflects how good our men performed under very tough conditions. This is further amplified by a personal team highlight: defeating eventual winners Malaysia by a score of 2-1 (233-166, 178-193, 179-198). **We are truly proud of the team!**





Jamel Bean

Bermuda Triathlon Association

Cambridge Beaches Sprint

Oliver Hayward and Olympian Erica Hawley delivered commanding performances to win the individual sprint races at the Cambridge Beaches Triathlon.

Hayward crossed the finish line first in 58 minutes and 4 seconds. Hawley, competing in her first race since the Paris Olympics, followed closely behind in 1:00:19.

Jake Smith took second place in the men's race, with Kevin Ronaldson finishing third. In the women's race, Maddie Durkin claimed second place, while Lynsey Palmer secured third.

In the boys' 7-10 division, brothers Liam and Nolan Horrobin finished in first and second, respectively, with Niklas Bock taking third. Madeleine Friend won the girls' race in the same age group, followed by Bethany Davidge and Daisy Cooper.

Dylan Eiselt topped the boys' 11-15 category, ahead of Jacob Wright and Sanchez Smith. Naomi MacGuinness won the girls' race, finishing fifth overall out of 28 competitors in the group, with Sofia Leclerc and Ella Shepherd rounding out the top three.

Team Relay National Championships

Congratulations to all participants in the Triathlon Team Relay National Championships!

In the senior all-male event, Jackson Langley and Dylan Eiselt led the race, finishing in 49:37. They defeated past and present national champions Alex Waldauer and Will Green (52:24) by nearly three minutes, with Jasper Lau and Rory Shepherd (54:13) taking third.

The senior all-female race saw Ashley Couper and Megan Berry team up for a brilliant victory in 59:04, edging out Isla Cooze and Sofia Leclerc (1:00:26) by just over a minute. Kelise Wade and Riana Robinson completed the podium in 1:02:10.

Team Relay Participants



In the senior family category, the Bortoli family, Carina and Gianluca, claimed the win with an impressive time of 54:50, beating the MacGuinness family (Neil and Jonah) by nearly ten minutes (1:03:40). Vivienne Lochhead and Caelan Cabral (1:04:04) finished third.

The Senior Corporate Team division was won by Jens Drea and Steven Smith of VT Construction in 55:05, with Michael Evans and Nicholas Greet of Aon (1:01:41) taking second, and Meghan Diel and Steve Horton of Liberty finishing third in 1:13:44.

The mixed senior title went to the young team of Sanchez Smith and Naomi MacGuinness, who raced as "Double Trouble." They clocked 56:45, more than 3 minutes ahead of second-place teenagers Ella Shepherd and Jacob Wright (59:48), while Caroline Black and Byron Rencken finished third in 59:59.

T100

Dame Flora Duffy finished in fourth place at the T100 World Triathlon Series Final in Abu Dhabi. In a challenging race, Duffy came out of the 2km swim in fifth place with a time of 26:39, then dropped to tenth during the 80km bike segment. However, she delivered the fastest run of the race, crossing the finish line in fourth with a total time of 3 hours, 33 minutes, and 4 seconds.

This result secured her a place in the 2025 T100 tour. Her points were earned through a ninth-place finish in Ibiza, third in Las Vegas, and fourth in the final.

BUCS Duathlon

Bermudian triathlete Nick Pilgrim played a pivotal role in helping Bath University secure victory at the British Universities and Colleges Sport Duathlon Championships.



Bermuda Triathlon Association cont'd

Pilgrim completed the race in 55 minutes and 43 seconds, finishing 15th overall out of 516 competitors and 8th in the 20-24 age group.

The event, which took place at the famous Mallory Park Circuit in Leicester, marked the beginning of the 2024-25 British triathlon season. The team standings were based on the combined times of the top three athletes from each university.

Ironman Round-Up

Karen Smith has earned a spot in the Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii, following a commanding victory in the Ironman Cozumel in Mexico. Smith triumphed in the 55-59 age group, finishing over 42 minutes ahead of second-place Monica Kniep from Brazil. Her winning time of 10 hours, 51 minutes, and 12 seconds secures her entry into the prestigious event next October. In addition to winning her age group, Smith completed the 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike leg, and 26.2-mile run, finishing 151st overall and 42nd among female competitors.

Kudos also goes to Marie Lyne Dore and Sharon Craig for completing the Ironman Indian Wells 70.3. For Craig, this was her fourth Ironman and her first since 2021, following a rare injury that kept her out of competition for two years. She finished fifth in her age group with a time of 6 hours, 32 minutes, and 10 seconds. Dore took first place in the 40-44 age group and finished 204th overall with a time of 4 hours, 49 minutes, and 10 seconds. She has had an exceptional year in triathlon, winning the Olympic Sprint Triathlon National Championships and Masters Time Trial in Bermuda, as well as the overall women's title at the Half Ironman in Boston.



Naomi and Sanchez - Team Relay



Three Bermuda triathletes showcased impressive performances at the Ironman Florida 70.3. Maddie Durkin excelled with a time of 4:39:22, earning 1st place in her age group and 2nd overall, while also achieving the fastest run split of the day. Ashleigh Cooper followed with a strong finish of 4:55:22, securing 2nd place in her age group. Alex Waldauer, competing in his debut at this distance, delivered an outstanding performance with a time of 4:39:07, finishing 5th in his age group.

Triathlon Junior Training Programme



ABOVE: Flora Duffy - T100



Marie Lyne Dore - Ironman

National Archery Association of Bermuda



Coach Ross Roberts, Elektra Smith, Camerin Pickering, William Pickering, Robin Selley, Coach Trina Roberts, Carlnika Roser (BSADA) and Jaydon Roberts

Our 2025 preparation for the Archery Season included awareness and education. Ms. Carlnika Roser, Testing and Education Manager for the Bermuda Sports Anti-Doping Authority joined our Saturday training session on January 28, 2025, to provide awareness and education on Doping. Doping is not just a positive test; it is defined as the occurrence of one or more of the 11 Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs). This was a very informative presentation for our archers, coaches and parents present.

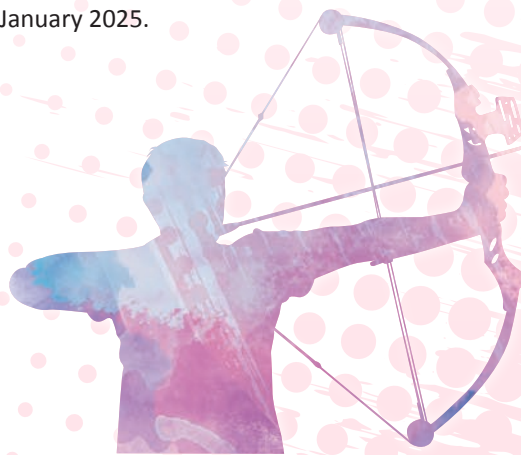
The timing could not have been better as we are preparing to travel to Lancaster, Pennsylvania to compete in the Lancaster Archery Classic and the Easton Youth & Collegiate Trophy Tournament.

A team of nine archers have been busy preparing for these two events that will be held at the Spooky Nook Sports Complex in Manheim, Pennsylvania. Coach Ross Roberts said, "We have attended this event for seven years and is a great introduction to our archers who are ready for their first international competition and a great event preparation for our Elite and Amateur archers. We have had a couple of good scores in both tournaments before and we're looking to at least advance into some of the final rounds in both tournaments, despite the team's preparations being hampered by the temporary loss of our indoor training facility and the bad weather."

The Easton Youth & Collegiate Trophy Tournament is for ages 12 and under (Bowman), 13 – 14 (Cub) 15 – 17 (Cadet) 18 – 20 (Junior) and Collegiate. Braeden Fraser will compete in the Bowman Recurve Division, Robin Selley will compete in the Recurve Cadet Division and Jaydon Roberts, Elektra Smith and N'Dera Smith will compete in the Junior Division.

The Lancaster Archery Classic invites the archers in the recreational, amateur and pro divisions to compete in the recurve, compound, barebow and bow hunter divisions. We will have eight archers participating in this event – Recurve – Robin Selley, N'Dera Smith, Elektra Smith, Jaydon Roberts, Camerin Pickering, Bernard Wade, Jamie Fraser and William Pickering.

The Classic starts on 23 January through to 26 January 2025. The Easton Youth Tournament starts on the 25 January and ends on the 26 January 2025.



Bermuda Equestrian Federation

On 30th November, the Bermuda Equestrian Federation hosted the Bermuda round of the 2024 CEA Regional Jumping Challenge. Judging this year's Challenge was FEI Level 1 Judge Pamela Mahoney.

The CEA provides an opportunity for competitors of all ages to test their jumping skills against other Caribbean riders without having to travel overseas. Rather riders compete in their own countries, over a predetermined jumping course at heights of .75m, .85m, .95m & 1.05m. The top scores from three of the four height divisions determine the country's team. The 2024 Bermuda Team included Samantha Cooper riding Kamel Ruf (.85m) Courtney Bromby riding Worth the Wait (.95m) and Michael Rodrigues riding Rambo (1.05m)

As participating countries have until the end of 2024 to host their rounds, the overall results will not be announced until 2025.

Immediately following the Bermuda round, the Bermuda Equestrian Federation hosted a jumping competition at heights of 1.15m and 1.30m. Securing 1st place in the two rounds comprising the 1.15m class was Abby Bardgett riding Cruise Control. Abby went on to claim 1st place in the 1.30m division on Causing Chaos.



ABOVE: Abby Bardgett jumping Causing Chaos

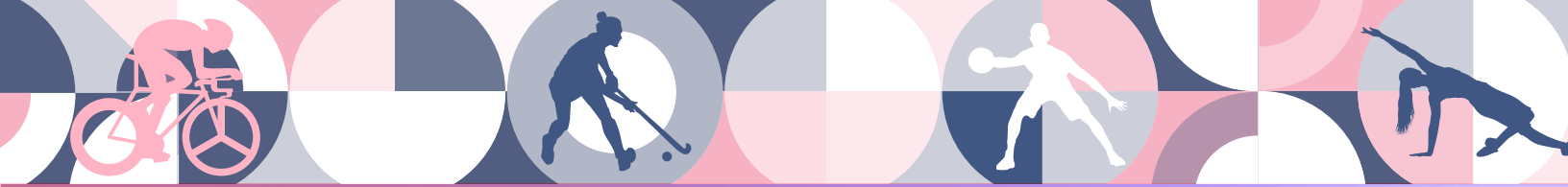


2024 Bermuda CEA Regional Jumping Team

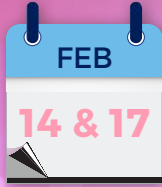
LEFT TO RIGHT: BEF President Carla Stempel and Judge Pamela Mahoney
MOUNTED TEAM RIDERS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Samantha Cooper on Kamel Ruf, Courtney Bromby on Worth the Wait and Michael Rodrigues on Rambo



Sports has an amazing and unique way of making a positive impact in society and it's no different in Bermuda. The local sporting scene has adapted well to the complexities of hosting sporting events during these unprecedented times. In an effort to raise awareness of the many positive sporting lights permeating through our country, it is the perfect opportunity for Department of Sport and Recreation to partner with National Sports Governing Bodies to share exciting news and highlights within all sports in Bermuda monthly.



2025 UPCOMING EVENTS



Bermuda Bowling Federation
Bermuda Rendezvous Tournament – Warwick Lanes





GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA
Department of Sport and Recreation



SPORTMATTERS