**International Director’s Report**

The only event Wales competed internationally in was the 2017 World Seniors Team Championship. This is because the 2017 European Club Cup was held in Antalya, Turkey between 7th-15th October and due to the political unrest in Turkey at present, no welsh teams competed.

The 2017 World Seniors Team Championship was held in Crete between 23rd April and 3rd May.

The tournament was held in an excellent 5-star hotel on the northern Crete coast and the food was excellent. A trip was also organised to the Palace of Knossos which was well attended and enjoyed by all.

The Over 50s event was well attended with 22 teams the strongest being England 1, Armenia, Israel and Saint Petersburg. The Wales Silures competed in this strong event and finished in 11th place on 9 points which was slightly below expectation. Individual scores were Sven Zeidler (3.5/7), Nigel Ralphs (3.5/8), John Fletcher (3.5/7), Anthony Hughes (3/7) and Mark Adams (2.5/7).

The Over 65s event where Wales Deheubarth competed was not as strong as the Over 50s event but still very tough. Here, 22 teams also competed with the strongest being Russia, France, Sweden 1, Germany and Israel. Wales Deheubarth nevertheless finished above expectation in 10th place on 9 points. Individual scores were Iolo Jones (5/8), John Thornton (3.5/7), John Waterfield (2.5/7), Rudy van Kemenade (3/7) and Peter Bevan (4/7).

For the 2018 event, two teams will again represent Wales in the Over 50s and Over 65s Championships which will be held in Dresden between 7th-15th July.

Regarding the ECF Championships held in Llandudno in August 2017, three players qualified from Wales: Allan Pleasants, Lee Davis and Joe Fatallah. Allan Pleasants finished in 67th place with 4 points. Joe Fatallah finished in 90th place with 3 points. Finally, Lee Davis finished in 100th place on 2 points.

103 players competed in this 9-round event.

For 2018, the ECF changed the qualification rules for the ECF Championship. Only the Welsh Champion is eligible for qualification although as there was a three-way tie in the 2017 Welsh Championship whoever qualifies for this year’s ECF Championship may need to be clarified in due course.

Wales Deheubarth who competed in the Over 65s event.