

CDO DARTS

By FRANK GOULDING

THE local darts scene is quiet at this time of the year until it gets underway once again at St Vincent's on New Year's Day.

On that day, the men's Beamish Doubles Championship will take place so it is appropriate at this point to review the season so far.

Apart from Phil Taylor going out of the PDC World championships to Dave Chisnall by 4-1 on Tuesday night the biggest news here on Leaside was in the recognition by Guinness World records back in July of the eight man team from the CDO who set a new world record at St Vincent's GAA club on Saturday March 21 between 5pm and 6pm in the afternoon.

The fact that the attempt at the record by members of the CDO was made in March 2010 and only ratified over one year later by Guinness world records does not take away from the effort the players and organiser Michelle O'Toole of MOT promotions put into the day itself.

They now are the holders of a world record for one hour of non stop points scoring for an eight man team.

The previous record of 21,944 was held by a team from England and this record was surpassed at St Vincent's on Saturday March 21 by the CDO team who set a new score of 35,087 which bettered the old one by 13,143.

Back to the bread and butter of the CDO leagues, and the season opened with the playing of the Sean Street memorial B and C grade singles championship at St Vincent's GAA club back in September with the honours going to Blaine Meighan of the Island Tavern who was a 3-2 winner over Pat Lawlor of Hennessy's in what was a marvellous final and a great start to the darting season.

Doubles specialists Martin Cotter and John O'Shea failed to make the money in the October doubles championships held at St Vincent's over the October holiday weekend as the title went to the very deserving pairing of John Paul Dowdall and Damian O'Driscoll of Brannigans.

Another very deserving winner of a singles title was Brian Kiely of the Muskerry Arms team, who captured the Pat Corcoran Memorial Singles Championship in November while in ladies darts a very first singles title went to the Red Cove Inn's Marie O'Sullivan who captured the very popular ladies 301 double-off singles championship played at Sheehan's Local back in October when she defeated Ma Dullea's Rita Hannigan in

CDO players' world record is ratified



With CDO President, councillor Michael O'Connell, are the team members who took part in the record attempt at St Vincent's on Saturday March 21, 2010 and which was recently ratified as a world record by Guinness world records. Back from left: James Corcoran, Craig Sproat, Jason Kavanagh, Martin Cotter, Kevin McDonnell, Steven Coveney. Front from left: Pat McSweeney, Damian O'Driscoll, Ian Gray, John O'Shea.

BELOW: Peter Quinn of the Shamrock Bar, right, who won the man of the match award in the President's A League final, with Roy O'Donovan and Tim Barry of Heineken.

a very competitive final by 3-2.

Team darts once again saw the Shamrock to the fore as they retained the CDO Presidents A division league title which was played at the Hollyhill Inn.

Shamrock Bar defeated old rivals the Tower Bar in a repeat of last year's final by the same 4-2 scoreline with the man of the match award going to Shamrock player Peter Quinn.

Gerald Griffin defied all the negativity after they were relegated to the B division at the start of this season, and despite having lost a number of players because of that, they bounced back immediately as they won the Gallows sponsored B division league by defeating the Capwell 4-2 in the final and so regained their place in the top division once more.

Hollyhill Inn continued their progression through the divisions as they added the Murphy Stout C Division League to their trophy shelf by

virtue of their very impressive 4-0 win over the Wolfe Tone in the final played at Sheehan's Local with Declan Gostel being their star player on the night as he received the man of the match award for his very impressive performance in his game.

Once again the ever popular junior league proved to be a winner as it brought together O'Sullivan's and Aunties in the final played at the High House.

O'Sullivan's ran into a 3-0 lead but were reeled back to 3-2 by Aunties before clinching the title in the sixth game for a 4-2 win, however some consolation for Aunties was in the man of the match award went to Aunties Brendan McSweeney.

That junior league final wrapped up the first third of the season, and action will resume at St Vincent's on new years day with the playing of the men's Beamish doubles championships for players of the A grade and a separate event for players of



the B, C and junior grades.

Entries will be accepted for the B, C and junior competition from 2pm with first games to begin at 3pm while entries for the A grade event

will be accepted from 4pm with first games to commence at 5pm.

Youths will also be catered for with entries taken from 4pm and games to begin at 5pm.

It's important to shop around to get the best price

HIS penance was a day at the sales. For Stephen's Day he had been allowed to flit between the unholy triangle of the bookies, the pub and the sitting room and now he had to pay it back.

He had spent 15 minutes in the electrical shop gazing at items that were 25 per cent off and that he still couldn't afford. Now he was holding her bags, "waiting a sec" as she flicked her way through another rail in search of her size, and marvelling at the thousand-yard stare of each woman who entered the store. It was about the only time he was able to look at other women, because she was in the zone.

His only function other than lugging around her purchases was to answer:

"What you think of this?" He alternated between "That's very nice" and "Maybe in a different colour" and that seemed to satisfy her.

At only one juncture did he offer an alternative view, when she refused to buy something for €30 because it was not on sale.

"But you bought that jacket for €50 after it was marked down from €65. Wouldn't you buy that if it had a tag saying it was marked down from €45 on it? That's not very logical."

"Well don't you often back a horse at a bigger price because it is better value, even if you think another horse is going to win at too short odds?"

He said he was going to go and sit



outside for a while, although outside was still inside as it was a shopping mall.

Someone had taken the seat next to the former Taoiseach, who seemed a little out of place in this church to consumerism, so he had to settle to a place on the next bench beside that other great patriot, Ronald MacDonald.

Her betting analogy troubled him somewhat. It also annoyed him that over Christmas there was so few sports on: racing, darts or football.

And every year it was the same novelty bets: Who will be Christmas No 1 in the charts? Will it snow on Christmas Day (always a non-runner this year)?

He decided to compile his own Christmas odds:

That Downton Abbey or Eastenders will be on any given TV channel when you turn over: 11-8.

That it took you longer to open the cable tie on one of your kids' toys than they spent playing with that toy: evens.

That you didn't get what you wanted: 5-4.

That although you are sure the Christmas hat you put on at the start of the evening was purple, the one on you as you stare into the bathroom mirror is definitely yellow: 2-1

That four hours after Christmas dinner and saying you won't eat again that day, you made yourself a Tayto sandwich: 3-1.

That after she says it's time to leave the sales you have to "pop in here for a minute", equals one shop (8-1) two shops (9-4) three shops (11-8) four shops or more (4-5).

Recommendation: Newcastle have not been at their best, but look a big price at 13-2 to hand Liverpool a first home defeat of the season tomorrow.