

**Ballyvally Archer wins Norwegian National Indoor Championship**

Rune Naeri, a Norwegian member of Ballyvally Archery Club, took part in the Norway's National Indoor Championships last weekend and is now the Norwegian Men's Barebow Champion. Rune has competed throughout Ireland and GB but this was his first time returning to compete on Norwegian soil. He and his family went to Norway to visit friends and family and he stayed on to take part in the competition in Kristiansand, Southern Norway.

Getting his arrows to Norway was the most complicated part, as Rune found out when he contacted the airline to book sports equipment. "The airline will not carry arrows, even in the hold, so I had to organise friends to take them to the west coast of Norway, From there they were posted to Oslo, where they arrived just the day before I had to travel to the competition."

Archery is a popular sport in Norway and 40 clubs and 280 archers came together for the National Indoor Championships. On the Saturday Rune took part in the usual 60-arrow qualifying competition and at the end of day one was lying second, behind the reigning Barebow Champion. On Sunday Rune took part in the shoot-off competition. In the semi-final Rune won his match despite experiencing the new pressure of being filmed and commentated on. In the final, against the favourite, Rune held his nerve and won cleanly by 6 points.

Rune is full of praise for his training and preparation by Ballyvally Archery Club. "To have won the Norwegian Championships at the first attempt shows the level at which Ballyvally Archery Club is operating. I have learned so much from the experts in the Club and I owe a special thanks to Frank and Peter Mulligan and Alan Convery for all their advice and support".

Rune was very pleased with the welcome by his countrymen. "Although I arrived in Kristiansand as a complete stranger and won the Barebow class, the Norwegian archers welcomed me as another sportsperson. They have asked me to come back with other Ballyvally members to compete in the Oslo Open Competition later in the year".

Ballyvally members should note that the Easter Bunny Shoot will be held on Wednesday 8 April in Banbridge Leisure Centre.

The Northern Ireland Field Championships will be held on Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 April at the Roe Valley. Ballyvally members are reminded to get their entries and cups from last year to Frank Mulligan as soon as possible