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Sloan leads host of Irish Achievements in 28th EBT Irish Open Championships

Ireland's Christopher Sloan came agonisingly close to taking his first European Bowling Tour title on home soil, but was beaten in the final match by England's Paul Moor to finish in 2nd place.

The home hero had huge support all throughout finals day, along with several other Irish players who had made the latter stages of the tournament, but could not be willed over the line against the most decorated player in EBT history.

Moor, whose 495-414 victory over Sloan saw him win his 3rd Irish Open title, has now won 17 EBT titles, more than any other player.

Sloan had shown in the quarter-finals that he was a serious force to be reckoned with an astonishing 580-447 victory over another former champion, and European legend, Norway's Tore Torgersen, which included a perfect 300 game.

The 21-year old then beat England's Rob Thurlby, who himself had bowled a perfect 300 game in the tournament, before eventually coming up just short against Moor.

It was a mature performance from a player who has had a whirlwind 18 months, and continues to put Irish bowling on the map around the world with his world-class performances.

There was victory for Ireland, however, as Tom Byrne beat American PBA Hall-of-Famer and two-time Irish Open champion Brian Voss on his way to winning the Senior Championship, which ran concurrently with the main event.

Byrne found himself behind early on in the final match against Sweden's Bengt-Åke Bengtsson, and he kept the huge home support biting their fingernails before eventually winning by a single pin.

This year's event also saw another stellar performance from female star Amanda Larkin, who followed up last year's 4th place with a 5th place finish in 2016, and she also won the top female bowler prize for the second year in a row.



In total there were 6 Irish players in the top 24 of an event which saw some of the best talent in European and World tenpin bowling descend on Dublin for what was the biggest and best Irish Open Championships yet.

Irish bowling is on the up once more, and 2016 look set to be a big year for our top talent.

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