



## Amanda Larking wins Youth Euro Trophy Gold in Reims

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Irish youth bowler Amanda Larkin goes from strength to strength winning her second European event in 6 weeks. Following on from her European Youth Championship (EYC) Gold in Vienna at the end of April, Amanda won Gold at the Youth Euro Trophy (YET) finals in Reims, France this past weekend.

Competing on the Youth Euro Trophy Tour for the first time Amanda qualified for the finals through her performances on the 4 event tour (Belgium, Ireland, France and the Netherlands) since October 2012.

Round 1 brought the eight finalists (representing Ireland, Belgium, Austria, Russia, England and the Netherlands) head to head in a seven game round robin format to determine the top three places. Amanda bowled brilliantly winning six of her seven matches, qualifying first with a 222 average.

The semi-final was a tense 3 game match with Hanne Nijs of Belgium beating her compatriot Cindy Valckx 2-1, earning the right to play Amanda in the final.

The final started slowly for both players, Amanda took a tight first game 194-182 which seemed to spur her on for the second game. Striking in 4 of the first 5 frames she never looked in trouble, winning the game 221-172 and taking the Title and Gold medal.

Congratulations to Amanda for another great European win.

It's also worth mentioning that 4 other Irish Junior bowlers qualified for the YET Finals in their respective divisions, two of whom just missed out on making the semi-finals in 4<sup>th</sup> place. All in all a great performance at Junior level in this the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Tenpin Bowling in Ireland.

