

Spoofing Classics

Spoofing at the Great Wall



FOR THE RECORD

I would like to record that I was China Coast Spoofing champion in 1995 at the Hong Kong 7s, overcoming in the final...ooh, I can't remember. That was at the end of a week playing at the Manila and Hong Kong 10s on an exclusive diet of Carlsberg. So my thanks go largely to the litre of Pepto Bismol that got me to the final.

The following year, I organised the Inaugural Middle Kingdom Gentlemen's Spoofing Championship in Beijing. I believe Mr Victor Marks (Allen) of Somerset triumphed. But the weekend was more memorable for the "Tiananmen 6". Following a day at the Great Wall, firing weapons off at a People's Liberation Army shooting range (Mr Burnett led the way by blowing up a brick wall with a bazooka, and possibly a local farmer), and drinking through the night, we decided at 5am to go to Tiananmen Square to see the flag raising ceremony under the gaze of Chairman Mao. One of our company took a piss on the Square (name withheld for reputation purposes) and got us all rounded up in a police van. All except for Mike "the Darkie" Marais. Clearly in the interests of diversity, the filth didn't want to create a potential racial abuse incident, so Mike had to volunteer to be arrested along with the rest of us.

Following a lively game of basketball with the coppers inside the Forbidden City police station, the micturatory offender came out from his interrogation with a receipt for a RMB50 (£5) fine. He was duly sent back to get each of us a receipt for about £1 each as a memento.

The basketball MVP, Mike Flaherty, was reported as saying: 'What a weekend! You know, Tim, I'm going to be back in the office next week having lunch with the guys, and they'll say "How was your weekend?" I'll say "I flew to China, went to the Great Wall, attended the Inaugural Middle Kingdom Gentlemen's Spoofing Championship, shot off a few weapons in a firing range, and then got arrested in Tiananmen Square." And after an amused pause, they'll say "Yeeeah. Go on, what did you really do?"

Tim Standbrook

China Coast Spoof Champion 1995

“SPOOFING AT THE GREAT WALL”

Cadres left to right standing: S. Burnett (HK), T. Standbrook (PRC), V. Allen (HK),
P. Brooks (HK), A. Knight (UK), M. Flaherty (UK)

Kneeling: M. Marais (UK), L. Edwards (ROK)

