

The 2006 Winmau World Masters saw the ADO send its largest contingent of players ever, with 7 Men, 4 Women and one Youth competing in Bridlington, England. The Winmau World Masters this year was the largest ever held, with over 30 countries represented. The USA was well represented by Stacy Bromberg who finished in the Top 8, the best finish for an American since Marilyn Popp's 2nd place finish in 2001. The tournament saw the recent domination of Netherlands in major competitions continue with 17 year old Michael VanGurwin winning the Mens title, and Frances Hoenselaar taking the Ladies crown.

On Friday, the Mens Masters competition got off to a fast start for the Americans with Jim Widmayer defeating English legend Bobby George by a score of 3 sets to 2 in the first match of the day. Jim advanced to the Top 64 before losing to eventual Quarter-Finalist John Walton of England. Anthony Miera was back in Bridlington for a second year, and he impressed the crowd again, advancing to the Top 64 before losing to eventual Champion Michael VanGurwin of the Netherlands 3-1. VanGurwin, at 17 years old became the youngest Masters Champion ever, defeating English National Team Captain Martin Adams 7-5 after coming back from a 5-2 deficit winning 5 straight sets. Ricky Villanueva, another player back for a second straight year, went out to eventual top 16 finisher Andy Boulton of England. Representing the USA for the first time on this trip were Dan Moore, Dan Carroll, Ernie Comerdelles and Dale McInnis. This new group of players adapted very quickly, and played very well against some of the best players in the World. Dan Carroll went out to Marko Kantele of Sweden, a veteran of many International competitions, and an eventual Top 32 finisher in this event. Ernie Comerdelles was defeated in a close match by #10 Seed Mike Veitch of Scotland. McInnis defeated Sweden's Ronny Rohr before falling to Dutch International Mareno Michels, and Dan Moore played extremely well, defeating Martin McClosky of the Rep. of Ireland before bowing out to Sweden's Per Rijnhonen, a Top 32 finisher.

The most successful player of the weekend for the USA was Stacy Bromberg, who finished in the Top 8, losing to eventual Champion Frances Hoenselaar of the Netherlands. Stacy had a tough road to the Quarter Finals, defeating Mieke DeBoer of the Netherlands, Maud Johnsson of Sweden and Dee Bateman of England. The match against Hoenselaar was a thriller, with Stacy falling 4-2. Marilyn Popp, a Finalist in the 2001 Masters, went out to eventual Semi-Finalist Carla Molema of the Netherlands. Sherri Benton, making her second straight Masters appearance fell to Marie Geaney of England, and Donna Overly, making her first International appearance, lost to Karen Lawman of England, an eventual Top 16 finisher.