

Some say that there are actually four players from outside the U.K. that have been World Champion citing Australian Horace Lindrum, a nephew of Walter, who won the title in 1952. This event was boycotted by all the British professional players that year and for this reason many in the sport will not credit him with the achievement.



The other three to make the list are first, Cliff Thorburn from Canada in 1980, defeating Alex Higgins 18 frames to 16. He also made the first 147 maximum break of the World Championships in his 1983 second round match against Terry Griffiths which he won 13 – 12.

Third was Neil Robertson who won a never to be forgotten final against Scot Graeme Dott 18 frames to 13 in 2010. His route to the final had started with a match against Fergal O'Brien which he won 10 – 5. Next up was a heart stopping, come from behind win over Martin Gould after trailing 0 – 6 and again 5 – 11 before getting over the line 13 – 12. Steve Davis, multiple World Champion, was next and dispatched 13 – 5 which brought him to the semi finals and a 17 – 12 victory over Ali (The Captain) Carter.

Third here but really second on the list is Ken Doherty from Eire who won the World title by beating Stephen Hendry, multiple World Champion winner from Scotland, at the Crucible in 1997 winning 18 - 12.

Ken had previously become the I.B.S.F. amateur World Champion in 1989 by defeating Jon Birch of England 11 frames to 2 in the final held in Singapore.

He also won the I.B.S.F. Under 21 title that year in Reykjavik, Iceland by defeating Jason Ferguson of England 11 frames to 5, thus being the first and only one to date to hold all three titles.

The other two Irishmen to win the World title are Alex Higgins (1972, 1982) and Dennis Taylor (1985) and are both from Northern Ireland which is in the U.K.

