



February 2017 Newsletter

Letter from the Chairman:

The club will soon be the venue for some very high standard bowling which will provide an opportunity for members to watch some national finals and the players who have registered to play in the club's open singles circuit event. The open singles circuit tournament is being held on Saturday 11th March when 64 bowlers will compete in a knockout format for the first prize of £1000. This will be followed by the final of the Wessex league on Sunday 9th April. The Denny Cup and Yetton Trophy finals will be played at the club over the weekend of 22nd/23rd April when the semi-finals and finals of the English club teams of four men's rinks and fours ladies' rinks teams compete in the final stages of what is generally recognised as the top national indoor club team competitions.

Club members have enjoyed success in the EIBA national competitions which have been changed this year to include an additional local round before reaching the national final stage. The club has one team in the men's fours who have one further round to play against a team from Moonfleet before qualifying for the national finals. This team comprising Clive Tidcombe, Rees White, Adam Sparey and Jordan Sparey beat an extremely strong Clarrie Dunbar team, which included an international player, to reach this stage. Ros Constant and Sue Osborne have reached a similar stage in the national Ladies over 60 ladies pairs and need to beat a team from Clarrie Dunbar before qualifying for their national finals at Nottingham on 12th/13th April. We wish both of these club teams every success in their next matches before progressing to the national finals.

The club competitions are proceeding well with a few surprises as some "favourites" are being beaten. That is the beauty of bowls with every match relying on "how it goes on the day" with sometimes the third aspect of line, length and luck playing its part.

As I advised in the previous newsletter the club was reviewed for Disability Kitemark status at a meeting recently held at the club by the Bowls England Disability Steering Group. A club has to pass a series of points some of which are obligatory, and others optional as long as a club is successful in the majority of these points. I am pleased to be able to advise that the club passed all the optional and compulsory points and is now the first bowls club in England to be awarded the bowls disability kitemark.

The club has recently been invited to participate in the Mayor's "Bristol Sporting Future" initiative. I have recently attended two meetings at the Council Offices where sports clubs from across the city have been provided with the opportunity to provide input into the issues affecting the development of sporting activity, and suggest ways in which improvements can be made. This year Bristol is a European City of Sport and the Mayor Melvyn Rees is determined that Bristol will use this status to set a strong foundation for sport and leisure activity in the city. The Mayor's initiative is an opportunity for all bowls clubs in Bristol to participate by providing a free bowls session at their clubs with this being linked to a central Bristol City of Sport marketing database.

To register interest, use the link www.bristolcityofsport17.co.uk or send any questions to cityof-sport17@bristol.gov.uk. The free session must be held between 6th May and 16th September. Commitment is needed by the end of March and a toolkit will be issued to all participating clubs between 14th and 28th April. BIBC will be fully involved and I would encourage outdoor clubs to participate to demonstrate that bowling is a sport that has clubs with a positive commitment to their sports future and to the city.

The Mayor's initiative fits in with the Government's drive to encourage more people to become active. This policy is being implemented through Sport England with their new grants aimed at funding organisations that can demonstrate how, with grant support, they can increase participation in sport and leisure activity. BIBC has applied for a Community Asset Fund grant and we await to find out whether our application will proceed to the next more detailed phase.

Lewis Toman

EIBA Area 16 Ladies over 60 National Competitions

During the past two weeks Ros Constant & Sue Osborne have played a North Wilts Four & 2 wood Triple teams led by Alex Jacobs and lost both games.

In the third match against Alex & Sue Cook in the over 60 ladies' pairs, also played on the neutral green at Clarrie Dunbar, they were determined not to make it a losing hat-trick. Having started with a three on the first end, they continued to gel and never lost the lead. The North Wilts duo eventually conceded with two ends remaining with the score 22-7.

Ros & Sue will now play a pair from Clarrie Dunbar on a neutral green in the area final to determine who goes to Nottingham in the last sixteen on April 12th.

EIBA Area 16 National Men's Fours Area Final

On Sunday 12th February Reece White, Adam Sparey, Jordan Sparey and Clive Tidcombe took on and beat an extremely strong four from Clarrie Dunbar in the area final of the national fours.

After trailing 7-3 after 5 ends the BIBC team levelled the scores 2 ends later. The next end saw a quality end from the front three only for Clarrie Dunbar to get the jack in the ditch and then draw 2 shots right to the edge of the green. Bristol then dropped a further 3 to trail 7 shots to 12.

A change of tactics saw Reece bring the mat up the green which brought about a revival in fortunes and the score back to 11-12. The next end Bristol held a good count of 4 which was cut down to 1 by the Clarrie Dunbar skip with his last bowl. Shots were exchanged until with 2 ends to play Clive's men led for the first time since the first end. The penultimate end again saw good bowls from the Bristol men only for England International Graham Shadwell to deny a count of 2 by drawing shot with his last bowl.

With scores level, 13 apiece, the last end was winner takes all but crucially Clive had the last bowl and what a way to use it! Having come desperately close to drawing shot with his first bowl Clive played with pin point accuracy to turn his own bowl over to secure the win with the last bowl of the match.

This was a fine performance from 3 of our talented young bowlers and dare we say it elder statesman Clive. The lads now have one more game against a team from Moonfleet in Weymouth in order to qualify for the national finals at Melton Mowbray.

(Thanks to Neil Yeoman for his comprehensive match report)

Wessex League Update February 2017

Following an unexpected defeat to Thornbury in our penultimate game we approached our last match with North Wilts IBC needing a win and secure a minimum of 12 of the 16 points available to ensure we advanced to the knockout phase. Bristol has never failed to reach the play off stages of this competition so the pressure was on to maintain this record.

The side had a more familiar look and was bolstered by a number of returning players who had missed the Thornbury game. To add a little more spice to the encounter North Wilts had beaten Thornbury since our defeat and were now our principal rivals for second place in the Central Region.

However, if there were any nerves these were quickly dispelled as the 2 home rinks opened up a 15 shot lead after just 5 ends. The news from Chippenham was equally encouraging as our away rinks were 5 shots up.

The game continued very much in this vain in particular the home rink of Jordan Sparey, Clive Tidcombe, Nigel Green and Kelvin Little who were relentless eventually clocking up a 31-4 victory. The other home rink skipped by Peter Birmingham enjoyed a narrow 2 shot win. The away rinks skipped by Gerry Coffield and Eric Seavill both delivered comfortable victories of 26-8 and 26-14 respectively.

In conclusion, a fine display when it really mattered. We now wait to see who we are drawn against in the last 16. If you want to support your team the next round will continue to be in the same 2 rinks home 2 rinks away format and is currently scheduled to be played at 10.00am on Saturday 4th March. Please note we are also hosting the final of this prestigious competition again at 10.00am on Sunday 9th April 2017. Let's hope our team can make it to the final and enjoy home advantage.

League Manager – Steve Neal

A file with a list of registered players for each team is now on reception. Please let me know if any players are not showing as registered or if any no longer play for your team.

If you think you may require players for your league team in 2017/2018 speak to myself or Wendy. We can advertise in the Newsletter for players. Finding players at the start of the season can be more of a problem, when some bowlers are still playing outdoors.

Please also re-arrange any outstanding games, as the end of the League season is only seven weeks away.

If you have any queries you can contact me on the email: leaguemanager@bristolibc.co.uk

Planning ahead Summer 2017

We are thinking of starting an Australian Pairs League on Thursdays @ 12.05pm in the summer, if we can get enough teams to start a league up.

A registration form is attached for anyone interested. Please either hand forms to reception or email to the club.

Also, if anyone would like to add a team to the Summer Open Triples League which is on Tuesdays @ 2.00pm the same form can be used.

Also, sheets are on the board, next to the league tables board for the Summer Leagues, where you can register your interest for the above.

Mixed Friendly Matches – Cedric Gunson

Results from recent matches:

TWO good losses !!!!

Sat Feb 25th – Away - Bristol 80 / Newport 141 – 6 rinks.

Sun Feb 26th – Away – Bristol 90 / Leominster 138 – 6 rinks. (We fielded 3 rinks from Malvern).

More players needed as I'm still desperately short of Players for the away Cotswold match on Sunday March 5th. New members are welcome and encouraged to take part.

Torquay Tour 2018

The Torquay Tour List is now full, applications for reserve places only. Jan 12th/15th 2018.

Ladies Friendly Matches Lorraine Paget pp Verna Alford

Results of recent matches are:

Wed 30th Nov 2016 Bromsgrove cancelled
Tues 6th Dec 2016 Bristol cancelled Malvern away due to lack of support
Wed 18th Jan 2017 Bristol 101 Newport 111
(Had to borrow 6 ladies from Newport to make 6 rinks)
(sure we would have won if had more Bristol Ladies)
Tues 7th Feb 2017 Bristol 83 Malvern 85
Tues 14th Feb 2017 Bristol 67 Cotswold 108
Tues 21st Feb 2017 Bristol 109 Minehead 102 Hooray Well done Bristol

Quite a few new Ladies joining us, hope it will continue.

Also, Four Ladies travelled to Newport on 22nd Feb to play against Newport
We were invited to join in their 25th celebration game. A most enjoyable day. They were

New Ladies' Gilets

Ladies are you interested in ordering a new club gilet? If so, please give your name and size to Angela. A 'sample' is available for viewing in the office.

Bristol Juniors vs Jersey Juniors

What a weekend!... on Saturday the Jersey visitors were collected from the Premier Inn by volunteer drivers (having been collected on the Friday evening from the airport and taken to their hotel). The games commenced at 11a.m with three sets of "Pairs" and a "Triple"... Bristol winning all four games. The afternoon session comprised of three "Triples" two were outright wins 24 -9 and 32 - 6 and the third was down to a tie breaker win 2-1 At the end of the first day the score was Bristol 13 ½ pts - Jersey 2 ½ pts.

Sunday morning commenced with two "Fours" in which Bristol won one and lost one (by just one shot!) and a "Pairs" in which Bristol won 17-9. In the final session of the weekend it was six "Singles". Bristol winning 5 games - one on a 2-1 tie breaker and the other drew one end lost the second. The highest scorers in this "Singles" were Jess Thorley 23-6 and Brad Cox 20-5. Well done!

Sooo... BIBC Juniors won 15 ½ games and lost just two!

The games were played in two sets of seven with a three end tie-breaker (1 for each end won, with ½ point for a draw) so that's how Bristol scored 30 ½ points to Jersey's 6 ½ points.

Well Done BIBC Juniors not just for winning but for the way you behaved on and off the rink. You are definitely a credit to Bristol Indoor Bowls Club – Proud of you all!

Sadly Jersey forgot to bring the trophy with them but have promised to pay for the engraving and will forward to us as soon as this is completed.

The Parents/Grandparents of the Jersey team made a collection of £120 for our Jersey Fund to thank us for all the transportation and hospitality - at which point I would like to thank all those who helped with transportation, especially John Horstead who with his mini bus cut down the number of cars needed, helping us and the environment!!

Thank you to all the people who worked behind the scenes who helped with making this such a successful weekend...the BIBC coaches, all the people who helped with transport, Angela, Nigel and their Granddaughter Becky for the super program she designed and of course Steve and his staff for the food they provided.



BIBC Juniors who played against Jersey

PIG RACING Evening

Thank you to Helen Hudson for coming up with the suggestion and for knowing the people who ran it – Steve and Wendy Edwards from Greenbank Outdoor Club who did a fantastic job of co-ordinating everything – thank you!

It really was a great evening enjoyed by several club members along with the Jersey crowd and our juniors and their parents. People sponsored races, owned pigs, and bet on the pigs. The excitement when the races run, were noisy, but all good fun and enjoyed by everyone.

We sold **Ham** rolls with a packet of free **bacon** crisps for £1. Which raised £40!!

After paying out on all bets and prizes for owners of winning pigs **£250** was raised for the Jersey Juniors!!

Many thanks to all the people who came along and to the people who sponsored races and bought pigs. It really was a good evening and something we will no doubt do again next season!

The following article may be of interest to outdoor clubs!

Initiative by Bristol City Council European City of Sport Campaign – Are You Game?

This campaign is being coordinated by Bristol City Council and all bowls clubs, indoor and outdoor, are invited to participate.

Key Timings:

End of March - Commitment to be part of ‘Are You Game?’ and final confirmation of your activity details.

To celebrate European City of Sport 2017, the council is inviting its partners to work with them on a campaign to encourage local people to:

- Find out about opportunities to participate in local sports clubs and activities
- Try out new sports and activities
- Be inspired by people’s stories of trying a sport or activity

How do I get involved?

Register your interest at www.bristolcityofsport17.co.uk by completing the online form.

If you have any questions email cityofsport17@bristol.gov.uk

How will the campaign work?

- Sports providers, clubs and organisations across the city open their doors to new members, to try a session for free to encourage them to take up something new.
- All you need to do is tell us a few details about how your free sessions will work, and we will help you promote it citywide.

· We'll then gather stories of people who got involved and tried something new and share these stories over the year. This gives multiple opportunities to showcase your organisation, sport or club.

Together, we can make this a great European City of Sport 2017 campaign and showcase opportunities for everyone to get physically active.

The Open Singles Circuit Saturday 11th March 8.30am until 11pm

BIBC is hosting a round of the Open Singles Circuit on the 11th March. 64 top bowlers from around the country play on the circuit for prize money of £1000 and to gain points for ascending the rankings. Play on a knock out basis is in 7 end sets. For the names of bowlers participating at Bristol see the draw on the main notice board and Open Circuit web site.

North Somerset Agricultural Show

On May 1st at Wraxall, BIBC will be present at the NSAS with a gazebo and equipment to promote bowls in the Bristol Area. If you are interested in promoting bowls and your club at this event please speak to Wendy for further information.

Promote the sport of bowls, put bowls on the map!

Taken from a recent promotional exercise at a local venue, take photographs of bowls/bowlers on your mobile and add them on your Facebook, Twitter, Instagram pages. If you include the bowlers make sure you have their permission to do so and NO FLASH as it disturbs play.

It is one method of showing the public, contrary to popular belief, that the sport of bowls is alive and great to be part of.

And finally:

Many thanks to all those who contributed articles for this newsletter and to David Rhys Jones for his write ups in the Western Daily Press each week.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 11th March Open Singles Circuit.

Saturday/Sunday 1st/2nd April BIBC Finals Weekend.

Friday 28th April Presentation Evening.

Saturday/Sunday 22nd/23rd April EIBA Denny Cup and Yetton Cup Finals.