



November 2013 Newsletter

Letter from the Chairman:

The club activities are now in full swing with weekends in particular extremely busy. It is very pleasant to see the rinks so well used together with a number of private functions that provide valuable income. We now have detailed information covering the last three years and have ascertained that 70% of the clubs catering and bar income has been generated from the more major events held at the club. Many thanks to the volunteers who are supporting these events but more are needed so if you have a little time to help out it would be greatly appreciated.

The club's computer systems are now providing far more information than previously. We have accurate records of membership which can be linked to league team players to identify whether anybody has forgotten to pay their membership. We will shortly be holding the membership checks so request that everyone collects their membership cards from reception to prevent any embarrassment. We would remind members of the club rule that states any member who has not paid their membership who plays in a league team will result in forfeiture of all league team points when they are playing. Whilst there has been an amnesty on that to date this season it will be applied in the future. We will also be contacting all members who have not renewed their membership this season to ascertain the reasons so that we can learn from that feedback.

The club is run by volunteers who act on behalf of the members. The volunteer photographs are all shown on the notice board by the vending machine and it is pleasing to see a number of new faces this season. We do need member's feedback and this year with a very significant number of new members we feel it is time to issue a questionnaire seeking members views on a number of areas. This is attached at the end of this newsletter and is available at reception. I would ask all members to fill in this questionnaire to help the board and officers steer the club reflecting the members views.

There are a number of one off events coming up shortly at the club which I would draw to your attention:

The members christmas lunch on December 13th is always a very pleasant festive occasion and I hope to see many of you there.

The club will shortly be hosting the Bowls Development Alliance level 1 (entry level) coaching course. This will run over two days - January 26th and February 23rd. Any member who feels they would like to become a coach are welcome to apply for this course. The club will fund all costs.

A free basic level First Aid course will be run at the club on Sunday January 19th 2014 at 10am. Any club member can apply. There is a limit on the number of places available so please contact Angela in the office if you wish to apply.

The final club competition entry date is the end of November. The only competition that is currently undersubscribed is the two wood open pairs and we are looking for a minimum of eight entries to run this competition. It is pleasing to see that a number of members have applied to enter the adult/junior australian pairs competition which will be running for the first time this year.

The club's ambitious bowls development plan is evolving and a Steering Group will soon be established to begin implementation of the plan. If any members wish to be part of this Steering Group please let me know - we are looking for a combination of experience and enthusiasm. A Bowls Skills Day is being held on

February 8th. This is aimed at intermediate level bowlers who wish to improve their skills. A poster will be put up shortly advertising this event which will be limited to 24 members. Last year we were oversubscribed so if you wish to improve your bowling skills please book early.

It is pleasing to see the number of people wishing to play in the Somerset League matches. This is also providing an opportunity for our juniors to benefit from a high standard of bowls and they are making a good contribution to the team. Verna is currently experiencing some difficulty in securing enough ladies to play in the club matches. These matches provide an excellent opportunity to develop your bowling skills against other clubs so please support your ladies captain. The notice boards by the disabled toilet provide details of all the forthcoming matches, including Somerset Patrons matches. I can remember when I was beginning to bowl I felt very nervous about putting my name down to play for my club but when I plucked up courage found playing was a very enjoyable experience so would recommend everyone to put their names down on the availability lists and "give it a try".

Head of Mens Selectors Terry Barnes

Members are invited to add their names to availability sheets for the Wessex League. Juniors are now taking part in the Denny Cup and Somerset league and are contributing well towards these matches.

For the progress of BIBC teams and players in the National competitions please check on the EIBA web site. The rink schedule shows when these matches are being played at home.

League Manager Eddie Haines

It is pleasing to report that the leagues are now running according to schedule. However there is ongoing work to be done with regards to some team registrations. Please would all league team secretaries make sure that they have completed their league team registration sheet.

Fixture Secretary Bill Hatherall

There are just a few dates left in the season where no friendly matches are being played. A much requested Ladies versus Gents BIBC match has been arranged for SUNDAY 5th JANUARY 2014, a date for your diary.

Competition Secretary Tony Down

Entries have been coming in for the various competitions. There is still an opportunity at this late stage to enter. If you are a lady or a novice who has been bowling for 3 years or less, we look forward to receiving your entry for the ladies singles and novice competitions. Or if you have never won a club competition just pluck up the courage and fill in an unwon competition entry form or contact Angela 01179633460.

Weekend Friendly Matches Cedric Gunson

We have continued our winning ways with a further 6 matches played and won since the last Newsletter. we had a first on Saturday Nov 23rd when we hosted Cynon Valley to a 9 rink match and won all 9 rinks!

I regret to report that Mid-Glos have had to cancel their visit to us on Sunday Dec 1st due to insufficient numbers.

A Ladies v Gents match has been added to the calender - Sunday Jan 5th @ 2.00pm.

It's been pleasing to see a number of new members participating in these matches, whilst more would be very welcome.

Torquay Tour Cedric Gunson

2 more players could be accommodated for this Jan 10th/12th 2014 tour. 8 matches will be played over the 3 days, so there are plenty of opportunities for all to play at least 3 matches.

Ladies Captain Verna Alford

Now that the season is underway the ladies have played two friendly matches with a loss of 13 shots against Cotswold Ladies and a win against Arrow Ladies on all rinks.

In the national competitions the BIBC ladies have been knocked out of the Mason Trophy and Yetton Trophy but through to the next round in the Vivienne Trophy.

Coaching & Juniors report John Langford

The BIBC Juniors v Rhonnda saw the home side beaten by a strong Welsh team.

There is a request for more coaches/helpers on a Saturday mornings for the junior coaching sessions.

BIBC is taking 18 juniors to Taunton for the School of Excellence preliminary rounds.

It is encouraging for bowls that there is a steady stream of people showing interest in the sport. There are 3 potential new members being coached at the moment. A date for your diaries: a Skills day has been arranged for February 8th 2014.

Membership Secretary Report inc Jersey Fund raising Thomasina Goodman

The Winter Fayre on Saturday November 16th raised £475 for the Jersey Fund raising. Special thanks to all those who helped preparing for the event and on the day itself. Special thanks go to Steve Metcalf for his contributions towards the fund raising.

Possible New Years Eve Party

Whilst the club shuts down from December 23rd until January 4th if sufficient number of members wish to attend a New Years Eve party then the club will specially open for this. If you are interested in attending please let Angela know.



Tony Down in action



BIBC Juniors V Rhonnda



A winning ticket at the Winter Fayre



Top Club national competition rink



BIBC Members Questionnaire
December 2013

Please feel free to fill in this questionnaire and return to Reception.

Name:	
Property - Are there any improvements that you would wish to see that the club	
Volunteering - Do you have any specific skills that you think would benefit the club e.g IT, marketing, management, legal expertise, building skills etc.	
Management - Would you be interested in being part of the club management.	
Coaching - Are you interested in attending the BDA coaching course being run at the club.	
Would you be interested in being part of the club's Bowls Development Steering Group.	
Are you willing to help with the club's junior bowls development activities	
If an adult/junior league is formed would you be interested in playing in this.	
If you are already a coach but do not currently coach at the club would you be willing to help with some bowls coaching at the club.	
Are you interested in attending the First Aid Course being run at the club on January 19 th 2014.	
If you are a new member have you been made to feel welcome and are there any improvements the club should consider to help new members settle into the club.	