



## February 2014 Newsletter

### **Letter from the Chairman:**

The first meeting of the Bowls Development Steering Group identified a wide range of actions, including issuing the questionnaire attached to this newsletter to the adult bowlers in the club to gauge their support for possible initiatives to help them improve their bowling skills. A copy of this questionnaire is at reception and all adult members are encouraged to complete this form so that we proceed in a manner that meets the membership approval and support.

One glaring area needing some attention is the need for our junior girls and women to be able to develop their competitive abilities by playing in a competitive inter club league. The men's Somerset league enables our male juniors to improve but there is no equivalent league for ladies! Plans for an open adult/junior Australian pairs league will enable our more competent juniors to develop by playing more competitive bowls with experienced adults.

Major efforts are needed to encourage more juniors to join BIBC. Visits are being arranged to a number of clubs who have successfully recruited and developed juniors so that we can learn from success elsewhere and implement this at our club.

What is already clear is that the club will need to adapt in order to implement the bowls development policy. More rink space will need to be allocated for this purpose and some alterations to league start times may be necessary.

Moving onto changes to league times the meeting of the Thursday Evening Mens Triples league agreed to change this league start time next season to 7.0 p.m. This will enable those working members to more easily get to the club avoiding the rush hour traffic that is progressively getting worse year by year.

The volunteer photograph montages have now been updated to include the bowls development team and the team selectors. The montage showing the coaches demonstrates that within the club membership there are a large number of coaches, helpers and mentors willing to help at the club. This is essential to support the bowls development policy and the club is extremely appreciative of the time that they allocate helping people to learn and develop their bowling abilities. Recently the club has hosted the BDA Level 1 coaching course and five club members will shortly be BDA qualified level one coaches. A meeting has been arranged to which all coaches, helpers and mentors have been invited to discuss how the club develops one unified way of coaching taking the best from all the coaching schemes. At that meeting the bowls development plans and the key coaching role will be discussed.

The "Volunteers Thank You Evening" is being held on Saturday March 22nd. All volunteers and partners have been invited to attend. This is the major opportunity for the club to thank the volunteers for their enormous support and musical entertainment will follow the buffet.

The bowls skills day held at the club on 2nd February was enjoyed by all those who attended. I would like to thank the coaches, juniors and volunteers who helped make the occasion so successful. The ladies section was won by Jean Sims with the amazingly high score of 60 out of a total possible of 120. The mens section was won by Richard Haynes. As part of bowls development more skills day will be held next season. Consideration is being given to blocks of coaching over say a four week period once novices have completed their initial three coaching sessions to help them and any other interested bowlers to

develop their bowling ability including aspects such as “reading the head”, marking, resting shots, drive shots etc.

The Gala Day being held on Sunday 9th March still has a few vacancies for teams of 2 ladies and 2 men. This is an opportunity to play in a round robin competitive series of matches during the day with three prizes including a top prize of £120 for the winning team.

The following Sunday we host the Planet Bowls Event where club members will be able to watch top class singles matches being played by bowlers from across the country. We would strongly recommend members to come along that day and enjoy the high standard of bowling. Volunteers are needed on this day for marking, scoring, bar, catering support, special cleaning etc. If you are available and willing to volunteer your services please speak with Angela.

Members will be aware that the role of Bar Administrator has been advertised within the club. Following the interview process the mutually agreed decision was taken to appoint Nigel Green as Bar Administrator with Steve Metcalfe as Deputy Bar Administrator. Each will have separate specific primary tasks and provide support to the other in their secondary roles.

It is pleasing to be able to report that the Juniors trip to Jersey was a great success. Whilst being beaten by the Jersey Juniors the matches were far closer than the previous year and the juniors played well together providing mutual support and great team spirit. Plans are now in hand to arrange some tournaments against more local clubs and for more of our juniors to enter Somerset and National junior competitions. The junior fund raising will continue to help with the junior costs playing in these events.

Finally may I remind all league team secretaries that all catch up matches need to be played by the end of the season.

### **National Competitions Report Terry Barnes**

The National competitions are reaching their Final Stages. It is pleasing to report that Sue Osborne and Ros Constant are in the Ladies over 60s pairs, Mike Humphries and Nigel Green are in the Mens over 60s pairs with Ros Constant shortly to play in the Over 60s Ladies singles area final. We wish them well with their future matches.

Somerset competitions are also in progress with BIBC members well represented.

Check members progress on the EIBA and SCIBA web sites.

There has been a request to mention that John Couch, Alan Robinson and Martyn Thorne members of BIBC representing Nailsea IBC have reached the EIBA National Finals of the Over 50s Triples at Northampton in March. We also wish them well.

### **Ladies Captain Verna Alford**

It is pleasing to report that the Ladies matches are going quite well at the moment with tightly contested games. The latest being BIBC v Minehead on 6 rinks with the result being a draw.

In addition new lady members are showing interest in playing in the ladies matches, 5 of whom with encouragement played recently and enjoyed the bowls match experience.

### **Leagues Eddie Haines**

Would members please note that on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March there are clashes with visiting team games which will require league games to be cancelled or rescheduled. Information will be circulated in advance so that you are aware in good time.

The intention is for such matches scheduled for next season to be noted and taken into account before issuing league team rotas

Now is the time of year for catch up matches to be played, book your rink early!

Summer League fixtures will commence on 28th April 2014.

BIBC is open all year. For those who wish to play indoors during the summer there are leagues on Monday evenings and Tuesday afternoons as well as opportunities for roll ups. Speak with Angela for more information, new teams are always welcome to join the leagues.

### **Weekend Friendly Matches Cedric Gunson**

February has seen us getting back to our winning ways with 5 victories.

Our main disappointment was the cancellation of our fixtures against Donyatt and Malvern, who failed to travel to Bristol.

### **Gala Day 2014**

There are 14 teams signed up at present for Gala Day on March 9<sup>th</sup>. More welcome for this round robin event. Rink fees and lunch are included in the cost. New and existing members are invited to create teams of two ladies and two men, enjoy some bowls, a social occasion with the possibility of winning a prize.

### **Torquay Tour 2015**

39 Members have signed up for our tour to Torquay next January so far. New members are welcome to join in the bowls and fun. Further information on the BIBC web site or from Cedric.

### **Competition Secretary Tony Down**

Many thanks for the support given in making sure Club competitions are played on time. Results to date are on the competitions board by the vending machine in the lounge area.

### **Juniors School of Excellence**

Congratulations to the juniors through to the South West regional final of the school of excellence, Bradley Cox, Jessica Thorley, Ben Kelly, Adam Sparey and Liam White.

The competition takes place on 27th April in Exeter. Supporters welcome.

### **JERSEY TRIP... as reported by David Rhys Jones in the Western Daily Press**

Seventeen young bowlers from the Bristol indoor bowls club have just returned from a successful weekend in Jersey, where they enjoyed some stiff competition against a team of local youngsters from the Channel Island.

“We raised funds over the last year, and were well supported by the families of the youngsters, whose ages ranged from eight to sixteen,” said coach and tour organiser Thomasina Goodman.

“We didn’t win, but the games were a lot closer than last year, which shows that our boys and girls are improving,” Goodman added. “Last year we were whitewashed, but the overall score this year was 29-14.”

Freda Videgrain, Goodman’s opposite number in Jersey, told her: “It was amazing to see how your juniors have improved in just one year – the overall score did not reflect how close some of the games were.”

Recalling how the two teams were ‘on guard’ last year, Videgrain was delighted and encouraged at how much more relaxed they were with each other this time around, and how they ‘bonded’ as a group.

A grandmother of a Bristol youngster presented a trophy to be awarded to the best all-round tourist, and the Jersey organisers were unanimous that it should go to Rebecca Thorley, who is only eight.

“It was it was brilliant to hear the cheers and clapping from Bristol and Jersey players and spectators for a rather shy and embarrassed little girl,” says Goodman.

In one of the best matches of the whole weekend, Bristol’s Charlie Haynes, Molly Rawlins and Matt Bartlett won their triples encounter in straight sets, 9-3, 5-3, and their Bristol team-mates won three out of six pairs matches.

Adam Sparey, who faced Chloe Greechan, the daughter of world champions Tommy and Lindsey Greechan, in the singles, won the first set, 8-2, lost the second 4-10, before coming through on a tiebreak.



BIBC Juniors v Jersey Juniors February 2014

For more club information, competitions, league and match results visit BIBC website:

<http://www.bristolindoorbowls.org.uk/>

For national competition information visit: <http://www.eiba.co.uk/>

For photographs visit :<http://www.flickr.com/photos/bristolindoorbowls/>