



October 2014 Newsletter

Letter from the Chairman:

What an amazing start to the season with over 60 new members already playing at the club and more in the pipeline. It is very heartwarming to see the rinks being better utilised and for the first time for many years we are now playing a late evening league to fit everything in. The "Bring a Friend" open session on Sunday 19th October was extremely popular with members of the public having to wait until rinks became available and at one stage a family group of 10 were playing on rink 9! Hopefully we will see a number of these people coming along for novice coaching and then joining the club.

It is vital that all the new members feel welcome and are helped to play as often as they would like. A meeting of all members who have joined in the last three years has been arranged at 7.0 p.m. on Wednesday 4th November at which the formation of a new members league will be discussed. The format will be determined by those present at the meeting, together with any requests given to Angela by those that are unable to attend. We are aware that with so many new members it has not been possible to fit everybody into league teams but by setting up a new members league and forming teams of new members wanting to play we anticipate that every new member who wants to will be able to be playing in a league team within the next month. To new members - please come along and don't think that you are not good enough yet - the way to improve is to play, there will be many others feeling just like yourself so just come along and find how pleasurable the new members league will be.

For those who wish to become more consistent and improve their bowling ability, whatever your current level of play, there is a free improver coaching session from 16.10 to 18.15 on Wednesday 29th October. This is a taster session for the improver coaching modules that are due to start shortly each Friday afternoon from 14.05 to 16.10. These have been prepared to enable club members to start by practising playing the complete range of bowls shots and then develop skills in reading the heads and playing to the heads. As a sport bowlers tend to play bowls almost all of the time and rarely practice. It is only by practice away from the competitive arena that bowlers will develop the confidence to play the complete range of shots. I do recommend that those wishing to improve to come along to the taster session next Wednesday and/or sign up for the first coaching module.

It is encouraging to see that the new adult/junior Australian pairs league is now underway and there is a full compliment of 18 bowlers playing in the new singles league between 20.15 and 22.20 each Wednesday evening. This is being played in sets in an innovative box ladder format with promotion up and down after each set of five box matches have been completed.

Members have asked about the possibility of starting a similar singles league during the day time. If you would enjoy playing in a daytime singles league please add your name to the list on the main notice board and providing enough people are interested we will then set up a daytime singles league.

You will have noticed that the bowls shop franchise has been transferred to John and Cathy Pearce. Immediately there is a range of coloured woods available for sale and stocks are fast flowing into the club to meet demand. The club shirts have now arrived so all new members can now collect their shirts from Angela.

The beginning few months of the indoor season are very challenging for those coordinating the volunteers. It is disappointing that only 50 members filled in the membership renewal form to indicate where they were willing to volunteer and predominantly these were members who already volunteer. The club is in dire need of people to help with cleaning and across all areas of volunteer support. It would be appreciated if members

who are willing to provide a few hours a week to help the club would speak with Angela so that we can maintain the high standards within the club.

Whilst mentioning volunteers the board needs to be strengthened, particularly in the areas of bowls development and marketing. If anybody feels that they can contribute to the club in these areas, either as a director or advisers, could they please speak with me.

If anyone has forgotten to pay their annual membership fee please do so shortly. The membership cards are now available for collection at reception and will be needed when a full membership check is carried out very soon. Other checks already underway have identified a number of people who have forgotten to pay their membership fee. Genuine memory lapse is one thing but delay in paying until "found out" is something quite different. Please avoid embarrassment for everyone.

On a happier note it is good to see the improvements in competitive play by the club juniors who were only narrowly beaten by Rhonnda juniors at the recent tournament at the club. More junior entries are now being made into the county and national competitions including the first ever BIBC two rink under 25 team who will be playing their first round match against Westlecott juniors on November 9th, so bring along your rattles and air horns to give them your support.

Finally for those who are looking for reports on the financial standing of the club please see the histograms on the main noticeboard.

Lewis D Toman

Ladies Matches

Unfortunately after very good bowling both Mason's Trophy teams lost their matches. The positive aspect of these matches was the appreciation the opposition had for the hospitality shown at BIBC including refreshments before and after the games, something that is sometimes sadly lacking after a journey to away destinations.

The Yetton Trophy match against Christie Miller was a win for BIBC ladies who now go through to the next round against Purnell. Well done ladies.

Friendly Weekend Matches – Cedric Gunson

Participants for our weekend Friendly Fixtures have so far been slow in coming forward. We would more than welcome both old and new bowlers to put their names down on the availability sheets on the Notice Boards adjacent to the changing rooms.

So far we have won all 3 matches played.

Club Tour to Torquay (Derwent Complex) - January 9th/11th 2015 – Cedric Gunson

I will be mailing in November all those who have intimated their willingness to tour this coming January.

We have more or less got a full compliment of Tourists, which is very satisfying. However I may be able to accommodate more. I intend closing the list at the month end (October).

Gala Day - Saturday February 14th 2015 – Cedric Gunson

Entry Forms for teams of 4 (2 Men, 2 Ladies) are now available @ Reception.

Competition Secretary Report – Tony Down

To date there are very few entries for the both the Club and the BIBC Top Club competitions planned for the current season and I would urge you to not to leave entries to the last minute. For more information see the main noticeboard.

I propose to close the entry list on Sunday November 30th. and there will be no exceptions.

Please remember that if you do enter you have to sign to agree to be able to play on either or both days of Finals Weekend, April 11th & 12th, depending on the running order over the weekend, unless there are exceptional circumstances, as outlined in the club rules.

Sorry if I appear to be dictatorial but I only have a limited time to make the draws and prepare the sheets before the first rounds if the competitions are to be completed on schedule by Jan 25th 2015. If there are a large number of entries in a competition then there may have to be a preliminary round which would have to be played earlier

Best wishes to you all and I hope you have a successful competition season

Juniors

The Saturday morning junior sessions see new juniors going through their initial coaching whilst the more experienced juniors are preparing for their first round of the School of excellence in November.

The 'Senior' juniors as well as attending on Saturday mornings, are being integrated into the leagues at various times during the week and holding their own against BIBC's more competitive bowlers. Well done to them and enjoy your practice and progress.

The juniors enjoyed their game against Rhonnda and proved much tougher opposition than last year. The result was a narrow loss by 2 sets to 4

Lockers

Lockers are in great demand. To avoid embarrassment please check that you have paid for your locker. Very shortly checks will be made and people contacted with regard to payment. Any unpaid lockers will be reclaimed and allocated to those who have registered a request for a locker with Angela in the office.

'200' Club

This draw takes place every month with Geoff Arnold, the organiser, contacting the lucky winners. A copy of the prize winners can be found on the main noticeboard.

A Reminder

Your 'Year Book' and 'Members Booklet' are available from Reception. Please take one, there is no charge.

Sunday 12th October BIBC Bowls Drive –

It was great to see new members participating in this fun afternoon with supporters in evidence. Many thanks to Cedric for his excellent organisation and all those who helped to make the afternoon a success.

And Finally

A very grateful member was eager to express thanks for the fitting of the rink helpers adjacent to the steps on to the rinks. The member is finding that access to the rinks is now safer and much easier for all those with physical restrictions.

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

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

Follow up national competition information on the EIBA web site: <http://www.eiba.co.uk/>

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