



November 2014 Newsletter

Letter from the Chairman:

The last month has seen progress on many fronts which this newsletter will summarise. If any areas are unclear please do not hesitate to speak to any of the Directors, Angela or myself.

You will see that we have put up a poster asking for more volunteers. A fundamental part of the sport of bowls is the volunteer ethic. New volunteers are always needed as those who have previously helped inevitably step down. Training will be given where necessary and currently we need more people to help behind the bar, in the kitchen, at reception, with general property maintenance and marketing the club. We have not been able to find sufficient volunteers to keep the property clean and have now been forced to appoint a paid cleaner to ensure that the high standards of the club are maintained. Everybody can help in some small way and I would request that each member thinks what they can do to help at the club and let Angela know.

The number of new members continues to grow with the umbrella sessions becoming increasingly popular. The meeting of the new members resulted in the formation of a new members Australian pairs league which started on 24th November. This league is open to all members who have joined the club over the last three years and those who join later in this season. The box ladder format allows new teams to join throughout the season. If any members who have joined the club over the last three years wish to play in this league please see Angela who can arrange for singles to be linked into teams and join the league. Due to popular demand an additional singles league started on Wednesday 26th November at 4.10 p.m. There are vacancies for a few more players so if this league appeals to you please let Angela know. Again being played in box ladder format will allow new members to join this league throughout the indoor season. There has been a request for more teams to join the Thursday afternoon open fours league. If members would be interested in forming additional teams to play in this league please let Angela know and we will help to form teams to join this league.

Members will appreciate that these additional leagues will increase rink utilisation and when the club competitions start there will inevitably be fewer rinks available. With the fixed play by dates being rigidly enforced it is important that all competition matches are arranged early. One additional competition this year is a novice pairs competition open to bowlers who have not played bowls for more than three years. This, together with the novice singles competition is an ideal starting point for bowlers to begin their experience of club competitions. I would encourage every member to enter at least one competition to enjoy the experience of playing in the club competitions - who knows you may find yourself playing in the Finals Weekend next March. The cut off date of 30th November for entries into the club competitions is fast approaching so please submit your competition application form shortly.

The innovative improver coaching course modules are now underway each Friday afternoon from 2.05 p.m. until 4.10 p.m. Like the new singles league those involved are shaping the best way for the course to operate and feedback to date has been very positive. Whilst ideally members should play in each module, as the skill level progressively increases, it is not too late to join module 2 which starts on 9th January 2015.

For those who appreciate watching bowling the national ladies under 25 regional qualification event was held at the club on Sunday 23rd November alongside the mens Wessex league match against Clarrie Dunbar. These two events provided an excellent example of top level bowling.

The "Made in Bristol" television filming on Friday 14th November was a "first" for the club. It provided me with the opportunity to encourage members of the public to come along to try bowls and Paul Brown

explained his development in bowling to skipping the B6B7B8 England team to win a bronze medal in the recent Commonwealth Games. We will be maintaining contact with the "Made in Bristol" team to secure further television filming at the club in the future.

The application has been sent to Sport England for a £75k Inspired Facilities grant to help the club undertake the ambitious major property improvements planned over the next couple of years. We were able to include glowing letters of support from the EIBA, BDA, Wesport and Bristol City Council. One major change that has been imposed on the club is that the works must start within 6 months of notification of the grant award, as well as be completed within 18 months. This has changed our approach and we are now planning to carry out the LED lighting, perimeter wall insulation and improved wheelchair ramp access in the summer of 2015 with the major heating/cooling installation during an extended summer shutdown in 2016. The club will need to take out a loan of around £50k to make all this possible. We anticipate being able to repay this loan within a couple of years so that the club is not saddled with any long term debts. An explanatory note is being sent with this newsletter. If any members have any concerns please speak to me directly.

Congratulations to the club members and teams that are still in the national competitions. There have been some excellent results to date and long may that continue. EIBA website details their progress.

The club's christmas lunch will be held on Friday 12th December. This is an opportunity to enjoy christmas festivities, sing a few carols and meet other members in a social environment. Please see Angela to reserve your place and I hope to see the function room full to capacity that lunchtime. Whilst on the christmas theme please participate in the christmas draw and wear your santa hats and christmas embellishments in the last couple of weeks of the indoor bowling this year. It provides a fun atmosphere and shows that we have not forgotten the christmas spirit. The person who says 'Ba Humbug' when reading this request is excused from participating!

Lewis D Toman

Competition Secretaries Report Tony Down

As I write, today 20th Nov., There is only three out of seventeen club competitions for which I have received the minimum number of entries(8) to enable the competition to proceed.

The closing date for entries, Sunday 30th. November 2014, has been well publicised and will be adhered to so please get an entry form from reception, or contact me for an e-mail copy (01454775032)

After that date no further entries will be accepted so if you want to take part in any competition you currently have ten days, probably less by the time this is circulated.

Disappointingly, there have only been five entries for the BIBC Top Club competition which ideally requires sixteen teams and has cash prizes for the winners .

Apart from the competitive value of the competitions the entry fees and green fees generate an important addition to the clubs finances so I urge you to get your entries in without delay.

Weekend Friendly Fixtures – Cedric Gunson.

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. we need a lot more players to play in upcoming matches, especially for our 9 rink match v Chew Stoke on Dec 13th. So far we have won all 9 matches played.

Club Tour to Torquay (Derwent Complex) - January 9th/11th 2015.

All 53 Tourists have now paid up and I'm now formulating all rooming arrangements and team selections for the 9 arranged matches.

Gala Day - Saturday February 14th 2015.

May I remind Members that Entry Forms are now available @ Reception. I have received 4 entries so far.

Bob Johnson - Bowls Report

In the start of the Wessex League Bristol beat Christie Miller IBC by 15 shots and gained 12 points. The next game against Clarrie Dunbar on 23rd November was narrowly lost by just 2 shots. The over 60s two rink won by 3shots against Clevedon.

The Denny Cup was a big win for the club against Thornbury winning 120 – 35.

The next round was against Clarrie Dunbar which was an excellent win by 7 shots. We now play Clevedon on November 29th.

U25s National Competition

On Sunday 9th November an historic event took place – A first for BIBC Juniors taking part in the national under 25 two rink competition with one rink playing home and one away.

The away rink consisting of Reece White (skip), Adam Sparey (three), Jordan Sparey (two) Liam White (lead) travelled to Westlecot IBC, Swindon, played an excellent game pulling back from well behind to win their game.

The home team, consisting of Matt Bartlett (skip), Jessica Thorley (three) Bradley Cox (two) Olivia Starr (lead) had an extremely good game, not letting the Westlecot team get away without a fight! The result was a win for Westlecot by just 3 shots.

WELL DONE JUNIORS!

Ladies Captain – Verna Alford

National Competitions

The ladies took part in the Mason Trophy with BIBC B team losing by 1 shot to North Wilts IBC A team, the BIBC A team played Thornbury IBC B team and also lost by 1 shot.

In the Vivienne Trophy BIBC ladies lost to North Wilts IBC by 10 shots.

BIBC succeeded in beating Christie Miller IBC in the Yetton Trophy by 24 shots and in the next round Purnell IBC by 14 shots. On the 22nd November BIBC played North Wilts IBC team and lost to very tough opposition.

In the Ladies Friendly matches BIBC lost to Cotswold IBC and subsequently enjoyed a win against Arrow Ladies.

Reminders:



Competition Forms to be in by 30th November, forms attached.
Return your form to Tony or Angela at the club.

- Xmas Lunch 12th December 12 for 12.30 pm - book with Angela.
- Steve's New Year Celebration -Tickets from Steve.
- Donations for the Christmas Raffle greatly appreciated.
Buy your tickets 5 for a £1 from the Raffle table.



Bingo Saturday 29th November, to raise funds for Junior away tournaments.