



January 2015 Newsletter

Letter from the Chairman:

Another year starts and we wonder just how badly the weather will affect the club operations. We have a “bad weather team” ready to grit the roads in the case of snow/ice but lets hope this is not needed too frequently in the weeks ahead.

I recall a conversation with a previous club chairman who remarked that after Christmas it always became quiet as whatever you hadn't changed by then would not have any impact until the following season. How things have changed and the club now remains extremely busy throughout the season. For example we are currently finalising arrangements for an umpires refresher course, some new junior tournaments, the British Wheelchair Bowls Association championships, three very prestigious potential World Bowls events, and the mens under 25 International between England, Scotland, Wales & Ireland all to be taking place at the club during the 2015-2016 season.

Steve Metcalf has recently resigned from the role of Deputy Bar Administrator and we are currently seeking a replacement to both help with bar work and night time locking up the club.

It has been interesting to analyse the reasons why we lose 10% of our members each season and why we have already been joined by over 100 new members this season. Reasons for losses are as expected - mainly relocation, health and family related but the vast majority of new members have joined as a result of encouragement by club members playing at their outdoor clubs. Thanks to all of our members who have encouraged other bowlers to join our club and another massive thank you to the people who ensure that new members are given a warm welcome and helped to settle into the club. We know that we have to work very hard to fit everyone into league teams, umbrella's etc and now is the time to be thinking about entering teams for next season's leagues, so do plan early to ensure that you are able to play the amount of bowls that you wish to in the future.

Whilst there is always a significant amount of bowling underway at any time we should always take time out to recognise exceptional performances. Reece White played in the national under 25 finals over the weekend of 24/25 January. Our juniors did exceptionally well in the County School of Excellence Finals. This is played in junior and senior categories and the club finished with three in the top four juniors (Luke Kelly 1st, Bradley Cox 3rd and Jessica Thorley 4th) and two in the top four seniors. (Jordan Sparey 1st and Matthew Bartlett 4th). We wish them well when they play in the regional finals in April.

The event's schedule remains very full which is good news as these events provide significant income to help fund the major improvements planned at the club. The Directors remain busy planning in detail the works scheduled for the 2015 summer shutdown which we currently anticipate taking place during an extended May shutdown period.

The club competitions are now well underway creating additional pressure on the rink schedule. The first play by dates are fast approaching so do please ensure that you play all of your matches in good time.

Lewis D Toman

School of Excellence - Thomasina Goodman

On Saturday 17th January 2015 - 27 of the South West Region best young bowlers took part in the English Bowls Youth Development Scheme (EBYDS) National School of Excellence at Bristol Indoor Bowls Club. The children aged from 8 -18 (11 Seniors and 16 Juniors) spent the day taking part in a series of matches and skills tests to find a winner in each section.

The results were:

Seniors

First place was taken by Jordan Sparey, from Bristol with 77 points
Matthew Bartlett (Bristol) and Emily Corner took joint second with 76points
Fraser Ham followed up with 68 points.

Juniors

Luke Kelly (Bristol) took first place with 82 points.
Charmayne Hooper gained second place with a score of 80 points followed by
Bradley Cox (Bristol) who gained 77 points. Following closely behind Brad were Jessica Thorley (Bristol) 75 points and Ben Kelly (Bristol) and Imogen Cracknell sharing 5th place with 69 points.
The standard from all the competitors was extremely high.
The day was well supported by family and friends of the participants.

Many thanks to all the coaches who have supported and trained the juniors to achieve these great results.

Thomasina is looking for volunteers to help in the transportation of the Jersey juniors when they arrive on Monday 16th February. If you are able to help please either put your name on the paper which is on the Junior Notice board or give your name to Angela.

Men's Competitive Matches - Bob Johnson

Not a good month for the club!

We were beaten in the Over 60 Double Rink by Cotswold losing by 11 shots.

In the Denny Cup we were beaten by a strong Torquay United side losing by 25 shots.

Our luck changed in the Wessex League match against Nailsea which went to the last end. The match was all square with one rink still playing. Then we were able to get 4 shots to win the game gaining 12 points in the league.

Reece White – U25 Singles

Reece played in the National U25 singles first round at White Oak IBC on the 24th January. It was a tough game with Reece being beaten by D Smith from Victory IBC who in subsequent rounds was beaten by R Atkins who became the U25 singles champion. Well done Reece for achieving the Final stages of the U25s competition.

Mixed Friendly Matches - Cedric Gunson

Gala Day !4th February for that romantic bowls occasion – we have 16 confirmed team entries, there is room for a few more. All you need to make a team is two males and two females, a team name and an entry fee. Angela/Cedric will provide with more information.

Mixed Friendly matches of the weekend of the 7th/8th Feb are up to 7 rink matches.

Bowls Tour Torquay 2016 will be on the weekend of the 22nd – 24th January. Costs will be in the region of £44 per person per night for dinner, bed and breakfast at the Carlton Hotel with 9 4 rink bowls matches over the three days.

Application forms can be found at Reception.



Luke Kelly and Jordan Sparey with their S of E trophies



Reece White who reached the Final Stages of the National U25 competition

And:

Members from an outdoor club were wondering where the nearest bowls shop was in Bristol after the Henleaze Road shop no longer stocked bowls, clothing etc.

A helpful email response to the outdoor club members mentioned that 'on the subject of bowls equipment, the J & C Bowls Shop at the Bristol Indoors bowls Club carries or can obtain to order a full range of both clothing, shoes, bowls etc, its available during club hours, just ask at the reception desk for it to be opened. Non members welcome'.

Check the competition board for play on/play by dates and the results so far.

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/>