



November 2015 Newsletter

Letter from the Chairman:

This newsletter is being issued slightly earlier than usual in the month as there are a few important events coming up where members would benefit from early advice.

As a club we are encouraging our junior section to both expand in numbers and achieve the highest possible bowling standard. We had scheduled an open junior under 18 Australian Pairs tournament for Sunday December 6th but despite initial interest being shown by 12 clubs we have received only four entries and three are from our club. We have decided to make this an **open club tournament** enabling club members to enter teams and compete for the prize money that would have been presented to the juniors. Every team will play initially in groups of four teams a round robin seven ends format before the top two progress to the main competition knockout stage and the lower two enter the knockout plate competition. Every team will therefore play a minimum of four matches. The main competition winning team will receive £100, losing finalists £50 with £25 prizes for semi-finalists. The plate winning team will receive £50 and losing finalists £25. We need a minimum of 16 teams after which a reserve list will be created. If we can secure 32 entries then a larger competition will be operated. Entry for juniors remains at £2 per team and £5 per player for adults. I would love to see this event go ahead and hope that members will enter teams in this first ever club Australian Pairs Tournament.

The end of November is the deadline for entry into the **club competitions**. A new competition this year is an **open Australian Pairs competition** enabling pairs of men, women or mixed teams to enter.

The adult/junior Australian pairs competition will be drawn from separate entries by juniors and seniors. **The novice competition** is open to all bowlers with less than three years bowling experience and the **unwon competition** is open to any bowler who has never previously won a competition at any bowls club. Please enter the competitions as they are a great way of developing experience.

The club's **Christmas Lunch** is being held on Friday December 11th. This is an event not to be missed with excellent food, fun entertainment and a great way to start the festive season. Please book early and I look forward to seeing as many members as possible at this event.

Somerset County Bowls Association (Outdoor) have invited all bowlers who are either **coaches or potential coaches** to attend a meeting at the Victoria Bowling Club, Street on Saturday November 28th. The BDA will address the coaches and answer any questions that they may have. This is an opportunity for coaches to determine the future of coaching in Somerset and I would encourage all coaches and potential coaches to attend.

I am pleased to be able to advise that **Julie Lowden** has been appointed Deputy Club Coordinator to provide Angela Green, the Club Coordinator, with a day off per week in the main winter season. We wish Julie every success in this role as she starts to come to terms with the many systems that operate within the club to keep everything running as smoothly as possible.

You may have seen that use of the **electric bowls wheelchairs** is beginning to increase. We are all on a learning curve and fortunately have contingency measures in place so that when the battery ran out recently we were able to replace it with a spare battery pack. We are still grappling with the access ramp which on arrival proved to be too cumbersome to use so adaptations are being planned.

Members will see evidence of the physical membership check over the coming weeks. This follows the club membership computer spreadsheet checks where we contact all those members who have not rejoined from the previous year. We have also conducted a check on members who have played in league teams after October 1st but did not pay their annual subscriptions until after that date. **The club rules 13 and 15** are very clear and state that any league points secured when a team uses a person who has not paid their subscription by October 1st will have those points deducted. This is the first year that this rule has been strictly monitored and there are some members who may feel that this rule was not clearly explained at the beginning of the season. The board have decided to waive the penalties for this year but next year will strictly enforce the rule.

On a more positive note it is encouraging to see the success being enjoyed in national competitions by our members. One particularly pleasing win was the club's **juniors victory** against Oxford in the under 25 national two rink competition. We wish them well in their next match against Mid Glos under 25's.

The new **Tuesday morning umbrella** session is being well attended with an average of 16 members coming to the first few sessions. The time is coming when we will have to accept that the proposed new **Friday afternoon triples league** will not be starting this year unless more teams sign up to play.



The Tuesday Umbrella gets under way.

The **bowls improver course** runs each Friday afternoon from 2.05 until 4.10. The first module focusing on drawing shots has now been completed and the next module covering controlled weighted woods starts on Friday 27th November. There are spaces for more people to join and if you wish to improve your bowling capability then let Angela know and come along on the 27th.

Mixed Friendly Captain – Cedric Gunson

As the season progresses it is pleasing to report that our winning streak continues. It is also pleasing to see new members and novices signing on the availability sheets and playing in these matches.

Club Tour to Torquay Jan 2016

The entries to the Tour are now closed. I will be contacting members with information regarding details of the tour in the near future.

Gala Day – Jan 16th 2016

There are some places left for additional teams in this mixed fours event, played in a round robin format. Remember this event is open to non BIBC members from indoor/outdoor clubs. Make up a team with your friends, entry forms available on Reception or from the website.

Mens' Competitive Matches – Bob Johnson

Early wins in the Somerset League and the Wessex League have given the men a great start to the season.

Ladies Competitive Matches

A win in the 'Vivienne', a triples national competition with two rinks being played at home and two rinks being played away, will see the ladies playing in the next round on 3rd December against North Wilts.

Unfortunately the ladies lost by a few shots in the 'Yetton' national fours competition but are through in the 'Yetton Plate' and will play Thornbury IBC in the next round. This is another competition with two rinks being played at home and two rinks played away.

There was a defeat for BIBC in the Mason's Trophy when the away rink came up against a Thornbury IBC rink 'on fire' and lost heavily whilst the home rink won by a narrow margin.

As is commonly heard in the bowling fraternity 'it is all on the day'.

Ladies Friendly Matches

The ladies have enjoyed two matches so far with a loss, 80 – 154, against Cotswold IBC and a win at home against Bristol Arrow, 83 - 77. Availability sheets are on the board so please add your names to play in the future matches.

Coaching and Novice Bowlers at BIBC

BIBC coaches have been kept very busy introducing novice bowlers to the sport. After three sessions the novice bowlers decide whether they wish to become members of the club.

We appreciate how well existing club members welcome these novices on to the rinks, encouraging them to gain confidence, creating an enjoyable experience for them by reassuring them that we have all bowled with the wrong bias at one time or another. Many of these novices are becoming very good bowlers, and looking forward to joining in the umbrellas and playing in league teams.

Club Competitions

There are a wide variety of club competitions catering for all ranges of experience. There is also a "Top Club competition open to all outdoor clubs. The closing date for competition entries is November 30th so please take an entry form from reception and enter before that date

Christmas Raffle

This will be set up in the club in the near future. Any raffle prizes will be gratefully received.

A Reminder

Please turn the sound off on your mobile and use only on the rink side or lounge area, not on the rinks, If you are young and tempted to use your phone on the rinks, you may consider asking for it to be locked away in the office for the duration of the session!

Come along and enjoy watching and/or participating in the following events:

21 st November	Yetton Trophy
22 nd November	Ladies National U25s Singles Regional Play Off
22 nd November	Wessex League
27 th November	Bingo Junior/Jersey Fund Raising
28 th November	Denny Cup
	Friendly Match v Canford
29 th November	Friendly Match v Avonmouth
30 th November	Competition Entries Deadline
6 th December	Club Open Australian Pairs Tournament
11 th December	BIBC Xmas Lunch
24 th December	Club closed
31 st December	BIBC New Year's Eve Celebration (ticket only event)
2 nd January	Club open
16 th January	Gala Day