



February 2016 Newsletter

Letter from the Chairman:

The highlight of this month for events held at the club was the Men's Under 25 International held over the weekend 20th/21st February. Events of this scale take months of preparation and a large number of club members willing to give up their weekend to make everything flow smoothly. Flexibility is also needed on the two days to cope with the inevitable pressures that arise, particularly at the bar and in the kitchen. A massive thank you is sent to everyone who attended and made the event so successful. For those of you who did not experience the excellent bowling there are further opportunities coming along before the end of the season. The next major event is the Open Singles Circuit being held on Saturday 12th March. This will be followed by the Yetton and Denny Cup semi-finals and finals being played at the club over the weekend of 23rd/24th April. We will need significant help at both of these events and markers will be needed for the Singles Circuit Tournament.

Sadly the long awaited Aero Trifecta Bowls Addendum Statement from the English Indoor Bowls Association (EIBA) failed to clarify the situation satisfactorily. It is frustrating that, for reasons best known to the EIBA, they have not issued a strong statement recommending that the five "flashing" Aero Trifecta bowls that are known to create a health risk to some people have not been banned. We will continue to press for this matter to be fully resolved by the EIBA as we do not wish our members to be exposed to the potential health risk associated with these bowls.

The club juniors enjoyed a pleasurable visit to Jersey to play the annual tournament against the Jersey Juniors. Whilst they were unable to retain the trophy against a strong Jersey team they acquitted themselves very well lifting their game to match the opposition quality. Some of our juniors then played in the Regional Finals of the School of Excellence with some excellent results.

The juniors now look extremely smart in their club coloured tracksuits. Sample adult jackets are now in the bowl's shop and as soon as we have a sufficient number of requests we will place the first order with the suppliers. Remember that these are currently available at the reduced price of £15 each whilst the sponsorship money is available.

The new members evening was held on Friday 26th February to a) celebrate that over 100 members had joined the club, for the second year in succession b) assist members in understanding how the club operates and encourage them to progress with their bowling activities c) enable new members to meet other new members. The evening was very worthwhile and provided good feedback.

This is the time of year when we review the number of teams in each league and encourage new teams to enter, particularly where the current number of teams is low. In the summer there are two triples leagues which play at 6.0 p.m. on Mondays and 2.00 p.m. on Tuesdays. Both would benefit from additional teams. This year due to demand there will be an additional 'Umbrella' Session on Tuesdays from 12noon until 2pm and the Thursday 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 a.m. umbrella will continue as normal.

There are three winter leagues that need additional teams next season. These are the Friday 4.15p.m. open fours, the Sunday 6.0 p.m. open pairs and the Thursday 4.15pm open fours. Whilst additional teams are welcome in every league these are the leagues where additional numbers are more urgently needed for next season. If I may give some advice to new members. There is a natural fear that you are not good enough to play in the leagues or the club friendly matches. It is only by playing in these that you will probably be pleasantly

surprised to find that you can not only hold your own but enjoy the improvement in your bowling that follows from playing in these matches. With so many new members we hope you will play in the leagues and friendlies to ensure that all aspects off the club are fully supported.

Ros Constant and Paul Bryant played in the EIBA National mixed pairs finals at Lincoln IBC on the 28th/29th February. They played well to beat pairs from Norfolk and Blackpool in the first two rounds. They then came up against the England international pair of Sam Tolchard and Barbara Bellamy from Torquay in the semi-finals. In a very tight game, where they played as skilfully as their opponents, they lost by two shots with their opponents going on to beat another international pair in the final. Ros and Paul brought great credit to themselves and the club in pushing their opponents right to the final end before their narrow defeat. Liam White plays in the under 18 national finals at Spalding on 13th March. We wish him every success.

Lewis Toman



Paul Bryant, Ros Constant, Jenny McConnell (President EIBA) Barbara Bellamy and Sam Tolchard from Torquay United IBC



Torquay making decisions on the next bowl

Mixed Friendly Captain - Cedric Gunson

I am pleased to report wins against Cynon Valley, Page Park, Avonmouth, Malvern, Newport and Leominster. Unfortunately BIBC lost to the strong teams of Kent County Tourists and Bromsgrove in an away match.

Torquay Tour 2017

Details and Booking forms can be found at Reception for the 2017 Tour to Torquay. It will be over the course of 3nights/4 days from 20th January to 23rd January at a cost of £125 per person. Also a reminder that a deposit of £25 is required by the end of March.

As they say in promotional material "Book early to avoid disappointment".

Competition Secretary - Tony Down

My appreciation to all teams and competitors for keeping to the play by dates. It is rewarding to see those new to BIBC competitions, upcoming bowlers, battling against the experienced players and gaining experience in the process.

Men's Competitive Matches – Bob Johnson

BIBC lost their first match in the Wessex league to North Wilts but are in the play offs starting on 5th March against a team from Plymouth, two rinks home and two rinks away.

In the Over 60s Double rink national competition the team were beaten in a close game by Berkshire.

Juniors v Jersey – Thomasina Goodman

Despite not bringing the trophy back to Bristol our Juniors were in good spirits and so they should be as they lost by just FOUR points and they played extremely well. The "man of the match" was Ben Kelly who had

the highest individual score. The Juniors, especially in the "pairs" and "singles" showed just how well they play under pressure, with first class bowling in the "singles"...had us on the edge of our seats. A couple of games were lost by lucky wicks by the Jersey team. I would also like to point out that our Juniors' behaviour was no less than we expected both on and off the rink!

It was good to see friendships being reformed and everyone looking forward to February 2017 when Jersey Juniors come to us!

Our Juniors would like to reiterate their thanks for all the support they received from BIBC members in raising funds for this trip....THANK YOU!!!



BIBC Juniors and Coaches who visited Jersey



Jessica being congratulated on her second place

Juniors School of Excellence – Thomasina Goodman

Success at the Somerset School of Excellence 2016. Congratulations to Jess Thorley on becoming runner up in 2016 School of Excellence (junior section) losing by just one point to the winner.

Congratulations also to Olivia Starr who achieved Third Place in the Senior section. Both girls now go through to the Regional finals in April. Good Luck to both of them!!

Leagues – on behalf of League Manager Eddie Haines

Now is the time of year to add your team/s to the leagues for summer 2016 and winter 2017.

For newcomers to BIBC it is worth an explanation that many League teams are 'Open' with any combination of males and females.

If you are at present a long standing member in a team with several players please consider splitting the team to create two teams and encourage those who as yet do not have the confidence to play in leagues to join your teams. This is a successful practice that some teams already adopt to create competitive play in the leagues.

It is recommended that for a Pairs team you have three players with a couple of 'super subs' who only play when required with a similar number of 'super subs' for triples and fours.

Ladies Captain – Verna Alford

I am pleased to say that Lorraine Paget has agreed to assist me by becoming the ladies Vice Captain. Lorraine is a regular player in the ladies matches and we look forward to her enthusiasm in helping to run the ladies friendly teams in the future.

Markers

BIBC would like to thank the newly trained markers and those who are old hands at marking for offering their services during the competitions. The singles competitors appreciate your help.

Also if any Markers are available for the early stages of the Open Singles Circuit on March 12th your help would be appreciated. Markers are needed for the first round, thereafter the players themselves mark subsequent rounds. If you are available please speak to Angela.

The Open Singles Circuit – 12th March (formerly called Planet Bowls)

This singles knockout tournament is open to bowlers from all over the country and is played at different venues. Players gain points on their final places in each tournament which are included in a ranking list. At BIBC the entries are limited to 64, the first round begins at 8.30am. Spectators are welcome. Volunteers are required to help, especially in the morning, to help with various aspects of running the tournament at BIBC.

<http://www.opensinglescircuit.com/bristol-draw.html>

The Denny Cup and Yetton Trophy Semi Finals and Finals – 23rd and 24th April

The final stages of these competitions are being played at BIBC and will be a riveting bowls experience. The Denny Cup, 23rd April, is a Men's tournament of 4 rinks per club with Cumbria v Norfolk and White Knights v Wey Valley reaching the semi-finals.

The Yetton Trophy, 24th April, is a Ladies Tournament of four rinks with York v Riverain and Swale v Bournemouth in the semi finals.

BIBC are already aware that each team will be bringing many supporters. Volunteers will be an essential part of each day to ensure that each event runs smoothly. BIBC are also aware that many bowlers will be in the early stages of the outdoor season. If you are able to help for a couple of hours on both or one of the days Angela would love to hear from you. And of course spectators are welcome.

http://www.eiba.co.uk/bss/competitions_list_finals.php

Dates for your diary:

March 12th Open Singles Circuit

March 26th BIBC Volunteers Thank You Evening

April 9th/10th BIBC Finals Weekend

April 23rd Denny Cup Semi-finals and Finals

April 24th Yetton Trophy Semi-finals and Finals

May 5th BIBC stand at North Somerset Agricultural Show

July 15th 16th BDA Road Show and BIBC at Bristol Harbour Festival

For more club information: <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/albums>