



October 2016 Newsletter

Letter from the Chairman:

The beginning of this season has been different to normal with the live televised Test Match within four weeks of the winter season start. Live terrestrial television coverage of a test match at a normal indoor bowls club was a first for the sport of indoor bowls as well as our club and once again the club members provided excellent support to ensure that the event went smoothly.

As with any new initiative lessons were learnt, many of which need to be resolved by the other parties involved in such a major venture. We have provided our constructive feedback to the English Indoor Bowling Association who appreciated this. They will be meeting with the other parties involved to see what can be done to make improvements for next time.

It is very pleasing to note that to date 55 new members have already joined the club this season and the overall total membership is in line with the figures for last year. We welcome these new members and hope that they settle quickly into the club. If any of you have any concerns that are not quickly dealt with please don't bottle them up but speak to any of the directors, (see paragraph below) who will be pleased to help.

If any members are not aware please note the club operates a very open communications policy. Photographic displays are used where possible to help members understand who does what in the club, including the directors, and these photographs are shown on the notice board by the drinks vending machine. On the shelf opposite are copies of the latest monthly Board and Bowls & Social Committee meeting minutes which keep members up to date with events held and planned within the club.

Perhaps the biggest planned event currently being discussed by the board of directors is to accelerate the timescale for the completion of the proposed major capital expenditure (capex) works. The insulation and fresh air intake works carried out during the last summer shutdown have worked well but do not cope with high external temperatures. The decision has been taken to provide a cooling system to ensure an even temperature within the club throughout the year.

The club has never had sufficient storage space and planning permission was secured a year ago to provide additional storage in the area between rink 9 and the car parking area that runs parallel to this. In addition works to provide an internal ramp in the walkway along rink 9 will provide a level access for wheelchair users to access the rink and avoid the use of ramps.

The board are now considering carrying out all of these works during the 2017 summer shutdown. This will entail securing a bank loan which can be comfortably repaid over a three year period. The benefit is that all the currently planned major capex works will be completed within the next nine months compared to progressively over a five year period.

Moving onto bowling matters it is timely to remind members of a few of the club rules relating to league play.

1) Any player playing in a league team who has not paid their subscription by October 1st will cause their team to lose any league points. This would be very unfortunate so please ensure that you have paid your annual subscription.

- 2) Postponed league matches must be rearranged within a six week period or league points will be deducted.
- 3) No team can postpone more than three matches in any season without being referred to the league management. All of these rules have been introduced to ensure that the leagues run smoothly and hopefully no issues will arise, but it is important that members are aware of these.

For those who have paid their annual subscription membership cards are now available for collection at reception. A full membership card check will be undertaken shortly so please avoid any embarrassment by ensuring that you have collected your membership card. Thanks to those who have volunteered their time enabling this task to run smoothly.

It is encouraging to see that the policy of operating the Wednesday afternoon singles leagues and the Monday afternoon Australian Pairs leagues in a box ladder format, enabling new players/teams to join throughout the season, has seen three new players/teams seeking to join each of these leagues once the first series of box matches have been played. This innovative format was introduced specifically to enable this to happen and hopefully more members will consider joining these leagues as the season progresses.

A poster advertising the Bowls Improver coaching is now on the main notice board. This provides the coaching to significantly improve your bowling practice and skills, play the more challenging bowls shots as well as appreciating the importance of “reading and playing to the head”.

Now is the time to put your entries in for the club competitions. There is a wide range of competitions including novice and unwon, for those who have not won a competition, so members at all levels of bowling experience can participate. Somebody will be playing on Finals Day in all of these competitions - could this year be your turn?

Finally congratulations to Olivia Starr who played in the finals of the under 18 section of National School of Excellence held at Melton Mowbray on Sunday 23rd October. A great achievement for Olivia and the coaching team.

L.D.Toman

200 Club Membership – Geoff Arnold

Dear Members

How would you like to help your club and have the chance to win one of the three money prizes each month?

If yes – then join the 200 club for just £12 a year.

This gives you the chance to win one of the three money prizes drawn at the end of each month, winners are displayed on the main noticeboard.

The year starts October 2016 and ends September 2017.

Application forms are available from Reception.

Dress Code

Now the time is appropriate to remind ourselves on the dress code for general play in roll ups, umbrellas and leagues as stated in the Year Book, grey below the waist with white or plain coloured shirts with collars.

Under 25s

U25s 2 rink match Bristol v Clevedon - John Langford and the Coaching Team

The home team consisting of Jessica Thorley, Matt Bartlett, Olivia Starr and Jordan Sparey started well, leading 5 – 0 after the first two ends. Sadly things did not go so well after Clevedon won their first end. Taking the mat up and shortening the jack length appeared to throw Bristol off their game and they fell

behind. There were ends in which Bristol produced some fantastic shots but could not hold them against a Clevedon team on top form. The away team from Bristol, comprising Taylor Sparey, Bradley Cox, Adam Sparey and Reece White played magnificently and were only beaten by one shot.

School of Excellence

Well done to Olivia Starr for taking part in the School of Excellence and achieving Seventh place out of Sixteen. It's a pity that the finals came at the beginning of the indoor season not giving Olivia the opportunity to get back into her "stride" after having a brilliant outdoor season!!!

National Competitions

Congratulations to Matt Bartlett and Jordan Sparey for recently winning their first round of the EIBA Mens National pairs competition beating Sam Stocker and Luke Yates 18 -16 a tight exciting game! Well done!

Junior Matches

Welcome to Rhondda Juniors who are in action against BIBC juniors on Saturday 5th November, let's hope it's a day to "Remember ". Good luck Bristol!!!

Coaching – John Langford

The coaching team is pleased to say that Improver Coaching will be starting in November. There is a notice on the main noticeboard for you to add your name. The sessions will cover different aspects of bowls with opportunities to practice exercises for the skills that are appropriate to your level of bowling. Just ask any coach and they will be happy to advise.

“BOUNCE” Session – Cedric Gunson

Saturday October 15th 2016 Report

For those who are unfamiliar with the term ‘bounce’ these fun sessions for players are held when the intended friendly fixture is for whatever reason cancelled. The cost of play on the 15th was £6 per player and 18 members signed on. A total of 20 ends were played with rink positions decided by each rink and each member of any rink could change position at any time with each rink recording their score.

After 5 ends the losing rink must move UP. Rink fees,tea and biscuits were all included in the cost and there were prizes for each member of the highest score difference.

Winners :- Audrey Mitchell, Ray Wookey and Keith Stokes with a Score difference 13 shots.

When these ‘Bounce’ sessions appear on the Mixed Friendly match board additional members are invited to join in even if they are not due to play in the friendly match.

Mixed Friendly Results

BIBC 205 v Keynsham 111

The Bowls Drive

The start of season Bowls Drive was enjoyable, fun and frustrating for some with one rink scoring 18 shots on the first cycle of 5 ends! 24 appropriately garbed bowlers wearing squares and/or stripes participated including juniors and new members. The winners were Alan Edwards for the most enterprising outfit as a chef, lowest shot difference was Brett Keepin and the overall winner was the organizer himself, Cedric Gunson.

Leagues – Steve Neal

Postponed Games

At this stage of the season it is important to remind league teams;

The week 24th October to 30th October is 6 weeks from the start of the season.

Team secretaries should by now have offered dates and booked rinks for games postponed from the first week of the season!

Also, thank you for using the League book at reception, it is working extremely well for updating information regarding your league teams.

The league results, except for the Monday Afternoon Australian Pairs and Wednesday Afternoon Singles, are now available on the website as well as the league results notice board for you to view.

BIBC Competitions – Tony Down

Will all members note that the entry forms for both the club competitions and the BIBC Top Club Competition (for Outdoor clubs), are available from reception.

Please note that there are some competitions we will not be holding this season due to poor entry numbers last season. Apologies to those members who entered the deleted competitions last time but we will consider bringing them back next season and introducing other new ones.

I have said before that the competition season will be shorter with the finals on April 1/2 and therefore will begin earlier so it is important that you get your entries in early and certainly by the closing date of Nov.30th.

There will be NO extension of the closing date so please don't leave your entry late.

BIBC Top Club Competition

It is important that I get 16 entries for the BIBC Top Club competition, no more or no less, and to date I already have two entries and I would urge all outdoor clubs, who have been e-mailed the information, to please consider entering what is an excellent competition bearing in mind there are cash prizes available. If you are keen for your outdoor club to enter this competition details are also available from reception.

Thanks for your compliance with my requests as it will help me to prepare playing sheets early and without too many problems.

National Competitions

Competitive Matches - Men

Over the weekend of the 22nd/23rd October the men played in two competitive matches.

In the Denny Cup v Victoria, there was an overwhelming victory for the talented BIBC team with a shot difference of over 80.

The National Top Club competition on the 23rd saw an equally impressive win against Purnell of 14 points to 2.

Congratulations to the members selected to play in these teams and we wish you good luck in the next rounds.

Competitive Matches - Ladies

The ladies played in the Yetton Trophy against Clarrie Dunbar on Saturday 22nd and lost to a very strong team by 20 shots.

The next ladies competitive match is the Vivienne Trophy for those who did not play in the Yetton Trophy. The availability sheet is on the board in the ladies changing room, selectors will be naming the teams very shortly.

The BIBC Mixed team playing in the Egham Trophy on the 16th October also so a loss to Clarrie Dunbar by 39 to 80 shots.

We wish all those who have entered National Competitions the best of luck as they play each round, the results of which can be found on the EIBA website.