



## CITY AND COUNTY OF BRISTOL INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

### CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Cedric Gunson

#### Match Results :-

Since the last Newsletter, we have won 5, lost 3 and cancelled one match.

Amongst our upcoming fixtures are three Tourist matches. Please let's see a good turnout.

#### Torquay Tour 11<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019 :-

We already have 51 places booked, but there are a few places still remaining. Application forms are available at reception We will be staying at the Toorak Hotel in the TLH Complex.

#### Short Mat Challenge 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018 :-

We require 48 players for this mixed format round robin competition. Please watch the sheet outside the changing rooms as places may still be available.

#### Gala Day 2019:-

This mixed fours competition is scheduled for Saturday February 23<sup>rd</sup> . Entry forms will be available at reception.

#### Henleaze Bowls / BBQ Evening 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Places on the BIBC team are almost filled. Please see sheet.

### SELECTORS MATCH REPORT

BIBC have qualified for the Wessex League play offs by finishing in second place in the Central division, having lost only one game.  
Watch this space.



### HOT DRINKS VENDING MACHINE

The hot drinks vending machine in the lounge has seen a steady drop in usage over the last year, and is almost at the point where the club will lose money. There are two logical options:

- Increase the cost of the drinks
- Sell all hot drinks over the bar

If the cost of drinks is increased, it is very likely that sales will fall even further, so we would probably only be delaying the inevitable. Our contract for the machine requires 12 months notice of cancellation, so a swift decision is required.

Before doing so however, we would like to hear your views, and would ask you to put a slip in the suggestions box by reception, letting us know your thoughts.

It must be pointed out that an increase in vending charge would make the cost of machine drinks very similar to the hot drinks cost over the bar, which contain much more for the money.

### FROM THE LEAGUE MANAGER

Steve Neal

#### Summer Leagues

Starting - Week Commencing 7<sup>th</sup> May 18  
Tuesday Aft Open Triples @ 2.00pm - Starts 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
Thursday Aft Australian Pairs @ 12.00 Noon Starts 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
If you would like to enter a team in the above summer leagues, please complete a registration form and hand in by 15<sup>th</sup> April 18. The form can be obtained from Reception or Angela.

#### Existing Summer Teams

Sheets are on the League tables board showing existing teams from last year. Please can you tick to confirm you are entering your team for this year or advise me if you are not entering on Mobile 07974 107729 or Email:

[leaguemanager@bristolibc.co.uk](mailto:leaguemanager@bristolibc.co.uk).

#### Looking to join a League Team Summer or Winter

If you are looking to join a league team for this Summer or 2018/19 Winter season, Please email me giving details of the day and time you would like to play and I will circulate to team secretaries and try to place you in a team.

#### Postponed Matches

By the time you receive this News Letter it will only be eight weeks to the end of the Winter Season. Please remember in the last six weeks, a date must be agreed within a week and played before the end of the League Season.



## JUNIOR NEWS

Thomasina Goodman

During the weekend of 17th and 18th February, 11 members of B.I.B.C Junior Section travelled to Poole to play against Dorset Junior Academy at the Dolphin Indoor Bowls Club. After lunch on Saturdays they played Fours, (two sets of nine ends), Bristol won 5 and drew one set, followed by four triples, unfortunately they only won 3 sets out of 8 . This was followed by dinner but sadly the opponents didn't stay. (The reason for this may have been that Bristol is the first team that Dolphin Juniors have played host to!!)

On Sunday, after breakfast at the club, the morning session was taken up by 7 singles with Bristol winning 5 sets. The final games in the afternoon were pairs, Bristol winning 9 sets of 14,

All the juniors played the best they have ever played, against well matched opponents and brought home another cup. In fact the whole team were given miniature silver cups as a memento of a brilliant weekend.

We are extremely proud of "our" juniors, not only for their playing but also for their behaviour on and off the rinks and also their etiquette, which showed that all our work has paid off.....extremely proud of them!,

*WELL DONE TO: Dan Beames, Brad Cox, Holly Hutchinson (first away competition) Sophie Hicks, Ben and Luke Kelly, Madi King, Olivia Starr, Jess and Becca Thorley and Lydia Sheldrake (also first away competition!!*

## LADIES

Lorraine Paget

### Recent Results

Bromsgrove Nov Cancelled

Malvern 6th Feb. W.84 - 80

Cotswold 13th Feb. L.78 - 110

Minehead 20th Feb. W.129 - 94

Please see the availability sheets in the Ladies changing room for upcoming fixtures. New players are always welcome.

## CORRECT FOOTWEAR

There have been several occasions recently of members playing with inappropriate footwear.

Bowling shoes **MUST** have an approved sole. An incorrect groove or pattern (e.g. trainers) can hold dirt and grit which could damage the rink carpet, which costs around £50,000 to replace.

Players wearing incorrect footwear will be requested to remove it or leave the rink.



## ANOTHER BRIGHT IDEA - LEAGUE TEAM COLOURS



*The Club introduced the club shirt to break the monotony of grey and white (which is still predominant in many bowls clubs).*

*Roll-ups, casual matches and umbrellas dress code is for club shirt (in preference to white) over grey, but internal league teams can have their own distinct coloured team shirts, which the club not only allows, but positively encourages.*



*Coloured bowls are now widely used, and televised indoor matches certainly look better on a colour TV.*

*So come on league teams, let's brighten the place up a bit with some more colour - or at least wear your club shirt.*





## Paul Simon Brown DChA FCIE S.A.C Dip (Sports Psychology)

BIBC member Paul Brown has been selected to represent Team England for the second time at the upcoming Commonwealth Games in the Gold Coast, Australia. Paul is already a Commonwealth Games bronze medal winner having skipped the team in Glasgow in 2014. He will be competing in the Para Lawn Bowls Event which is made up of a Physically Disabled Triple and a Visually Impaired Pairs.

Paul will be playing 2 in a triple with Kieran Rollings, an 18 year old competing for his first time and Mike Robertson, also his first time although he has recently just won the Bowls England Outdoor National Triples. Their preparations have gone very well and they are all very excited and can't wait to fly out to Australia on 24th March 2018 to finish their final preparations ready for main event.

Good luck to Paul and the whole team.



Picture is of the whole Para Squad  
Paul is on left, with Kieran and Mike far right.

### VOLUNTEERS FOR BAR DUTIES

The directors would be pleased to hear from any members who may be interested in volunteering for duties behind the bar especially evening and weekend functions.

The requirements of the posts include:

- To handle cash transactions over the bar
- To monitor bar stock levels
- To secure the premises after evening functions

Please see Angela in the first instance for more details.

### POINTS OF ETIQUETTE

When standing at the head always remain still to not distract the person bowling.

It is important when walking along the walkway to ensure that you stop when anybody is about to bowl on a rink that you are passing.

In fours the number 3, in triples and in pairs the number 2 are jointly responsible for agreeing the shots won and lost. Everybody else should stand clear of the head, not interfere, and allow them to agree.



# LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Congratulations to one of our club members, Paul Brown, who has been selected to represent England in the Paralympic Bowls Team at the Commonwealth Games in Australia. We wish Paul and his team the very best and hope he may be able to better his bronze medal at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

It is pleasing to see that notifying members about a few of the rules of bowls has brought about an immediate improvement. It may be a coincidence but we are now being asked by members how we can improve the etiquette aspect of the game. In this newsletter we are starting the process of inserting a few pointers to help members with etiquette and are considering how best we can make further improvements.

It is interesting that at this time in the season we have a record number of potential new members undergoing coaching. That is very encouraging although inevitably it keeps our coaches very busy. Our thanks must go to the coaches for their enormous commitment to the sport of bowls and our club. The Friday afternoon Improvers Coaching Course at 2.05 p.m. is still underway and provides an excellent opportunity for bowlers who wish to improve their playing ability.

Reflecting on coaching it is pleasing that our juniors went to the Dolphin Indoor Bowls Club at Poole to play a tournament against their juniors over the half term weekend. This brought out some of the very best of bowling played by our juniors who accredited themselves well with their play and etiquette coming out winners by 23 1/2 to 9 1/2.

We do occasionally get things wrong and need to apologise to Ben Kelly who was incorrectly named when he was part of the winning Gala Day team.

Our club was represented at the recent Annual Sports Gathering held at City Hall. This event flows from the Bristol Mayor's sporting initiatives started last year when Bristol was a European City of Sport. Bob Griffiths is now joining the Bristol City Council's Sports Participation Steering Group to enable our club to be involved in encouraging greater participation by the public in sports and leisure activities. This gathering was also very useful for networking and some useful contacts were created that could benefit our club in the longer term.

We inevitably see changes of personnel taking up and stepping down from positions within the club. The latest is that we will be seeking a replacement Deputy Bar Manager from September of this year. If any individual or couple would be interested in undertaking this role could they please speak to either a Director or Angela.

We are considering introducing some new leagues next season at 4.10 on a Wednesday and 2.05 on a Friday. It is possible that these will be triples leagues which will be finalised and advertised after a meeting to be held shortly. This is also the time of year when we begin to prepare the summer leagues and any teams wishing to enter and play in the air conditioned summer conditions should put their names down on the league teams sheets or speak to either Steve Neal or Angela.

*Lewis Toman*

## MARY RALFS 1933 - 2018

Mary Ralfs was one half of a famous wheelchair bowls duo who were known simply as 'Sid & Mary' at the City & County of Bristol Indoor Bowls Club, where they were popular members. In 1986, her first year in competitive bowls, she won the national wheelchair singles championship at Stoke Mandeville, helped England to victory in the home international series, and struck silver in the World Wheelchair Games in the singles and the mixed pairs.

Mary said much she and Sid - and wheelchair bowlers all over the world - owed to Peter Bradshaw, who invented, designed and developed the Bradshaw Bowls Buggy that has transformed the lives of so many bowlers. she said. "It gave us the freedom of the green, and enabled us to play on equal terms with our able-bodied friends." She is survived by husband Sid, son Adrian, and three grandchildren, Curtis, Courtney and Aaron. Sid has kindly donated Mary's buggy to the Club.