

COVE BOWLING CLUB NEWSLETTER (March 2011)



Less than a month until the start of the season

Firstly thank you very much to all the members who supported our Quiz night on 19th March – we hope everyone who turned up had a good time and well done to Bobby, Sue, Martyn, Allyson and Betty who went home with the Easter Egg prizes.

A word of warning though don't mention 'Facebook' to Margaret or you might be in for a surprise!

Two pre-season Preparation weekends have been allocated to get the Clubhouse, Green and Surrounds ready for the start of the new Season. These are the mornings of Saturday 9th, Sunday 10th, Saturday 16th And Sunday 17th April. Please do see if you can spare some time to come down and help if at all possible.

We have another new full Bowling Member who has joined us and so a warm welcome to Michael French. We all hope you enjoy being a member of Cove.

Talking of new members we will again hold a 'New Member's Evening' on Wednesday 20th April, starting at 7.30pm. This is an ideal opportunity for all our new members to get to meet others and also find out how everything works to ensure you get the most from your membership. No need to do anything other than turn up.

The following evening is the Pre-Season Social evening which again starts at 7.30pm and we hope to see as many members down at the Club as possible.

As previously advised by email the Fixture Cards are now ready for collection from the Clubhouse. You will see that there are two new Club Friendly Fixtures this year - at Sunningdale BC and Aldershot Underwood BC.

In 2012 we hope to reverse the Fixtures and they will visit us but do please make sure that these – and in fact every fixture – are fully supported.

For those of you in County Competitions please be aware that the Rink Booking Sheets have also now been printed and are in the Clubhouse in the usual place.

Please however remember that rinks should **only** be booked for Competitions when needed and not for 'roll-ups'.

We are a very competitive Club and Rink space is always at a premium at the start of the season so please also tippex out any rinks that are no longer needed so that no one misses out.

The draw for the Men's Aldershot and District Competitions takes place at the end of March so these, together with the North Hampshire Ladies' Competitions, should be with us in early April.

As a result of a clash in the dates between the Ladies' County Pairs Competition and the Men's Aldershot and District League Fixtures it has been necessary to change the first '**C' Team League match against Odiham on 17th May.**

Please note that this match will now be **away** with the reverse match on 5th July now at Cove. This is different to how it is printed in your Fixture Card.

Selection Sheets for the first weekend matches, League Practices, Yardstick evenings and the early Friendly Fixtures are also up on the main Noticeboard so get your names down if you want to play.

There are still a few spaces on the Tea Rota so if you haven't had a chance to put your name up yet for a convenient date then please do so as soon as possible.

Inevitably, and as warned last month, the Bar prices have had to be increased to reflect the new VAT rate and higher costs from the Brewery. Modest increases across the board have been agreed but are still good value having not been increased for some 2 years.

Similarly the charges for all Match meals have also been adjusted and will now be:

Host Matches	£5.00
Club Friendly	£3.00
Men's League	£2.00
Blackwater Valley	£2.00

We will also be looking to hold more Barbeques throughout the season on various Competition days so further details will follow in due course.

Moreton Trophy

Bad news despite one of our rinks winning by 14 shots in the semi final of the Moreton Plate against Old Basing BC, unfortunately the second rink lost by 15 which meant that we lost overall by just 1 shot. Close match and hopefully we can go further next season.

Bowls Hampshire

Since the last newsletter the new County badge and shirt has been agreed and are now on order in the hope that they will be available for the start of the new season.

Any of our members who are selected to play in the Middleton Cup, Johns Trophy or Under 25 matches will get a chance to replace their existing County shirts with a new one at a highly discounted cost. Other players will be able to purchase one via the Area Secretaries.

For a preview of the new design and colours look at the following link from the 'News' page on the Bowls Hampshire website where you will find a familiar face:

www.bowlshampshire.com/bhlatestnews.html

Players who are awarded a new County badge will receive a new version from now and it should be possible for existing 'badged players' to be able to purchase a new badge if they wish.



Social Events

Only a few more Social events before the new Season:

April 2 nd	Bingo Night
April 9 th	Quiz Night
April 16 th	Crib Night

If anyone would like to help run an event next Winter, or has any ideas for things you would like to see in the programme, then please let Chris K or Terry B know.

Thank you too all the members who have kept the Club open throughout the winter either through attending or running an evening. It is much appreciated!

Club Friendlies

This season the Captains want to try and select the teams for Friendly Matches earlier than in previous years. If we get enough names then the rinks will be selected by the Friday of the previous week before the match.

We have a full programme of matches spread fairly evenly between home and away fixtures. It is vital that we fill all those matches so they can continue each year so do please make an effort to play as many as you can.

And don't forget there is the added incentive of a prize this season for the member who is the most supportive.

Club Competitions

The deadline for entering the Club Competitions is the day of the Captain's match on Sunday 24th April so there is still time to enter.

If you have any questions over the format of any of the individual competitions then ask Carl for details.

The draw for each Competition will take place in the Clubhouse on Wednesday 27th April following the Yardstick evening and Hot Dogs!

Disabled Parking Bays

Can members please remember that the three designated Disabled parking bays are for Blue Badge Holders use only. Badge Holders travelling in the vehicles, and displaying their badge, may use the bays.

They are not to be used for any other reasons please under any circumstances.

And finally

I am sure everyone is looking forward impatiently to the start of the season and I hope that individually, and collectively, we all have a successful year.

Inevitably there will be times when 'counting to ten' will be the best option so do all please remember that Bowls is meant to be fun and enjoyed!

If you have any issues, concerns or can think of ways in which things can be done in a better way then please let me know or speak to any member of the Committee.

Above all have a good season!

Donna