

# COVE BOWLING CLUB NEWSLETTER (April 2011)



Now less than a week to go until the start of the season

Over the past couple of weekends we have had a small band of volunteers at the Club getting everything ready for the opening weekend this coming Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

Firstly thank you very much to all those who did turn up – a shame that it always seems to be the same few that do but there are other opportunities if you didn't manage to get down there because we desperately still need volunteers to help on the Bar.

So if you are able to help with the one thing that really helps keep our fees low then please speak to Bernie. I am sure he will welcome you with open arms and give you any help or training that you need. At the moment there is a real fear that the Bar will simply not open every night as it has in the past and that will clearly impact us all either through not being able to have a drink or more importantly in higher Membership fees in the future....

## **This week**

As usual we are holding a "New Member's Evening" on Wednesday from 7.30 pm, primarily for those new members who have joined since last season but for anyone who simply wants to pop down with the Clubhouse open. The purpose is to try and explain the mysteries of this game we all play and to also introduce the new members to the way we do things at Cove.

The following night is the "Pre-Season Social Evening" and it does exactly what it says on the tin .... a chance to come down and have a drink before the weekend's formalities all start.

Friday is, of course, a Bank Holiday this year so nothing is planned but 3:00 pm Saturday our Presidents will be dusting down their Woods and launching them up the green to start the new Season.

Both the opening game, and the Captain's Game on Sunday, is already obviously quite full so if you still haven't put your name down and you want to play then you need to act fast!

Sunday is also the final deadline to enter the Club Competitions which are always popular so, again, if you want to take part then get your names down!

Carl will be only too happy to not only help you understand the various Competitions but also smile sweetly as he extracts the entry fees from you ....

The response to the Tea rota has been much more positive this year so thank you to all those who have volunteered their place already. There are still a few spaces, and members who haven't yet chosen their game please try and select one in the next few days so we are all ready to go.

The draws for both the Men's Aldershot and District Competitions, and the Ladies' North Hampshire Competitions have now been received and are in the hanging folders together with the deadlines and list of Competitors. The Men's draw can also be seen on the Aldershot and District website at:

[www.aldershotanddistrict.co.uk](http://www.aldershotanddistrict.co.uk)

The North Hampshire Ladies Bowling Association haven't quite grasped the Internet just yet ....

Our own Club website is also now up to date thanks to Andrew and if you have any ideas as to suggestions for things to be added then let him know.

Some very dodgy looking photographs can be seen at:

[www.covebowlingclub.org](http://www.covebowlingclub.org)

## **Club Jackets and Shirts**

The second order for Club jackets was received last week and is being distributed to those that placed an order. To be able to make another order we will need a minimum of a further 10 items so it is unlikely to happen for a while. An order form will go up on the Noticeboard so add any to that. We still have a small stock of Club shirts so if yours needs replacing – or perhaps it has shrunk during the winter – then let Carl know if you want to buy a new one. The cost is still £18 per shirt until we place a new order.

## **Middleton Cup**

Some great news in that no less than 5 of our Members have been nominated for a Middleton Cup trial this season. Good luck to Ian, Carl, Daniel, Joey and Wayne and hopefully some or all of them will be selected to play for Bowls Hampshire in June and July.

## Winter Programme

A big thank you to all those members who either attended Social events or ran them during the last winter. Any ideas for evenings that can be organised next year then please let Chris K or Terry B know.

## Yoga

Please remember that we let a Yoga Group use the Clubhouse on Wednesday mornings between 10:30 am and Noon. Please do not use the Clubhouse during these times other than to use the disabled toilet in case of need!

## Centenary Coasters

A different 'highest winning rink' prize will be given this season other than the special slate coasters we used in the Centenary season.

We have a stock left over which are now available to be purchased by members if you would like one or more. They are at a reduced price of £2.00 each – see Carl if you want any.

## National Competitions

Those of you that have entered the National Competitions should have received your draw cards in the past few weeks.

As a Club we also enter National Competitions and the following shows our various oppositions and the deadlines:

### Ladies' Top Club *[On or before Sun 19<sup>th</sup> June]*

Round 1 Home vs. Oakley BC Ladies

### Men's 'A' Top Club *[On or before Sun 8<sup>th</sup> May]*

Preliminary Round Away vs. Howard Park

### Men's 'B' Top Club *[On or before Sun 8<sup>th</sup> May]*

Preliminary Round Home vs. Kingsclere

### Men's 'A' Two Fours *[On or before Sun 29<sup>th</sup> May]*

Round 1 Away vs. Hawley or Pyestock

### Men's 'B' Two Fours *[On or before Sun 29<sup>th</sup> May]*

Round 1 Away vs. Farnborough or Aldershot Traction 'A'

In addition we have also entered the new National Mixed Over 60's Double Rink Competition for the first time.

### Mixed O60's Two Fours *[On or before Wed 1<sup>st</sup> June]*

Round 1 Away vs. Oakley or Alton Social

The Selection Committees will be looking to pick teams for all these games and the usual Team-sheets will be up in good time for the matches once they have been arranged.

Even if you are not picked to play, please try to come down and give all the teams your support. We did very well last season at County level and there is no reason we cannot go a lot further this year.

## Club Day Competitions

As usual we will have seven Day Competitions at various times throughout the season. Entry forms for the first two have been displayed for a few weeks with one full and the other with just a few places left.

Sheets for the remaining Competitions will be put on the main Notice-board three weeks in advance.

## New Member

We are pleased to welcome another new member - Maureen French - who has joined us this month.

That makes a total of 92 Bowling members, 6 Life Vice Presidents, 2 'Non-Bowling' Members plus a further 48 Social Members.

We are one of the strongest Clubs in the County and local Area and let us hope that leads to success on the green this year.

## And finally

I am sure we would also like to wish Bill Dickie a good outdoor season as the President of the London Scottish BA – until they play our Men in September of course!

These newsletters are reliant upon people giving me things to let members know about .... So if you have anything else you would like to include please let me know.

Have a good and happy Season!

Donna