



Palm Reader

The newsletter of Palmerston Indoor Bowling Club

Issue 10 October 2004

Grouse shuns Fame

The "Famous Grouse" Top 10 competition is a national men's competition held between clubs throughout the UK with the top 16 clubs going to Darlington around Easter to compete for the trophy and cash prizes.

Unfortunately Famous Grouse withdrew their sponsorship this year and Darlington has been unable to find another sponsor so have withdrawn the competition. However there is frantic activity by some other clubs who wish to take over including Hull and Folkestone. It will be touch and go whether one of these clubs will be able to organise this in time. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

It's all the more unfortunate as Palmerston decided to make an entry for the first time this year. In previous years there was a concern about the cost of supporting team expenses if we made it to the finals in Darlington. Looking realistically at the local opposition, it is most unlikely at present whether we would be good enough to beat the likes of Victory, who won the local area last year, so this is unlikely to be an issue. However this competition would be very good experience for our team and playing top opponents can only help to strengthen our players. Having won the Bramley Bowl for the second time we should begin looking to perform better at the tougher competitions like the Top 10.

You can judge the strength of this competition as last years finalists at Darlington were as follows (the astute ones of you will notice some Denny Cup finalists and winners here) :

STANLEY (Durham), NEWTON HALL/HULL, CUMBRIA, LEICESTER, KINGSTHORPE (Northants), MID SUFFOLK, ESSEX COUNTY, EGHAM



(Surrey), FOLKESTONE/GLEBELANDS (Kent), WESTLECOT (Swindon - Wiltshire), EAST DORSET, EXONIA (Devon), VICTORY, CITY OF ELY (Cambridgeshire), COATBRIDGE (Scotland), BELFAST (Northern Ireland).

Darlington and District Bowls Club is an eight rink, purpose-built indoor bowling green which opened in 1980. The club has hosted several National competitions including the Ladies British Isles Championships and the finals of the English National Club Competition for men - (Denny Cup).

The format of this competition has been in operation at Darlington IBC for many years during its annual "Christmas Festival of Bowls". As its name suggests, teams are comprised of 10 bowlers competing in the 4 disciplines - SINGLES, PAIRS, TRIPLES & FOURS. Each team competes against other teams of 10 bowlers.

Matches between competing teams are played at both clubs. The SINGLES & FOURS disciplines are played at one club, with the PAIRS & TRIPLES disciplines being played at the other club.

This allows a radical approach to scoring which makes each of the 4 games important in its own right whilst having great significance to the overall outcome of the match.

Scoring System:

INDIVIDUAL DISCIPLINES

SINGLES - 2 points

PAIRS - 2 points

TRIPLES - 2 points

FOURS - 2 points

AGGREGATE SCORE

SINGLES & FOURS - 2 points

PAIRS & TRIPLES - 2 points

OVERALL AGGREGATE SCORE

All 4 disciplines - 3 points

The overall total of 15 points available for each game is a feature which adds to the potential excitement and interest.

It is not uncommon for games to finish as a draw with both clubs sharing the 15 points. In the event of such a situation, the procedure to determine the winning team is :-

The team winning the most disciplines - if that is the same then

The team winning the singles discipline - if that is tied then

The team winning the last scoring end in the singles discipline.

This actually happened to Banister Park last year who drew 7.5 points each with Westlecot (Swindon) in the regional playoff. As the points, shots and number of winning disciplines were tied, then by these rules, Westlecot won by virtue of winning the Singles.

2004/5 local entry for HAMPSHIRE (to date) is : ATHERLEY, BOURNEMOUTH, PALMERSTON, VICTORY.

Committee Notes

Your committee has been hard at work for the past 6 months since the end of the last winter season. Here is a snapshot of some of the issues discussed at the monthly meetings:

As at the last meeting (21 September) there were still 248 members who haven't renewed their membership. As a result letters were posted to these members. Earlier payment would have avoided some postage costs. Members renewing after 30th September incur an extra administration charge of £10.

No candidate has yet been found for the vacant post of Ladies Vice President. It was suggested that one contributing factor might be the costs incurred by a President in his/her year of office. (The Club's convention is that Vice Presidents automatically become President after 2 years.) Some members might be unaware of the significant personal costs incurred by their President - your opinions whether Presidents should be expected to find expenses out of their own pocket would be welcome.

It has been suggested that the Summer League should finish one week earlier than the Winter League Programme begins to give a defined break between seasons. One concern will be a likely drop in rink fees as few are likely to play in this week break.

It was also suggested that the Christmas break be made shorter. This might however threaten the League Cup competition which in recent years has been held at the end of the Autumn league programme just before Christmas. Any useful suggestions about this would be welcome (please write in with your views). These issues will be discussed at the November meeting.

There are a number of new members and the stewards will be asked to carry out spot checks on membership cards. Members are required by law to carry their card with them on Club premises.

We are still desperate for members to volunteer to do a steward duty on Sundays pm. (Please volunteer - see the noticeboard in the foyer).

Car stickers are to be issued free of charge.

The proposal for additional car parking was approved by members at the Extraordinary General meeting in May called to discuss this, although numbers attending this meeting were disappointing. A formal planning application was submitted and is to be discussed soon by Fareham Borough Council.

Arrangements are in hand to allocate space on the existing notice boards in reception for ladies competition notices.

Ladies will have discovered that the lockers in their changing rooms have been repositioned.

The temperature control system was installed at the end of April and is now fully functional. Some members have stated that the temperature at the far end of the green is higher than at the reception end. A check was carried out and the temperature difference across the whole of the green is 0.5 degrees C. Monitoring will continue.

Routine maintenance revealed that all the radiator control valves had been turned to the shut position which had caused the pins to jam requiring expensive repairs. Notices have been placed alongside radiators to ask people not to interfere with them.

Problems have been experienced with the inner entrance door. Arrangements have been made to replace some of the electronic equipment.

It was confirmed that the charge for a double session for playing Club Competitions will be £2 per player.

An objection was made to one team playing a Club Competition Final in Finals week who had logos on their shirts and their bowls. It was perhaps not clear to the objecting member that these were special logos which have been adopted by that particular league team for some years to foster team spirit and have no connection with any commercial organisation. However this could be interpreted as strictly against "whites" rules. Your opinions on this issue would be welcome.

Next years club finals will be held in the week 4th April to 9th April 2005.

Next year's presentation evening will not include playing off of finals. It will be solely for presentations and admission will be by ticket only to allow organisation of refreshments.

A "New Starters League" started on Monday 27th September. There are 4 teams.

The club is to send a donation to EAVHB (visually handicapped bowlers) to help towards sending a team to represent England at the World Bowls Championships for the Blind.

Bruce Bedford has kindly offered to look after the plants outside the entrance for the Autumn season. Thanks Bruce.

Editorial

Welcome to a new winter season at Palmerston.

I've not much to say this month except that it is a sad reflection in a club of around 1000 members that (last time I looked) the list for volunteers for Sunday steward duty was completely empty. Let's make John Vicary's life a little easier please by helping out with this. Can you give up just one Sunday afternoon this year?

Have a good season!

Russell Gadd - Editor

You can contribute to the newsletter either by writing an article or a letter to the editor. If you use a computer please email it to russellgadd@fastmail.fm and I'll acknowledge receipt of emails. Or put it on a floppy disc (either plain text or a .doc file). Otherwise hand items in to the office addressed to Palm Editor.

All issues will be produced monthly during the winter season with the deadline at the end of the previous month.

Message from the Ladies Competition Secretary

Jill Rowe

The Entry Forms for the Ladies Competitions (Singles, Drawn Pairs and Triples) are in the ladies changing room. All the ladies who took part last season say how much they enjoyed these games. Perhaps a few more of the ladies would consider entering. Don't be reticent, you do not know what you can achieve until you try. Ladies entering the Singles Competition arrange the time and date with their opponent for their game, those entering the "Drawn Matches" will have fixed dates on certain Wednesday afternoons.

Last date for entry to the competitions is 30th October. Come on ladies get your names down and lets put on a really good show in the 2004 - 2005 season.

Christmas is coming

I hear you all groan!!

The good news is there will be Christmas cards on sale again this year. The price range will be £3.00 and £3.50 per pack of 10 cards. They are sold in support of Cancer Research UK and I also donate to the club funds.

Thank you for supporting the greetings cards which seem as popular as ever and though the income to the club is small it is very consistent. At the end of this season I will be able to let you know exactly how much has gone in to the club funds.

Any questions, requests etc. please leave me a message in the box. Thanks

Marian Rose

The following guide was issued by Tony Allcock to help understand the new stamping rules. Contrary to what was published here last March (apologies to our readers) which was based on inaccurate information published in *Bowls International*, many of our bowlers will NOT need to have their bowls restamped to play in the National Finals next year. Although this guide is issued by the EBA it also applies to EIBA and EWIBA.

Bowls Stamping

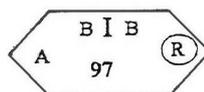
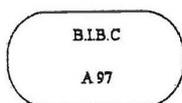
A simple guide to current requirements

A great deal of confusion has arisen since the introduction of the new World Bowls stamp. Below is a simple guide to the current requirements.

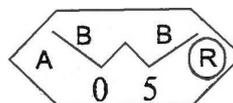
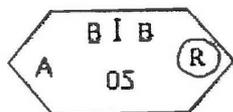
A) Firstly all composition bowls (i.e. not Lignum Vitae) must have a legible stamp dated 1985 or later on them.

If you play with Lignum Vitae bowls, the 1985 relaxation does not apply, they must be stamped every 10 years, therefore, you must get them stamped as soon as the expiry date is reached.

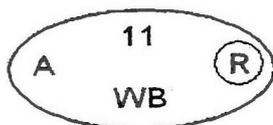
B) If you have any of the following stamps you will be able to play in Club, County and National Competitions until you qualify for National Championship Finals. The expiry date on these stamps must be 1985 or later.



C) If you have one of the following stamps and the expiry date is 2005 onwards then you will be able to play in National Championship Finals until the date expires. after which your bowls will have to be re-tested.



D) The following stamp is the New World Bowls stamp and if you have this on your bowls you will be able to play in all matches including Internationals.



E) Remember that all stamps must be legible

The EBA wishes to acknowledge the assistance of the EBUA in the production of this information sheet.

Tony Allcock MBE Chief Executive

Social and Fundraising

by Rene Bowshell - Social Secretary

SOCIAL PROGRAMME OCT - FUND RAISING PROGRAMME DEC

Most of you will appreciate that planned activities were somewhat limited during recent months due to Bill's ill health. However now that the winter season is under way some events are being organised and are advertised on the Social Notice Board. Details as follows:

Sat Oct 16th - Charity Quiz Night with Hot Buffet - 7.00 for 7.30pm

Book your table for 6 on the List. £54 per Table (£9 per head)

Pay in advance over the Bar and you will receive a receipt

Raffle on the night - All proceeds to the ROCKY Appeal Fund

Sat Nov 13th - Autumn Race Night with Ploughmans Supper (Cheese or Pate)

Doors open 7.00pm (for sale of Horses) - 1st Race 8.00pm

List available shortly - Tickets £3.50 from Bar Stewards soon

Sat Dec 11th - Christmas Party Evening with Hot Buffet = 7.00 for 7.30pm

Mickey Morgan - Organist & Vocalist - will entertain

Lucky Ticket Draw - Tickets £11 (inclusive) - Available from Bar in November

The organisation of Social Events is becoming increasingly difficult for the few hard pressed members of the Social Committee. Offers of help would be much appreciated especially if you have computer skills and can produce Posters, Tickets or other publications when they are needed. We are grateful to Ray Gregory for his help and support particularly for the Charity Quiz Evening.

On a personal note I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you all for your concern and support whilst Bill was in hospital and since he came home. I am pleased to report that apart from being rather immobile he is now looking good and responding well to all the TLC.

For as long as there are improvements that can be made to any of the Club's facilities we shall continue with Fund Raising Projects. The Fund recently financed the installation of Dimmer Light Switches in the Restaurant as well as some extra points which were required for other electrical equipment.

Winter Programme is as follows:

"100" Club - Thanks to our response the Treasurer tells me we have 200 participating members this year which means we have 2 complete sections. The monthly Prize money has been increased. Lists will be displayed shortly showing your allocated number in the Draw. Draw will take place on Friday 29th October around 7.00pm and the Winners will be notified

Treasure Chest - Friday evening is the time to buy your lucky £1 Ticket for this popular game of chance. Draw the Lucky Number and as well as winning £5 you will have a chance of choosing which key will open the Treasure Chest! By Friday 8th October the Box will contain £70/80. Pick the right key and it's yours!!

Bonus Ball - Select the right number from Rita's Lucky Bag and for £1 you could win £30 if your number matches the Saturday Lottery Bonus Ball. With a few more "Punters" taking part we could start a Draw for Wednesdays Lottery as we did last Winter. How about it?

Christmas Draw - You will all be aware that for the last three years there has been a shortfall between the cash box income and the number of tickets sold. Last year it was £15 which means 30 numbers not paid for. We have considered several methods of ensuring that all numbers are paid for - sadly they would all be expensive and labour intensive - thus defeating the object of the Draw. We are therefore relying on you the members to ensure that 50p goes into the cash box every time you fill in a 'box'. In fairness to all let's try and make it all 'add up' this Christmas! If any new members would like more information on any of the above programmes a Committee member or Desk Steward would be pleased to help. Have an enjoyable and successful season.

Who delivers the Jack?

Now that the new rule (Law 19) allows you to "give the mat away" the following is a guide to exactly how this applies.

Start of Play

Law 19B - The winner of the toss at the beginning of a game has the option of delivering the jack first or letting his opponent deliver the jack first.

Subsequent ends to the first

Law 19E - The winner of the preceding end has the option of delivering the jack or letting his opponent deliver the jack.

Jack delivered into the ditch or over the boundary

Law 20B (i), 26 (i) - The jack is returned and delivered by the opponent who may reset the mat.

Law 20B (ii) - If the opponent then delivers the jack into the ditch or over the boundary the jack is placed 2 metres from the front ditch and the original player bowls first.

After a Dead End

Law 19D, 20B (iii), 37A (iii) - The player who delivered the jack in the dead end shall again play first.

After a Tie or "no shot" end

Law 48 (iii), 19E - The winner of the preceding scoring end has the option of delivering the jack or letting his opponent deliver the jack.

Extra End or Ends

Law 52 (ii), (iii) - The winner of the toss has the option of delivering the jack or letting his opponent deliver the jack.

Extra End declared Dead

Law 52 (v), 19B, 20 - The winner of a new toss has the option of delivering the jack or letting his opponent deliver the jack.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

I need your letters
please!