



# PURLEY BOWLS CLUB

## NEWSLETTER – MID-JULY 2024 (VOLUME 1, EDITION 5)

Hello fellow bowlers,

With the season now in full swing, you will find brief details of matches played over the last couple of weeks. Whilst the ladies' results appear to be on a par with previous, and successful, years, the men are being less successful. As I myself have witnessed (suffered!), there are some talented bowlers locally, both young and old. Surely though, enjoying being in the fresh air, and in good company, is always beneficial, and a welcome change to our often-hectic way of life.

Grateful thanks also go to those team players who after enjoying a game of bowls, spend a few minutes in preparing a match report, which are so important in the preparation of the newsletters. Continued help with this is much appreciated.

### MEMBERSHIP

The membership remains at 111, 43 ladies and 68 men.

### BOWLR

Tony Gallagher has now added the club's external competitions', up to the end of August, to Bowlr. If you would like to be considered for selection, you must indicate that fact. Please remember also that Bowlr is the ONLY official method for booking rinks – for any form of bowls.

### THE GREEN

The green is looking and playing very well, in spite of the recent weather, drawing many compliments from visiting clubs. You will have noticed, hopefully, the notices concerning the moving of the rink markers before the first of the morning's play. If you have not seen one, please make a note to do so.

### NATIONAL & SURREY COMPETITIONS

**Nationals** – congratulations go to:

Jane Sanders, in reaching the regional final for the Champion of Champions, but unfortunately lost that match.

Linda Gallagher, for reaching the regional final for the Ladies Senior Singles.

Jane Sanders & Janet White, in reaching the regional final for the Ladies Senior Pairs, but sadly lost in a very close fought match.

**Surrey's** – congratulations also go to:

Jane Sanders, in reaching the quarter-finals for the Champion of Champions.

Jane Seymour & Ursula Wharf who won against Liz Fry & Pam Stuttard, in the Ladies Pairs, and are now in the quarter finals.

Kara Lyford, Liz Fry & Jane Sanders, on reaching the quarter-finals of the Ladies Triples.

Kara Lyford, Liz Fry, Pam Studdard & June Marshall, for reaching the quarter finals of the Fours.

Linda Gallagher, Mary Roe, Carolyn Reynolds, & Mandy Power, in reaching the quarter-finals of the Top Four. Mary Roe is unable to play in the quarter-final and will be replaced by Anne Jameson.

Shani Sreedharan, in reaching the area semi-final of the Men's Singles, but who unfortunately lost that match.

Peter Power, who has won his Round 5 match in Division 2 of the Men's Unbadged Singles. He then won his quarter final but lost in the semi-final. Well done, Peter, you will be awarded a Surrey Badge (& that's the last time you will play in this competition!).

Apologies if any outstanding achievement has been omitted. If you would like to remind me, it will be rectified in the next newsletter.

## **LOCAL COMPETITIONS**

You will notice, that, in the following reports that the team members remain anonymous. This is intentional, as it is not in anyone's interest to criticise any team or players performance. It's just a game, after all.

## **LEAGUES – MEN'S**

### **East Surrey League**

22 June (Chipstead) – this match was postponed until a later date.

26 June (Old Coulsdon) - This match, against the 'top-of-the-table' team, was played on a sunny Wednesday evening, with all six rinks being played on; great to see! Purley drew on one rink, losing by one shot and two shots respectively, on the other two rinks. The overall aggregate score was 48-51 to Old Coulsdon - the best performance by the Purley team this season, but without the rewards it deserved! Purley 1 point – Old Coulsdon 9 points.

7 July (Purley Bury) – The match was played in less-than-ideal conditions, with a couple of interruptions due to the heavy rain. In spite of the rain, the green still bowled very well, so no excuses there. We won on 1 rink but lost on the other 2 rinks. The overall aggregate score was 48-68 to the very sociable Purley Bury team, who joined us in the bar afterwards for a few drinks, and lots of laughs. The match score was Purley 2 points - Purley Bury 8pts.

13 July (Sutton) – Several of our regular ESL players were unavailable for this match, but their replacements performed admirably, including two debutants. We were extremely unlucky not to get more points, with one rink drawing 17-17 and one rink losing 15-14 on the last end. The other losing rink came back from 16-0 down to lose 21-20, as a result of a fortunate wick in Sutton's favour on the 17th end, and which gave them a three rather than just the one shot. The aggregate score was 51-53 to Sutton. Purley 1 point – Sutton 9 points.

### **East Surrey Triples League**

27 June (Cheam Fields) – Chris Harland & Robin Cook played in their first ESL Triples match, tasting immediate success. Peter Marshall's team took an early lead, and although their opponents kept them honest, his team secured a win. Richard Carr's team managed to hold the lead by end 17, but the opponent's Skip, with the last bowl of the game managed to secure the win. Meanwhile, Richard Appleby's team, after being behind for most of the game managed to win on the 18th end. Purley 8 points – Cheam Fields 2 points.

3 July (Epsom Park) – The match was played in intermittent rain showers, and subsequently the Green was heavy to play on. Epsom Park are very strong opposition, and they are currently 3<sup>rd</sup> in the league. Purley lost on all three rinks, by differing margins, the aggregate score being 37 – 70 to Epsom Park. Purley 0 points – Epsom Park 10 points.

9 July (Croydon MO) – On a very wet evening, Purley succumbed to Croydon MO by 34–68. We were successful on one rink, where having led all game until the 17<sup>th</sup> end, we were dependent on two super woods from the skip to snatch back a win 14-13. Purley 2 points – Croydon MO 8 points.

### **Tons League**

24 June (Banstead Neville) – the Purley ‘home’ team managed to hold on to win 18-16. However, the ‘away’ team struggled on their opponent’s green losing 13-25. The aggregate score was 41-31, in favour of Banstead Neville, Purley 2 points – Banstead Neville 4 points.

1 July (Wallington) – A (rare, but deserved) win for Purley in this match. Whilst the home team lost 8-18, the away team won with an outstanding score 33-13, the aggregate score being 41-31. Purley 4 points – Wallington 2 points. The selectors have a greater choice of players, now that there is less of an emphasis on National & Surrey competitions.

8 July (Auriol) – Unfortunately, the momentum could not be maintained, and both Home (10-21) & Away (14-18) teams lost. Purley 0 points – Auriol 6 points.

15 July (Chessington) – The Home team dominated the opposition winning 23-11, but the away team were unable to match their performance losing 10-17. An aggregate score win for Purley 33- 28, giving them 4 points to Chessington’s 2 points.

### **LEAGUES – LADIES**

#### **Cristal League**

18 June (Wallington) – We won on one of the triples 20 -11. On the other triple, the game was nip and tuck all the way, with a score of 21-21 after 18 ends. Well done Purley overall win of 41- 32, Purley 5 points – Wallington 1 point.

19 June (Auriol) – Another very enjoyable afternoon. Both triples won today with an overall score of Purley 36 - Auriol 27. Purley took maximum 6 points - Auriol 0 points. Well done again.

27 June (Malden Manor) – The Ladies played two very close games, winning one rink each. Purley, however, came out overall winners 40 – 38, Purley 4 points – Malden Manor 2 points.

6 July (Merton Park) – Another convincing win for Purley Ladies on both rinks. Merton Park ladies found our rink very difficult in a game which was very much affected by the rain showers. The aggregate score was 51 - 19 to Purley. Purley 6 points -Merton Park 0 points.

#### **Mid Surrey League**

29 June (Ashtead) - The setting at Ashtead is beautiful, and on one of the hottest Saturdays of the year Purley Ladies were welcomed with hot drinks before the game! The green seemed to suit all of us and Ashtead ladies were wonderful company. A convincing win, on both rinks, for the ladies of Purley, 26-6 and 21-10 (aggregate 47-16) was followed by snacks, more drinks and banter in the Club house afterwards. Well done, Purley.

## **LEAGUES – MIXED**

### **Vilamoura**

Mary Roe, the team selector again asks for improving and experienced bowlers to put their names down for future Vilamoura matches. For new players, they are good fun, and give new bowlers some experience in playing matches against other clubs.

11 July (Epsom Park) – the Home team won a tightly fought match 20-18. However, the Away team struggled on a very slow (& mysterious) rink two, together with the opposition lead who was “relentless on putting her first bowl right on the jack”. The aggregate score was 26 – 35 to Epsom Park. Purley 2 points – Epsom Park 4 points.

## **FRIENDLIES**

### **Ladies**

26 June (Epsom) - On a very hot day we won this game overall very convincingly 39 - 21. On one Triple, Purley lost by just one shot. On the other the Purley Ladies found the Green very early on and would not give it back. Lovely company, excellent refreshments after the match, which included an ice cream!

4 July (Spring Park Shirley Ladies) - Another convincing win for both triples rinks. Shirley Ladies are use to a much heavier green and struggled on our fast rinks. Final score 61 -23

### **Mixed**

25 June (Gonville) – This is the penultimate season for Gonville, who have sold their ground to property developers. The green is ‘interesting’, and the result was due to luck, as much as bowling ability. Purley, however, were up to the challenge. Losing on two rinks, the third was won by a margin that gave Purley a 2-shot advantage, the aggregate score being 42-40.

3 July (Purley Bury) – This match was postponed, but will hopefully be rearranged for later in the season.

10 July (Brockham) – twelve enthusiastic Purley bowlers turned out on this sunny afternoon, only to discover that the opposition had cancelled two days earlier. (Who took that ‘phone call?). After a roll-up of 15 ends, everyone retired to the clubroom to devour the cakes that had been supplied for the occasion.

## **CAPTAINS’ CHARITY**

The Captains’ Charity stands at £568.80.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

21 July – the preliminary rounds of the Surrey Ladies 2-wood singles is being held at Shirley Park BC, starting at 10.00am. No less than eleven players from Purley BC have entered.

29 July – Purley BC are hosting the Surrey Ladies Singles Quarter Finals, at 6pm.

30 July – the Triples League starts, and will be played every Tuesday until early September. Remember to put your name on the entry sheet if you wish to play.

17 August – Captains Day & evening BBQ. This is a great event, and is worthy of your support.

25 August – a mixed friendly at the stunning Selsey Bowling Club.

26 August – Bank Holiday drive.

## RECENT EVENTS

Jane Harding had an unforgettable experience recently, as she describes:

*Royal Household v Disability Bowls England (DBE)*

*I was fortunate enough to be selected to play for DBE versus the Royal Household BC recently. Having passed security (how you ask?!), on arrival I was escorted to the ladies by a full uniformed Gurka. His Majesty King Charles 3 was in attendance at a wedding reception on the other side of the hedge to the bowling green. Reality of where I was kicked in.*

*The most amazing setting, the bowls club is just past Frogmore House no less and, of course beautifully manicured. The members gave us a very warm welcome and admitted they did not know what to expect from us. We were an eclectic bunch, 2 learning disability, 3 wheelchair-bound, 2 visually impaired, 1 totally blind, 1 triple amputee and 5 others with "issues".*

*The match was keenly contested and they gave us no quarter. I was with Richard (blind), Gill Platt and Jennie. I was the only non-international player but felt I didn't disgrace myself, or Purley. To the sounds of the Royal Marine band (over the hedge) we managed to ease into a lead on all rinks until the heavens opened! Their team ran off, we got soaked due to our inability to run!*

*The match was abandoned, and we were announced winners after a terrific meal (no crusts!). It was an immense privilege to play there, with a great bunch of people. If you get the chance grab it.*

*We are bowlers first, disabled second.*