

A G M 26th OCTOBER 2022

MEN'S CAPTAINS REPORT

It seems a long time ago and after taking over as Captain we had to have our second committee meeting via zoom as Covid was on the increase again thankfully those days are now behind us.

Prior to the start of the season we decided to adopt an online booking system and after research chose bowlr which on the whole has been well received. This would not have happened without Tony Gallagher spending his time setting it up and inputting all our data a very big thank you to Tony.

We had our pre season pie & pint in February and as usual the steak and kidney was excellent 39 members attended and we collected £ 70 for our charity. The evening was rounded off by our resident comedian and Jethro impersonator Geoff Trown.

In March several members helped to do work around the green including repairing the fox fence clearing the ditches fitting a ditch protection painting fences and clubhouse entrance wall and powerwashing the patio and generally tidying up to all those who helped the club would not have looked so good this season without your hardwork huge thanks to all.

Unfortunately I could not attend the pre season buffet due to having covid but I'm told it was a success and was attended by a representative from our nominated captains charity the lily pad appeal.

The green was opened on 9th April on the 18th we had our opening ballot 60 plus people attended the weather was good and everyone

had a good time and no doubt pleased to be bowling again. The season then got underway with friendly matches starting to be played.

On the weekend 30th April we had an open weekend 19 people signed up for coaching and 10 are now members and some are already playing competitive and friendly matches.

Thank you to Elaine and fellow coaches for spending time coaching our new members.

A thank you also to Howard for organising the ballots these are an integral part of the club and long may THEY continue.

The season continued with mediterranean type weather which made bowling even more enjoyable .

On the 3rd June we had our bank holiday drive it was fancy dress based on the Queens jubilee Jane Harding and Richard Applebee won PRIZES for their costumes.

In august we hosted a county match between Surrey and Bedfordshire the day was a success with those watching enjoying the matches, our green got good compliments from the visitors the afternoon finished with a meal in the Cowan suite. Thank you to all those that helped on the day and to Kara for her bread pudding

From the sublime to the ridiculous a week later Derek Jameson Richard Rubidge Demetrios and myself helped at the Ladies invitation day dressed up as the 3 amigos plus 1. Paul Dobbs was the official photographer and was so impressed with the fun the ladies were having he thought about joining the ladies section.

We had our bbq on 20th August with a variation on the menu thanks to all those who made and provided the desserts.

On the 28th we had a trip to Selsey bowls club who made us very welcome and provided us with a bbq after the match.

Now a little moan I think that all those who went to Selsey would agree that the journey was worthwhile its therefore unfortunate that we had to cancel the Southampton trip because of lack of numbers Demetrios would have spent a lot of time arranging this match and then having to tell Southampton we are cancelling does not put our club in a good light please think about this next year when a trip like this is arranged.

Onto a lighter note we had a candle lit bowls evening on the 22nd September which everybody enjoyed and we finished up in the bar having ham egg or sausage and chips . for those who didn't attend I would recommend you do next year it was a great evening.

On THE 24th September we had our presentation dinner with 90 people attending well done to all those who won trophies. We invited 2 ladies from our nominated captains charity the chartwell cancer trust lily pad appeal and presented them with a cheque for £3000 thank you to all our members and Piscitorial Bowls Society for donating .To those who were there I think you would agree it was a great evening and an excellent meal well done to all those who helped to bring this event together.

Coming onto competitions our finals weekend was played in fine weather and this year we adopted a quicker turn around between matches which was better for the spectators. Well done to all the players and to the helpers.

Unfortunately our results in both the Tons and Vilamoura leagues were poor .On the whole availability for friendly matches was good and team selection made much easier by it now being on Bowlr .

Whilst the men did not have much success in the Surrey competitions we did have a high number of entrants for some members this being their first time in the competitions.

The internal triples league gave some of our new members a chance to play competitive bowls thank you to Richard Carr and Howard for organising.

we played our last ESL match of the season on the 25th september requiring 2 points to clinch promotion and go up as champions We had fantastic support and needless to say it was tense. We crossed the line by winning one rink well done to the whole squad this season with the reward of now playing in first division.

Well done to the ladies for their achievements this year which captain Sue will give you the full details of.

I am sorry to say that we will be losing 5 members from our committee and on behalf Captain Sue and myself I would like to say thank you to Marian Carolyn Ken Demetrios and Richard for all the hard work and dedication they have put in .

Finally I would like to thank you all for your support this season and I look forward to seeing all on the green next year

Tony Andrews

Men's Captain