

MEN'S CAPTAIN'S REPORT 2023

Good evening, Gentlemen and welcome to our end of season meeting.

Prior to the start of this season, we had our customary get together at the Pie & Pint evening, where Geoff Trown had us in fits of laughter with his "jokes routine".

Due to the poor weather, the season did not get off to a good start. We were meant to start bowling on the 10th April but, because the green was too wet, this was delayed until the 17th April when we hit the ground running (sorry no running on the green !!!) and the first Ballot was played.

This is the second season that we have used bowlr and in my perspective it has been invaluable in arranging and selecting teams for matches. I hope you would agree that the club competitions section on bowlr has proved to be far better than the old system and I would like to thank Tony Gallagher for all the work he puts into bowlr.

We held our Open Weekend on the 29th / 30th April which was successful and as a result signed up 12 new members some of whom are already playing in competitive and friendly matches. Thank you to the coaches Elaine, Jane, Elizabeth, Steve, and Tony for your time spent with our new bowlers.

I would also like to thank Ken Clark for arranging the Tons and Vilamoura matches this year - Ken has now decided to stand down and on behalf of all those who played in these competitions a huge thanks Ken for your all your hard work.

I would also like to thank Howard for arranging the Monday and Friday ballots again this year. The season was now well under way with friendly matches being played and, in the main, plenty of people making themselves available to play. The internal competitions also started with plenty of entrants for the various competitions. It was good to see everyone playing in our new club shirts.

On the 4th July we hosted a Surrey v Buckinghamshire match which was a success. We received good comments on our green and how our club was run; a big thank you to everyone who helped on the day.

The Triples League started on the 28th July it was pleasing to see new members in the teams.

Our internal competitions finals were played in glorious weather on the 2nd / 3rd September - well done to all finalists and winners and those who helped to make Finals weekend a success. Two matches had to be played at a later date due illness and those who were fortunate enough to see the Select Pairs final witnessed a match of very high standard which ended in a measure on the last end to determine the winners.

I think a mention should also be made for our ESL squad who, after being promoted to the 1st division, finished 5th in the league. We also finished a respectful 4th in the ESL Triples League - well done to all. We reached the final of the Yonwin cup, ending up as runners up to Southey BC and Tony Gallagher received the Randolph Runners-Up Cup on behalf of our Club.

On the 9th September we held a new completion: Ladies v Men in memory of Pat Teasdale. The Ladies won the match by one point and the new Teasdale Trophy was awarded to Captain Sue by Pat's son. This will now become a permanent fixture and hopefully a win for the Men next year.

The Presentation Dinner was held on the 30th September. Unfortunately, due to various valid reasons, 16 winners and runners-up were not able to attend to receive their prizes. However, the evening was very enjoyable with Miki doing a sterling job as “Master of Ceremonies”. On behalf of Sue and myself, I would also like to thank Miki and the PBC choir for the hilarious musical send off.

At the dinner it was announced that the Captains’ Charity had donated £1,451 to the Purley Food hub. Fiona Weaver who is a Trustee of PFH spoke on their behalf and explained what a worthwhile cause this is.

Well, that’s me done it’s been a pleasure to have been your Captain over the past 2 years. I would like to thank you all for your help and support.

Tony Andrews
Men’s Captain