

PALM READER

The Palmerston Indoor Bowling Club Magazine

January 2014
Issue 59

Friendly Matches

We are halfway through the season and have played six friendlies against other clubs and three internal friendly matches as of 13th January. The Ann Broadhurst trophy match on the 14th December was not very well attended, so next year we will move it one week earlier and have the game on Sunday 7th December. We had to cancel the match against Romsey as they had a clash of fixtures but won all the other six thanks to the support of the members who participated.

In the second half of the season we have seven more friendlies and two internal matches:-

The Betty Metherell Trophy on the 23rd February

The International on the 23rd March (always a popular, colourful and fun event)

There is one away match against Riverside on the 26th January which is always a competitive venue.

On the 16th March we have a fixture at home to Banister Park (8 rinks). This is a fixture against a fairly strong team and we hope to field a similarly strong team so we are asking for all members, including those who do not regularly play in the friendlies, to consider putting their names down for this match. A notice requesting players for this fixture will be going up about a month before the game.

Just a quick reminder to members playing in these matches that:-
In agreeing to play in the friendly involves playing the game and having the meal afterwards.

- *Palmerston stickers must be on the woods.*
- *Whites etc are normally the dress of the day.*
- *First names are required on the sheet so we can pick mixed teams.*
- *On the selected teams sheet we need you to tick your name to show that you are still available and have noted your selection. (Last minute name cancellations become very problematic and arranging the fixtures / picking the teams is fairly time consuming)*

It is very important for as many members as possible to support all the friendly fixtures. Please sign up for the friendly matches on the notice board. It is good fun meeting people from other clubs and a very pleasant way to spend the afternoon.

Brian Hayles
Match Secretary

I would like to wish all of our members and their families a healthy, happy and prosperous new year.

Marie Leonard

Editor

aleonard1942@gmail.com

In This Issue

- INFORMATION ON FRIENDLY MATCHES
- A BLAST FROM THE PAST
- NEARLY POTTERS
- SOCIAL EVENTS
- COMPETITIONS
- GREEN ETIQUETTE
- BOWLING TIPS

Nearly Potters

The field for the World Bowls Championships held at Potters each year is made up of the top 16 players in the world rankings and a further 16 players from various qualifying events around the world.

On 21st September at Bournemouth was held one of these qualifying events. The winner of this event will play Nicky Brett at Potters in January 2014.

Bill Jackson entered the qualifying event and was due to play Travis Meller in the first round. Travis received an invitation to play in trial for England, hence was unable to attend. In the second round Bill beat Brian Hawkins from Clarrie Dunbar IBC, who was a semi-finalist in this same event last year, by two sets to zero.

The third round also went Bill's way although he needed to hit the jack twice in the last end to secure victory. This match was against Stephen Roberts who had travelled all the way from Cumbria to play and put out Neil Smith, a previous Potters qualifier in the preceding round.

The semi-final was against Richard Moses, from Preston IBC near Brighton, another player who has played at Potters. This became a very tight match. The score in the first set after 6 ends was 3 each but Bill secured the win on the seventh end. The second set was much higher scoring with several threes changing hands, but after 6 ends Bill was one shot ahead. The last end was a thriller. Richard drew first shot 3 inches diagonally behind the jack. Bill then rested that bowl just behind. Richard added a second shot by drawing alongside his first bowl. Bill then drew the shot locking against Richard's two bowls. Richard then drew shot again just closer than Bill's shot. Bill then covered the re-spot mark as Richard needed two shots to take the match to a tie-break. The only option left to Richard was a dead draw within two inches which he failed to do. So, although losing one shot at the last end, the set was tied and Bill was in the final by 1.5 sets to 0.5.

In the final was Danny Denison, semi-finalist in both the Champion of Champions also the EIBA national singles last season. He was in top form, regularly drawing two bowls within two inches, and ended Bill's dream of appearing on BBC TV in the World Bowls finals at Potters.

Bill Jackson

PALMERSTON CUP

A FEW REMINDERS

Have you changed your car, phone number or address? If so please can you inform:

Lesley Howell

Used postage stamps are collected and given to Canine Partners Charity. There is a box in the ladies changing room we also collect milk bottle tops.

Bras are collected for the Air Ambulance Charity they should be put in bags and placed in the large bag in the ladies changing room.

Bonus Ball, you have to be in it to win it. The bag with the numbers is on the table as you come into the club, please remember to put a pound in the tin for every number you take.

Bowls Roadshow, the next roadshow will take place on Thursday January 23rd between 10.30am and 2.30pm.

The Palmerston Cup has now reached the halfway stage of the competition, which is played on Sunday evenings at Palmerston. The 13 teams this year have been split into two Pools and will play all the other teams in their Pool just once. Six points will be awarded for an overall win and two points for each of the three winning rinks. A total of 12 points are available for each game played and there are usually two games played every Sunday evening starting at 6.30 p.m. The top two teams in each Pool once all the games have been played, will go through to the semi-final knockout stage on 23rd February 2014. The finals and 3rd/4th place play off will take place the following Sunday 2nd March 2014.

In Pool A, Banister Park Blue are top at present, with Fareham B in second place. However, they can Hampshire Police team

In Pool B, Banister Park past two years) are currently Blue in second place.

be caught by both Fareham both have a game in hand.



both be caught by the who have a game in hand. Gold (the winners for the recently top, with Atherley However, Atherley Blue can ham A and Lockswood who

There are some interesting matches still to be played in this competition and with half the competition still to run, the final outcome is by no means certain. After all, anything can happen in bowls!!!! If you are fed up with what is on the telly on a Sunday evening, why not come down to your club to watch a game or two. The bar is open and you might be surprised to see how many people playing, are regular bowlers at Palmerston.

Fixture lists, latest scores and tables are displayed on the club notice board, but they can also be found on the club website at palmerston-bowls.org.uk

Keith Fleming

Competition Secretary

CLUB COMPETITIONS

This year it has been quite noticeable that the demands upon rink availability have become quite high and many competitors have had difficulty in arranging dates to play their ties. Well done to all those who have managed to complete their matches by the due dates set. A problem has been drawn to my attention, that some players are booking two or more "provisional dates" on the rink calendar, but once they have settled on a definite date, they have not cancelled the other "provisional" date's. This has led others trying to find a free rink, to believe none are available. Please remember to cancel all unwanted "provisional" dates as soon as they are not wanted.

Also, did you know that this year the competitions have all been computerised. They are updated roughly twice a week. You can access the latest results by going to the club website palmerston-bowls.org.uk and clicking on competitions. You can then select the competition you are interested in, without having to come into the club to look at the notice boards.

Roving Bowler

Following his best result at Bournemouth, where he lost in the final of the qualifier to play in the World Championship at Potters, Bill Jackson has been on the road playing in the Professional Bowls Association Masters events.

At Bromley he was drawn in the same group as Adam White who had won that event last year. The result against Adam was one set each. Unfortunately Bill lost his other game in that section, so Adam progressed to the quarter finals. Graham Robertson also of Chawton Park was then Adam's opponent. The match was only decided on the third end of the tie break, when Graham was the winner. Graham went on to win the tournament and will be in the play-offs in Blackpool.

At Cynon Valley IBC, Mountain Ash, Wales, Bill beat the three players in his group to progress to the Quarter Finals. There he met Dai Prosser, a Welsh international. One set all meant a 3 end tie break. Dai drew on to the jack early on. Bill managed to knock it off with his last bowl and held shot when the jack was re spotted, but his shot was four feet away and Dai drew inside to win the first end. The situation was reversed in the second end when Bill was holding shot, but Dai knocked it off. Dai was then holding shot four feet away. Bill then drew shot two feet away, but with Dai's last bowl he drew to four inches. Dai went on to lose in the final to Danny Dennison.

At York, Bill also managed to progress to the quarter finals, but only after some very close matches. The first set played, he was three down and scored three to tie the set, but secured the win by winning the second set. He then played a lady, Norma, and won both sets. the lady won a set against another player in the group which affected the outcome of the group. Bill's last match in the group was against the organiser and in the first set Bill was three down playing the last end, but scored 4 to win the set. Despite losing the second set, his results meant qualification for the quarter final.

In the quarter final, one set all meant a 3 end tie break. Bill then knew that if he could reach the semi final his match would be against Billy Jackson, former World Champion.

In the first end Bill was holding shot 18 inches in front. His opponent then drew 14 inches behind. Bill then played out the shot bowl. His opponent fired and ended up with shot. Second end was similar. Bill was holding two good shots. Opponent fired jack into ditch and followed in about 3.5 feet away. Bill needed to draw up to edge of ditch and did so, but his bowl then sat down into the ditch to end Bill's hopes of a match of the Jacksons. Billy Jackson, Lincoln, went on to win the tournament and qualify for the play-offs at Blackpool.

In the second half of the season Bill will be focussing on Planet Bowls singles events.

Bill Jackson

Bill Mc Clenaghan Would Like To Point Out

That his new green and yellow spotted woods are very sensitive to comments such as.

1. Don't look now Bill someone has been sick on your woods.
2. Did you notice that your woods are suffering from leaf mould.
3. You should have gone to spec savers before you bought those woods.
4. Did you clean those woods with a dirty nappy.
5. How long have you suffered with colour blindness.
6. Bill the green paint is coming off your woods the yellow undercoat is showing through.
7. Did you get those awful coloured woods in a charity shop.

Etc,etc



Questions and Answers

1. Which teams have vacancies.

There is a list of teams who are looking for players on the notice board at the side of the bar as well as a sheet where people who are looking for a team can put there name.

2. How many players can there be in a team.

There is no limit on the number of players who can be registered for a team.

3. Can we have details of the committee and whom we should approach if we have a query/problem.

There is a full list of all of the committee and their positions as well as their photograph on the notice board in the entrance hall of the club

Green Etiquette

1. Be conversant with the Laws of the Game and Observe them.
2. Respect the decision of the umpire.
3. Be punctual to commence play at all matches, and come to each match correctly attired.
4. Keep quiet and refrain from moving when players are on the mat.
5. Stand behind the mat whilst your opponent bowls.
6. **Always stand still at the head when a player is about to bowl.**
Movement at the head, or talking at the mat, is very distracting.
7. Always allow your opponent the right to the head as spelled out in the laws of the game.
8. Walk close to the centre of the rink, with minimum delay when changing ends.
9. Do not delay play. Always play your bowl with minimum delay.
10. Never deliver your bowl before the previous bowl has come to rest.
11. Keep track of play and be ready to play when it is your turn.
12. Every player at the mat end should assist collecting the bowls when the end is completed.
13. **Always pay your skip respect by waiting for their decision. do not step onto the mat and indicate which way you intend to play. Wait for the Skips instructions.**
14. Never applaud lucky bowls, - accept them graciously.
15. Never complain about lucky bowls, they tend to equal each other out over the season.
16. **Respect the green surface at all times. Do Not**
 - a. **DROP BOWLS ON THE GREEN**
 - b. **STAND ON THE EDGE OF THE GREEN**
 - c. **STAND ON THE EDGE OF THE BANK**
 - d. **WALK IN THE DITCHES**
17. Always inform your opponent if you wish to leave the green.
18. If you lose, be a good loser, and do not blame your loss on; other people, the green or weather conditions.
19. **Win or lose, always shake hands with your opponents and thank them for the game.**
20. Offer your opponent a drink after the game.
21. Always be polite to Markers and Umpires, they have given their time to assist you in your game

**ABOVE ALL, ENJOY THE GAME OF BOWLS FOR, ITS PLEASURE AND FOR LAST-
ING FRIENDSHIP.**

Restaurant

Hire

An application to hire the restaurant can only be made by a fully paid up member. Before signing the form the conditions of hire stated on the back of the form should be read and respectfully adhered to. At all functions the bar closure time is 10-30pm. Last orders need to be announced at 10pm.

Any bottles of wine brought in for a function should be declared at the bar and corkage fully paid. The bar staff have the authorisation to request payment if any bottles of wine have not been declared.

Lunch Time Bookings

Members wanting to bring a group of guests to lunch at the club must complete an application form if the number attending is above 10. It has been noted that members are bringing in large parties of guests and have not applied for authorisation. The club policy is that 1 member may sign in 9 guests. If the number is above 10 an application form must be forwarded to me for authorisation. This includes Sunday lunch time. It is expected that members respect the club policies.

On all occasions, lunch time bookings and evening functions the member making the booking must be present.

Social

A Valentine Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday 15th February the entertainer will be Phil Owen, who is always popular at Palmerston.

On Saturday 15th March we are having an Irish Night. A group of Irish Dancers will entertain us and this will be the third year they have attended Palmerston. It is always a delight to watch their dancing.

We are hoping to hold an afternoon event on Wednesday 26th March this still being discussed and not yet finalised.

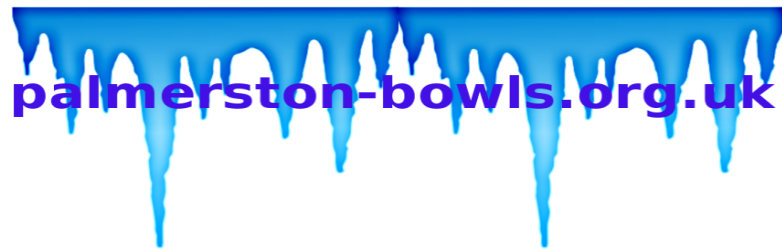
Some of you may remember the Quiz Night held in April last year. The Quiz master was Bob Currie, who donates his fee to charity. On Saturday 19th April we will be having one of Bobs Quiz Nights. He adds a bit of fun to the Quiz which makes the evening very enjoyable.

It is those who attend the Social Functions that make them a success, they are held for the benefit of the members and the club

The Club thank you for your continuing support.

Sylvia Wrightson

SNOW and ICE



Be prepared:

- 1. Give your car a Winter checkup**
- 2. Take a blanket, torch , bright vest, scraper and de-icer.**
- 3. Make sure your mobile phone is charged up.**
- 4. Before leaving check the Palmerston website for up-to-the-minute news to see if the Club is open.**

Find the website now while you have time. And why not have a look around at all the useful information.

palmerston-bowls.org.uk

You don't need to remember this exact address, just put "Palmerston bowls" in your search box, we'll be there on the first page of results.

Our President Janet Livingston has had major surgery, I am sure that the members would all wish her well for a speedy recovery and that we all look forward to seeing her back in the club very soon.

Bowling Tips : Let the bowl do the bending

The thoughts that follow are in no way official, I haven't been trained. Listen to what other people say, especially the coaches. Observe people bowling. We're all different. Ultimately you have to find out what works for you.

It's my observation that many bowlers who have difficulty getting a consistent line bowl narrower more often than they bowl wide, i.e. their bowl often crosses the centre line before it stops. Also I find that many such bowlers also have a favourite hand (clearly a disadvantage), usually backhand. And often as they deliver the bowl, the hand scoops towards the jack on the backhand and swings round in a curve towards the jack on the forehand.

In all these cases I think people are making the task a lot more difficult than it needs to be. The task is simple. Let's just examine what is required of a bowler.

Your job as a "bowling machine" is to propel the bowl from your hand in a certain direction at a certain speed. The important thing to note here is: IT IS NOT THE JOB OF THE BOWLER TO MAKE THE BOWL BEND - IT IS PURE PHYSICS THAT MAKES IT BEND. Your job is no different on backhand or forehand, you've only got to start it in the right direction. So why have you developed two different actions? Scooping your arm or swinging it in an arc is useless - except to pull the bowl off line. Trust the bowl.

Here's a summary of how I approach it:

I stand on the mat and agree with the skip what I'm going to do. I then select the initial direction the bowl needs to start on - let's call it the "launch line". Usually I pick a point on the bank which is on an extension of this line. This line is always outside the path of the bowl. Certainly the "shoulder" of the bowling path is not on this line - probably a few feet inside it.

I look at the jack to "feel" the weight. I don't want to know how many spots up it is, it calls for spatial awareness, left brain rather than right.

I turn my body and place my feet so that my natural arm swing is along the launch line. I don't care if it's forehand or backhand - I adopt the exact same position in relation to the launch line. I might flick my eyes again to the jack whilst "weighing" the bowl in the hand which helps to trigger the muscle-memory for weight. But as I begin my delivery I forget completely about the expected path of the bowl and concentrate on repeating my grooved-in bowling motion toward my target and feeling the weight as the arm comes through.

Of course things keep going wrong. We are not machines. But if we have sound mechanics we can emulate one as near as possible if we focus on the delivery and momentarily forget everything else.

A word or two about aiming. First some people don't aim at all - they just bowl. This is far too hit and miss for me.

Some people don't swing their arm in the direction of their aim. A friend recently asked me where I aimed. I said "about 2 feet outside the number on the next rink". He was amazed as his aiming point (with wider drawing bowls) was inside the number. Clearly he is anticipating some bend and actually swinging his arm outside his false "aiming" line. Perhaps he was taught to "aim" at the shoulder? Personally I'm against the concept of aiming at the shoulder because this promotes a different action on forehand and backhand.

Note that his arm will have to swing out wider on the forehand - this is likely the reason people prefer the backhand because a swing across the body feels more under control. If you favour the backhand, experiment with using your backhand delivery on the forehand.

You might find the idea of a "launch" line could help you to develop a single delivery along this line, setting yourself up (feet, shoulders, etc) in relation to this line whether bowling forehand or backhand. Just concentrate on achieving this launch line and let the bowl do the bending.

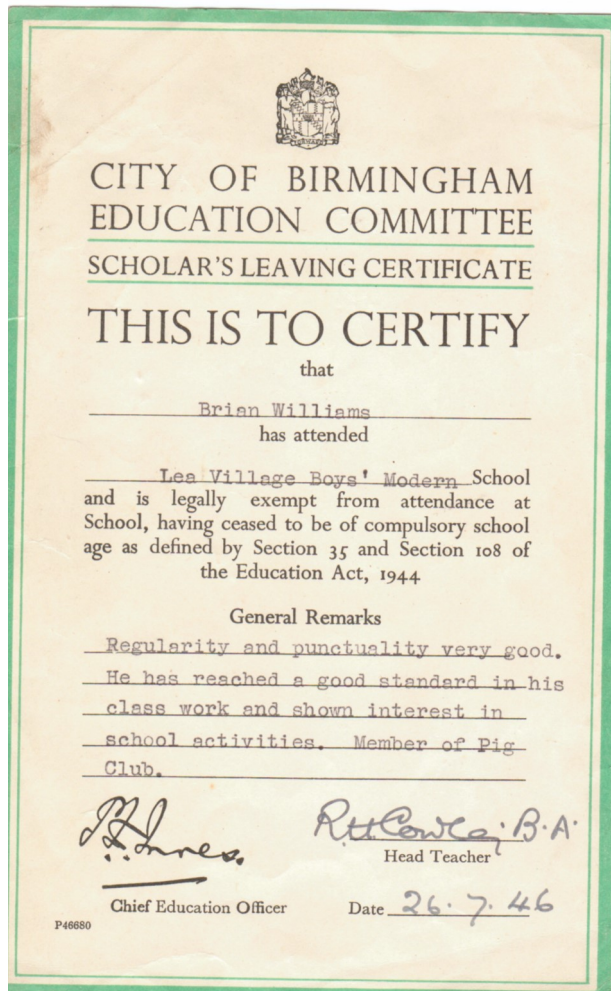
A Blast From The Past

During the forties when material things were in short supply, we were educated to quite a high standard considering that many of the teachers had gone abroad to fight for King and Country.

As I remember there were no exams such as O Levels—A Levels, however there was discipline and now and again the school day was ended to witness one of the class mates getting “six of the best”, but the culprit did get to choose which cane he or she was to be walloped with (a thick or thin cane).

The time came for leaving school and we were presented with a Leaving Certificate, this would be needed when attending job interviews.

I obtained employment with a well known Engineering Firm who made Machine Tools, working from 8am till 6pm with a couple of tea brakes . The first weeks Big Money was 17/6 (87 1/2p today) Mum took 15 shillings (75p) which left me 2shillings and 6pence (12 /1/2p).



However I was on the first foot of the ladder of working life. The tasks for the first few weeks were working under Arthur in the small tools stores making tea and running errands such as being sent to the Big Tool Stores (which seemed like half a mile away) to collect a Left Handed Hammer. I was away seemed like hours.

Times Gone Bye! The Years Have Passed:- Next Comes Retirement!! Becoming a member of a Bowling Club which nearly becomes the second home, seems the thing to do. There are still some small steps on the ladder of work/life to pursue—yes I became a Steward in Palmerston B C so if you have an education similar to mine you could apply for a position as a Steward, Charlie Livingston the Head Steward is the person to contact.

PS I suppose I could have been an Assistant to a Pig Farmer, instead I am looking after the wife Bless Her.

Brian Williams

Brian Williams