SunburySportsBowlsNews

Spring 2017

**Welcome to a new 2017 outdoor bowling season from our** Captain: Diane Saunders.

Well, we approach another season at Sunbury Bowls club.

This year we are well prepared, with our Match Secretary Alan Cordery having booked all our fixtures, our green looks to be in good condition and our sponsor Lisa Coley is about to issue us with new shirts. We hope to attract new members given our promotional endeavours co-ordinated by Jim Whelan and we can see progress being made to the structure of the main pavilion by the SSA.I look forward to seeing you all on the 22nd April, our Opening Day from 12 noon.

Yours,

Di Saunders (Captain)

**News from your Club Secretary**

# Registration Evening will be on Tuesday April 4th at the club from 7.30 pm till 9.00pm or you can return the forms and cheques to me by Open Day which is Saturday April 22nd. Full Membership will be unchanged, unlike Council Tax, at £130 and Social £25, with Match and Green fees adjusted (£3.50 weekends and £3.00 weekdays) and Club Night that will be £3.00. Our new club shirts will be available on April 4th.

# Open Day will be Sat April 22nd and all members are invited for a rollup starting at 2.15pm but we will be welcoming new bowlers from 12 noon who wish to try their hand on the green before joining our coaching programme. Experienced bowlers looking to join a new club are of course always welcome and should contact the Hon Secretary.

**The Club’s Annual Programme** has been revised by your committee hopefully to match our capabilities butretains the varied mix of ingredients to match all tastes: Club Night/ Roll-ups on Tuesdays and Thursdays, weekend and mid-week friendlies, internal and external competitions and a new Club League on Fridays. We will continue with the Fordbridge League where we did well last year and which continues to add a competitive edge to **some** weekend and midweek fixtures. We will continue to reserve some weekend dates for the preliminary rounds of our own competitions and other social events. The green is of course available for practice at other times but check to see if it is closed for maintenance before you commit yourselves. We have affiliated to NW Surrey and Fordbridge, which gives access to their competitions and leagues. Ask Diane about Fordbridge and details of NWS available on March 21st. Jim Whelan will organise the men’s Friday NWS evening league and Glenda Jones the NWS Mixed rink on Thursday evenings. Tom Douthwaite will be selecting teams for Mondays at NPL and Eileen Leatherby the new Friday morning league.  **You should find enough bowling amongst that lot. There will be someone to help you make choices on registration night or contact Colin Smith or myself for assistance. Please note colour coded match sheets to assist your choices of fixtures against other clubs.**

**Changes to Competitions.** The Executive Committee has continued with last season’s changes to competitions with an Open Mixed Handicap in addition to the single sex handicaps. The Mixed Pairs has been retained as a two wood pairs with a day for preliminary rounds. We also hope to start a new Friday morning league from 11.00am to 1.00pm if there is enough support.

**The Sunbury Sports Association**. Di Saunders is our SSA representative on a committee that has overseen important changes last year and significant improvements made to the pavilion. If you have issues pass them on to Di. I anticipate that we will be issuing new membership cards to give you access to the discount at the bar. Remember also the Jazz and Music Nights organised via the SSA.

**The Green and surrounds:** the green was over seeded after scarification for the second year running last September and has a good cover of grass. The mower has been away for its annual service which is not cheap but is essential for without a properly functioning mower play of any kind would be impossible. We intend this year to rely on a seaweed based fertiliser which is eco-friendly but as always there are things that we cannot control like the weather. Our fence has kept us free from the intrusion of foxes during the winter and will be there until closer to the opening in April. We will be asking members to assist with setting up the green nearer to open day and will communicate by email. I understand that the cricket club will be cutting the tall hedge on their side and the top this year so we only should cope with the face and the other two sides. I will be talking to those members who have already volunteered to help once flowering has finished. As for the worms, we may be trialling a new garlic based deterrent. We will be aiming to cut the grass on Monday, Wednesdays and Friday AM but events may intervene. Look at the diary for an update.

# New Members Last year our efforts to recruit were successful and earned us some subsidy from Bowls Surrey-Yes Surrey because we live in Surrey but are affiliated to Middx. This year we intend to do the same with publicity in the capable hands of Jim Whelan. We will be advertising in *Sunbury Matters* and *Shepperton Matters* with an accompanying advert from our sponsor Lisa Colley who is always available for members seeking financial advice. Nothing however beats members recruiting by word of mouth so bring a friend or acquaintance. Coaching will be available as usual with alternative dates for the 4-session course. New comers can always try things out on Open Day or Club Night. Do consider becoming a coach and see me or contact Bowls England about coaching courses.

# Booking Rinks and Changing Strings etc: procedures are the same as last year. Rinks should be booked and the diary consulted about closures due to maintenance although weather may mean alterations. The weekly schedule for changing rink colours will be found on the outside of the chalet. Ask if you are unsure how to do this please ask. The first user is responsible for this each day and should not simply change it to their favourite colour. You should also swish your rink to avoid squashing worm casts into little homes for weeds. The maintenance team will change the direction of play at appropriate intervals.

**Social Activity:** Many of us had a good time at the social events during the winter and any ideas about alternative activities that we can plan for the future are welcome. In the meantime, we are hoping to organize several social events during the season. We have been approached as to whether we would like to undertake a short weekend tour in Sept. Speak to Di if you are interested.

HOW TO DEAL WITH YOUR INADEQUACIES: Identify them—Ask for help—Practice –Practice---Practice and you will get better.

OR GO ON WAVING YOUR ARMS AT YOUR WAYWARD WOOD AS IF IT WILL TAKE NOTICE

OR AS ONE NAMELESS PERSON IS PRONE TO DO, SHOUT MILD ABUSE AT THE WOOD AND THE GREENKEEPERS WITH THE CONCLUDING REMARK - WHY DID IT DO THAT? Answer: because you made it do that.

**Dave Chatterton Hon Sec.**

etiquette.

Sponsor Lisa Colley: Frost Wealth Management LTD Telephone: 0207 744 8554