



PURLEY BOWLS CLUB

NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2024 (VOLUME 1, EDITION 2)

Hello again fellow bowlers,

Just to get us started:

What do you do with someone who can't draw, can't roll the jack, can't set the mat, can't keep score and won't listen. Make them the skip!

Anyway the first newsletter was received, aside from a few notable exceptions, with little comment. This was, at least, encouraging, as there was no obvious opposition. Undaunted, the newsletters will continue to be published, in the hope of encouraging you all to take a more active role in your club.

PSC & PBC Websites

PBC has now been given space on the new PSC website, which will be used mainly for promoting the Bowls Section. David Briant has been working hard, both to understand the technology, and include material which shows that the Bowls Section is very much alive.

Similarly, Tony Pratchett has been working, equally hard, to reinvigorate the PBC website. Please take a moment to look at both to see the improvements.

Members

Bob Enever. Following Bob's death, Howard Marsh has penned this short eulogy of his friend:



Sadly, Bob took his final journey on the 19th March, and is now in search of a Heavenly green (even better than Butch's!?). Bob was born in the same road in Mitcham as Peter Marshall (his birth twin), 79 years ago. They played together in the local rec., never realising that they might end-up playing bowls together at Purley.

Bob turned out to be a very fine lead bowler for the ESL, and other club teams. He organised a 'Dads Army Academy' for mature(!) enthusiasts, where in spite of being urged to 'fire', would always somehow manage to 'draw' right through the pack onto the jack.

Over the years he won a number of 'pots' both on the green and short mat. Although very competitive, importantly, he was always gracious, both in victory and defeat. A true gentleman and club representative. He loved the horses, but more than anything he loved his family – wife Mary (Bob called her Maureen), and daughters; Tracy, who tragically died early a few years ago, and Anita, who moved back from her farm in Spain to care for him superbly in his last few months. A very loving and close family.

He was uncomplaining to the end. He loved us and we loved him, and will all miss him, and his silly stories and jokes!!

Membership

There are currently 107 members, 43 ladies and 64 men. It is hoped that some of the attendee's to the two Open Day's in May (see below) might become members.

Bowlr

Tony Gallagher has now added the club's external competitions', up to the end of May, 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.

Handicaps

Both ladies & men's 2024 handicaps lists have been prepared and are displayed in the clubroom. They will also be available on the PBC website.

National & Surrey Competitions

Spreadsheets detailing Purley Bowls Club entrants to National & Surrey competitions will be posted in the clubroom. Grateful thanks to Jane Harding, (who worked hard on her holiday!), for her assistance in the preparation of this information. As I have previously mentioned I will try to follow their success, and advise you as the season progresses. It would be a great assistance if the lead entrant in each category would please email me, as soon as possible, with the result of their match.

I am also looking for assistance in detailing members who have entered competitions organised by Sutton & District Bowling Association (S&DBA), Past Times, The Ladies of Croydon (TLC), or by any another organisation. If you have entered, or are intending to enter any such competitions, and on the basis of representing PBC, would you please let me have details.

League Squads

Men's ESL Squad

Tony Andrews, Richard Applebee, Richard Carr, Tom Casey, Ken Clark, Wyn Currion, Paul Dobbs, Colm Gallagher, Sean Gallagher, Tony Gallagher, Chris Harland, Peter Marshall, Peter Power, Keith Purkiss, David Reynolds, Aaron Sizer, Shani Sreedharan, Mike Terriere, Neil Young.

Men's ESL Triples Squad

Tony Andrews, Richard Applebee, Richard Carr, Ken Clark, Robin Cook, Wyn Currion, Paul Dobbs, Colm Gallagher, Sean Gallagher, Tony Gallagher, Chris Harland, Jim Hallums, Bob Jenkin, Barry Long, Butch Manning, Howard Marsh, Peter Marshall, Peter Power, Keith Purkiss, David Reynolds, Aaron Sizer, Demetrios Souppouris, Shani Sreedharan, Mike Terriere, John Thurley, Neil Young.

Ladies

The ladies do not have squads for their league matches, which are open to all. Please enter your name on BowlR if you wish to play. Jane Seymour has posted a notice regarding these matches on the notice board in the ladies changing room.

The Green

Our Men's Captain, along with his band of merry helpers, have carried out the majority of the work to ready the Green for play. The ditch liners will be laid soon, as soon as the ditch is less flooded!

You will note that the Opening Ballot is now scheduled for 27 April at 2.00pm, fingers crossed. **Please sign up on BowlR if you wish to play.** Ironically, the original opening day (13 April) was a fine spring day, following a (short) period of dry weather, but which soon deteriorated – again!

Fixtures

You will see from the fixtures list on the website that a number of the early matches have been postponed or rescheduled. In particular, the ESL match against Coulsdon game, due to have been played on 27 April, has been rescheduled for Wednesday 26 June.

Additionally, the match against Southampton OBG, to be played on 18 May, has been **cancelled**.

Facilities

Electronic side gate – I have sought further guidance on the use of the electronic side gate. It is operated using your club card, if you were not issued with a card, you can get a key fob or card from reception. When any play is in progress, the gate can either wedged open, or shut. In the latter case, those without a card/fob will need to call for assistance using the bell push, and those inside, by using the green button (inside the gate), should open it.

Captains' Charity

The Captains' Charity benefited by £257.00, from a collection at the Pre-season buffet. I'm not sure of the current total at present, but I will endeavour to have a figure for the next newsletter.

Forthcoming Events

On May 16, there will be a training day on Marking matches. These have been held in previous years, and have been very popular. If you have not been on a course before, you may wish to sign up. The cost is £5.00, and there is a limit of 16 participants. Further details will follow by email.

You will already have seen, or been sent details of two 'Open Days' at the club. Firstly, there is the 'BOWLS BASH', to be held on Saturday 18 May 11:00am till 4.00pm. **(Please note: date & time changed)**.

Then there is the 'BOWLS BIG WEEKEND', being held on Saturday 25 May 10.30-12.30 & 2.00 – 4.00pm.

See if you can encourage your friends to come and try bowls.

Recent events

Pre-season buffet (photo and words by David Briant)

On Saturday the 6th of April, Purley Bowls Club held it's 2024 Pre-season Buffet. The evening started with members mingling in jovial conversation as they arrived for the 7:30 pm start. There is something very pleasant about meeting up with so many friends, who you may not have seen over the winter months. Kindred spirits all eagerly looking forward to a new season of competition and fun on the Bowling green.

Neil Young & Jane Seymour, our Captains, kicked things off with a couple of informative speeches, then hungry eyes watched as the buffet food began to arrive on the long tables. There were 8 large round tables to cater for 63 participants, all with floral centre pieces, donated by Lucy's Kitchen. (We would also like to give a mention to the friendly and efficient club staff, who helped to make the evening so pleasurable!)

It was turning into a very enjoyable evening with sounds of conversations and laughter filling the air. The food went down a treat, with people commenting about how tasty it all was, the desserts which had been skilfully made by Anne Jameson, Carolyn Reynolds, Sue Souppouris and Miki Aynsley were delicious. (Well done ladies, and thank you).

It wasn't long before people were digging deep into their pockets, as Fiona Weaver made her way around the tables, collecting for the Captains' Charity.



After friends had managed to catch up with each other and the food and drinks had been consumed, this special evening began to wind down, with an end of evening speech from Neil. A good time was had by all, as indicated by the fact that people didn't seem to want to leave. Judging from comments coming onto the Ladies WhatsApp group, it seems the night was a great success.