

EWHURST BOWLING CENTRE NEWS

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Editors: Roger Dobbing / Sheena Hall

Articles for the July Issue are required by June 25th

OUTDOOR BOWLS

Club Captain's Report

The season is now under way, although we had to cancel the Opening Drive. The few scheduled Friendly fixtures have been played despite the rather chilly weather with, as usual, mixed results. There is still time to enter the various Club Competitions and the draw for the majority of these will take place after the Club Drive on the 6 May.

I would urge members to put their names on the Friendlies Availability lists at the Clubhouse to assist in the team selection for these games. We are hoping that this season games will only be cancelled by the weather, not due to lack of players.

Lists are on the Noticeboard for the Two Wood Singles (Sun 19th May) and the George Spiers Triples (Sun 9th June) so there is still time to put your name down.

Hope to see you on the green.

Doug Lock

From your Club Secretary

Season Start

Sadly, the weather was against us for the start of the season, and we had to cancel the Opening Drive. However, it is good to see that roll ups have started and are well attended, and as I write, we have won 2 friendly matches and lost 1.

Considering the wet weather, the green is now playing very well and is quicker than you might expect, thanks to our new green keeper Dave Webb.

Green Surrounds and Fence

You will all have noticed by now the new fence between the car park and the green. The Bowls Centre is responsible for the surrounds of the property which we lease from the Parish Council. However, we did apply to the Council for a grant for the cost of the fence and they generously agreed to grant us the money for it. We did obtain 4 quotes and the best was from a local firm, Rudgwick Fencing, who did a great job, so anyone needing fencing, talk to Adrian at Rudgwick Fencing.

The green surrounds and decking on the north and east sides of the green have been renewed and Jon Koefman, our previous green keeper together with Simon Clarke our green steward, have done a grand job. You may recall we did get a grant from Surrey County Council via our local County Councillor Liz Townsend for both the green surrounds and the new shed. We also obtained a grant from the Surrey Playing Fields Association which helped to pay for the decking.

Membership and Open Day

Even early in the season we have interest from new members, and Jennifer Parsons and Michael Hardesty have already joined us. If you see faces you do not know, please introduce yourselves and make them welcome, as I am sure they will have queries about how the club operates. If you know of any neighbours who may be interested in bowls, bring them down to the club and let them have a try, all they need is a flat pair of shoes.

Our coach, John Greenwood is organising a quick conversion course for short mat bowlers who of course already know the basics of bowling, so short mat bowlers please contact John and come along.

We have another Open Day being organised for Saturday 18th May from 10:30am to 4:30pm. Last year, at one stage we had all 6 rinks being used by potential new members, so we do require members to come along on the day to help. You do not of course need to be at the club all day, but any time you can spare would be great. Please contact Roger Newman or Maurice Bowles if you can afford some time to help. Again, all new bowlers just need a flat pair of shoes, as all other equipment is provided.

Dorset

It is still not too late to come to the Dorset Indoor Bowls Resort from Sunday 27th October to Friday 1st November. We have the 5 nights reserved with bowls happening as usual on every day except Wednesday. Contact Roger Newman if you haven't already decided.

It is with great sadness that we will not be seeing John Champion as our host this year. He has looked after us since we started visiting Dorset many years ago. He sadly passed away on the 20th April and we have sent our condolences to his wife Bev.

Summer Short Mat

As some of you may already know, we will not see the Short Mat Club using a mat for social roll ups in the summer. A great shame not seeing the clubhouse resource used more fully and providing Short Mat members a means of keeping in touch.

Roger Newman

SHORTMAT

Internal Competition News

Aussie Pairs

This new competition was introduced on a trial basis. Although frequently played outside, the Shortmat Club had not tried it before. Members who signed up to have a go were drawn as pairs and played fortnightly on Tuesday evenings for four sessions. Much fun and enjoyment was had by both players and spectators.

We plan to run it again next season and hope more members will give it a try. If some of the members who play mainly in the afternoon would like to try it please let us know and we will do our best to organise it.

Margaret Weeden and Elaine Philipson

Wednesday Morning League

It has been said that this popular competition remains our most enjoyable, with the weekly draw eagerly awaited just before 10am, which invariably determines the outcome of that morning's game!

Played over 24 weeks, averaging 18 players, results are often unpredictable but at the end of the day, players enjoy a combination of competition and social mixing.

This year's worthy winner is George Shipway who held onto the lead by the skin of his teeth since the beginning of January, but being chased hard by Dennis, Hugh and Delia. The final result was George 32 points, Dennis runner-up with 30, Hugh and Delia joint 3rd with 28.

Friday Evening Triples

As last year, this competition went to the wire with a lot of pressure on week 10, the final session, which resulted in a reversal of fortune with *David's Ewhurst Rollers* on a roll and beating *Steph's 5 Big Shots*. *Val's Hot Shots* came a respectable third.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, some teams had difficulties during the season finding 3 available players. As a result, we have decided that the teams should revert back to 6 players next year. This will require more members to put their names down if we are to maintain our usual 6 teams.

Finals Day

Held on Sunday 7th April, this was a busy day with semi-finals and finals of many competitions.

- Supported by a good number of spectators, the day began with the **semi-finals of the Singles** which saw Pauline Shipway and Jan Hathaway into the final.
- In the **Mixed Pairs** Colin Smy & Val Sloman overcame Sheena & Hugh Hall.
- David Kempson and David Lipman retained their **Open Pairs** title. It was a close game with Sheena & Hugh Hall losing by just two shots.
- In the **Novice Bowlers** Graham Prall retained the cup, overcoming Carole Mlinaric.
- Pauline Shipway and Joan Greenwood had success against Jacki Mackenzie and Irene Gould in the **Drawn Pairs**.
- The last match of the day was the **Club Singles Championship** which gave victory to Pauline Shipway in a hard-fought game, ending in a four-shot win against Jan Hathaway.



Photo: Roger Dobbing

This brought a most enjoyable finals day to an end.

David and I would like to thank all members who have taken part in this year's competitions, and everyone who has helped to make the days run smoothly.

Margaret Weeden and David Kempson

Final Fling

On the last evening of the short mat season many members enjoyed some fun bowling. Instead of focussing on a jack, on two of the mats numbered toy skittles strategically placed proved to be challenging targets! At the end of the third mat a target sheet normally used for Kurling was laid down, which proved equally challenging!

Everyone then sat down to a tasty fish and chip supper which rounded off an enjoyable evening.

Thank you to Steph Taylor for organising the games, and to Mike White for ordering and collecting the fish and chips.

Margaret Weeden

Summer Friendly Matches against Wisborough Green Bowls Club

Once again, we have been invited to play at Wisborough Green and this event was very enjoyable last year.

These matches are rinks on two mats and the cost is £2.50 per person. These are played on the second Monday of the month, May to September in the afternoon 1.30/2 pm.

If you are available and would like to be included in our team selection, please contact Pauline Shipway – shipway@talktalk.net or 01483 277768.

SHAB Knockout Cup

This brilliant day's bowling was watched with pleasure by some Club members. The competition was won by *Lions Sports* who beat *Merrow* in the final.



Photo: left-right: Andy Smith, Rita Newington, Nigel Goss, Steve Tuttle.

Steph Taylor

Dennis McGuinnes

As many members will know by now, Dennis McGuinnes recently stood down as Chairman of the Shortmat Club Committee. As one of the six members of this committee, I would like to offer my personal appreciation for his friendship, knowledge and commitment to the club. He will not be easily replaced.

The new chairman will be formally elected at the AGM on Thursday, May 23rd.

Roger Dobbins

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SHORTMAT AGM

Thursday 23rd May

7 for 7.30 pm

We look forward to seeing
you there.

SUMMER KURLING – ALL Welcome

Friday 17th May

7 for 7.30 pm

TICKET PRICE: £10 per person, to
include a Ploughman's supper.

Please leave cash/cheques
(to Ewhurst Bowls Club Social Committee)
for Ann White
(Rubino, Cranleigh Road, Ewhurst, GU6 7RN)
or on the Club Noticeboard.