

SHEFFORD BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER

April 2015

Welcome to the 2nd edition of our club newsletter and the forth coming **50th Anniversary** season.

CHAIRMAN'S NIGHT

This year the chairman's night and signing on night is Friday **10th April, 7pm** in the club house. This is an opportunity to catch up with how your fellow members have wintered, pay your membership subscription, your competition fees, STMA membership and any county fees for competitions. There will be wine, soft drinks and a light buffet for you to enjoy. This year you will have an anniversary gift as well as the fixture card and anniversary stickers so come and catch up and bring along any potential new members too. We look forward to seeing you all on the night.

WORK PARTY

We are planning on having a work party to get the green and club house ready for the new season. Anyone who has been up the green will know that a lot of hard work has been going on over the winter. The blocks and matting has already been put down but there is always more to be done. The date for the work party is Wednesday **8th April from 9.30**, if you can spare a little time you will be warmly welcomed and tea and coffee will be available.

CLEANING

The pavilion and toilets will need a spring clean and Wednesday **15th April from 10am** is the main date set BUT if you have time to spare before this date or cannot make this date there will be a list of jobs in the club house and just mark off if you have completed them.

OPENING OF THE GREEN

This year, Saturday **18th April**, we will be celebrating the opening of the green almost 50 years to the initial opening of the club. We will have our usual spoon drive with a spider starting at **2.30pm** but afterwards we would like to invite past members to join us to mark our **50th Anniversary**. If you have names of any past members please pass them on to Alison, as club secretary, so they can be invited formally.

ANNIVERSARY GAMES

We were successful in getting a Bowls England Game on Thursday **18th June**. This is a mixed game with bowlers coming from a variety of

Counties. There will be more details of this very prestigious game once the season has started. We also have a Bowls Bedfordshire game on Friday **August 14th** starting at **6pm**.

OPEN DAY AND FETE

Last year we had a very successful **Open Day** which was held in conjunction with the STMA fete. We are repeating it this year and the date for your diary is Sunday **31st May from 1.30pm**. As well as the bowls green being open for people to try bowling we are having a stall and will need help to man it on the day. Please volunteer, if everyone helped for just 30 minutes on the stall it would take the pressure off the committee.

NEW MEMBERS

We are running **FREE** coaching sessions for new members on **Tuesday 5th May 1.30pm to 3.30pm** for 6 weeks and also on **Wednesday 6th May from 6pm to 8pm** also for 6 weeks. Over the winter Alison & Mike Hammond qualified as Level 1 coaches to be able to run these courses which are being run in conjunction with Central Bedfordshire's Fit 4 Life programme. If you know of anyone who wishes to learn how to bowl please get them to contact Alison or turn up at the first session.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

A request has been made by several members to have some skills training sessions. We are happy to organise these. Please talk to Alison if you are interested – with some idea of what you would like to be covered.

TEA ROTA

This year there will be a list up for the home games with a members name against each fixture. If you cannot do the day you have been allocated either swap with someone or find a substitute. This was agreed at the AGM and we will see how it goes, any problems please let any of the committee know. We are hoping this will mean that teas are not the responsibility of just a few. Thanks for your co-operation. Remember there is a budget and you do not have to do sandwiches, other options are available!!

EAST BEDS LEAGUE

The club has registered 3 men's teams, with the captains being **A Team** - Richard Ford, **B Team** - Colin Kane, **C Team** - Bob Hughes.

The ladies have 2 teams the **A Team** will be captained by Jan Northern and the **B Team** by Sheila Waggott.

DISABLED TOILET PROJECT

The conversion was put on hold for a short time while the shed roof was fixed. The allocated 106 money has now been applied for. We have met with the building control officer from Central Bedfordshire to sort out the detail and the work will now start in the second week of April. The water tank has already been moved ready for work to start.

CLUB TOUR

This year's tour is to Torquay from Saturday 25th July to Saturday 1st August. Anyone who is interested and hasn't been before should contact Brenda Ford for more details.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The Race Night held on 29th November at the STMA was very successful and raised just over £700. A lot of hard work went into the running of this event mainly by Brenda Ford with Richard running a very profitable Tote.

The Annual prize giving buffet and dance was held on 1st November with music provided by Takes Two. The event was well supported by members but we had very positive feedback. Comments have been noted and will be taken into account when sorting out this year's event. The social sub-committee would welcome any ideas from members for social events or fund raising.

CLUB SHIRTS and JACKETS

Barry Robinson keeps a stock of club shirts which are personalised to order. For several years the men have worn a rather stylish zip up jacket. These are now available for men and women at a cost of £38 each. Again orders through Barry please.

ADVERTISING BOARDS

Last year we managed to get some local firms to have advertising boards put up on the club house. There is space for more so if you know of anyone who would like to pay for the privilege and the same time support our club let us have their details and we will follow it up.

LAWS OF THE SPORT OF BOWLS

A new edition of the above rules has been issued and a copy will be available for you to

peruse at your leisure at the club house. There have been a few changes and the complete list will also be on the notice board. The main changes that will affect members are:-

Foot position New Law 7.1 old law 20.1

Before delivery a player must be **standing** on the mat with all or part of at least one foot on the mat. At the moment they deliver the jack or bowl, the player must have all or part of one foot on or above the mat.

New Law 40.1.9

For domestic play, skip's can transfer duties described in Law 40.1.7 (scorecards) to other members of the team. However they must make sure that the duties are transferred to players whose positions, in order of play, are the same in each team. The skip can delegate the scorecard to other team members BUT the same player in the opposing team must keep the scorecard.

New Law 41.7

Players with a hearing disability can use electronic devices to communicate with each other whilst on the rink of play. Their use must be in line with the regulations set out in the conditions of play by the Controlling Body.

OTHER NEWS

We extend our sympathy to Bob Izzard and Derek Wilson whose wives have passed away since the season finished.

Bas Gorringer who was a member of the club for many years died recently.

Margaret Bucknell has moved away to be near her family and we wish her well and will miss her support.

Margaret Foulkes has had her hip replaced and is making good progress and we hope to see her back on the green before too long.

Any comments or ideas for the next edition please send to Alison on 01462 811548 or alisonr.hammond@btinternet.com