

# SHEFFORD BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER

May 2018

**Welcome** to the new season which started with the Opening of the green on Easter Saturday. What a glorious day, the sun shone and the company was friendly, such a good start to the season.

## **PRESIDENTS NEWS**

The church service to start off the bowling season was well attended by the County, other clubs and Shefford members. The ladies of Shefford did a wonderful job with the tea party afterwards. There were a lot compliments. It was an opportunity to catch up with many friends from across the County.

Presidents Day – this was another resounding success for the ladies catering team. They all worked so hard and looked absolutely stunning in their “new pinnies”. Thanks also go to the green team who had worked hard to prepare the green.

This year will mean a lot of hard work for the club but it also gives us an opportunity to show what Shefford can do.

## **OPEN DAY AND COACHING**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June is the STMA fete. The Bowls club take advantage of the crowds to give people a chance to “have a go” and promote the club. This is one of the main occasions where we recruit new members, the life blood of the club. We need volunteers to help with teas, talking to people and assisting with paperwork etc. We usually commit to a couple of hours from 2 until 4. If you can help, even for half an hour please let me know.

We will be running EBCS coaching sessions (weather permitting) on a Tuesday afternoon from 1.30 to 3.30 and Thursday evenings from 6 to 8pm. If you know of anyone who wishes to learn how to bowl or is interested in returning to Bowls please get them to contact Alison.

A number of you have also enquired about additional coaching, if anyone else is interested (with some idea of what you would like to cover) please discuss with Alison.

We will be running our usual darts stall at the fete and any help there will also be appreciated..

## **CLUB SHIRTS and JACKETS**

Connor is now the contact for all club shirts and jackets. If you need either please see him as

soon as possible as they take a while to come through

## **CLEANING**

The rota for this season is on the serving hatch. Please check when it is your turn.

It would help if, after matches, the kitchen, pavilion and toilets were always left “as they should have been found” in a clean and tidy state. Thank you to those members who already make an effort to achieve this. We should be able to rely on participating members to clear up after use.

## **GREEN KEEPING**

The volunteers – our “green team” are now working in 3 teams who cut Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Colin is still doing the spraying but will give this up at the end of the season. If you would like to volunteer to take on this job speak to Colin about what it involves. Help is still needed to re-paint the green benches which are currently being stripped back. This which is very time consuming but will be worth the effort. If you have time to spare it would be appreciated.

If you would like to volunteer to assist in any way you would be welcome as many hands make light work!!

## **TEA ROTA**

Kay has put the rota up on the serving hatch and if you cannot do your allocated slot please sort out your replacement.

Remember there is a budget of £1.25 a head. You do not have to do sandwiches, other options are available to you!! Thank you for your co-operation.

## **COMPETITIONS**

John has drawn the competitions out and the list is on the notice board to the right of the hatch. Please look at the sheets and plan to play in a timely manner. Best not to leave it until the last minute to arrange your games. If you are going on holiday please let your team know and if necessary arrange to play your games before you go!!

Dates and list for the Bill Kefford Open 2 Wood Singles competition are up on the board – this is open to all members who wish to have a go.

## **CLUB HOUSE**

Over the winter a lot of hard work went into painting and refurbishing the club house. A special thank you to Aaron, Connor and Brian Heath.

## **COUNTY COMPETITIONS**

These competitions are have just started with the ladies rinks winning their first round in a very close game. Unfortunately they then lost in the next round to Henlow. Support is very welcome at these games which are written in the diary

## **FUND RAISING**

Due to popular demand the Whist Drives continue to run on the first Friday of the month. Kay was really busy over the winter putting on various monthly social events. Probably the most memorable was the horse racing night which was well attended and raised a lot of money which has paid for the refurbishment of the club house.

## **COUNTY LEAGUE**

This season we have to defend our title which we have won for the past two years. Many more teams have now entered so the competition will be tough.

## **FRIENDLY MATCHES**

This season the selection committee meet on Thursday mornings to select the weekend fixtures. They need YOUR HELP to ensure that all members get an equal opportunity to play at weekends and Shefford is able to fulfil its fixtures. PLEASE put your name down in a timely manner so they do not have to chase members.

The season got off to a very good start for the men, despite the hail, with a win over St Ippolytts. This is a new fixture and was enjoyed so much by both clubs that a return has been pencilled in for the 4<sup>th</sup> August.

## **PADLOCK**

When you remove the padlock please lock it back up on the fence, if it is left unchanged anyone can see the number, which defeats the point of having a secure lock. When you lock the

gates please ensure the numbers are facing out otherwise it is VERY difficult to open..

## **BOWLS ENGLAND NEWS**

You can check out the latest Bowls England news by going on to the website. The Bowls Magazine is also available on line.

## **LADIES V GENTS BARBECUE**

This will be held on Friday 12 July, please put the date in your diary and remember to sign up when the list is on the board. It is a fun social evening with an excellent bar-b-que.

## **OTHER NEWS**

Pat Cook a former member of Shefford Bowls Club and a past County President has passed away. Our condolences to her family at this time. There will be a service of Thanksgiving at Henlow Church in June, the date for this has yet to be confirmed.

## **BOWLS TOUR**

This years tour is to Torquay from the 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> July staying at the Derwent Hotel which is close to Abbey Park and the front. A couple of regular bowlers have had to pull out so (at the time of writing) Brenda has some spaces available.

Any comments or ideas for the next edition please send to Alison on 01462 811548 or [alisonr.hammond@btinternet.com](mailto:alisonr.hammond@btinternet.com)