**ETWALL BOWLS CLUB – SECTION MEETING**

Thursday 18th October 2018 at the Frank Wickham Hall, the meeting chaired by Ken Harrison started at 7.00pm

Members Present (29)

Annette Archer, Dave Archer, Peter Barnett, Tina Beal, Joanne Bednall, Dave Dolman, Janet Dolman, Stan Edwards, Jackie Fisher, Steve Fisher, Janet Flint, Ken Harrison, Tony Higgott, Geoff Hunt, Kath Irvine, Ray Irvine, Alan Key, Pat Key, Pat Mason, Beverley North, Martin North, Barry Sargent, Ray Selley, Dave Smith, Ivan Stocks, Pauline Stocks, Derek Taylor, Alan Wall, Frank Weir.

Apologies (10)

Dave Bramall, Ron Cope, Jane Dyson, Lynne Fryatt, Jane Greaves, Peter Hill, Tracey Mosley, Earl Oakton, Ann Williams, Bob Wyllie.

Minutes of the last Meeting held on Thursday 5th October 2017

Minutes agreed. Proposed Dave Dolman Seconded Tina Beal

Matters arising

None

Team Captains Reports - 2018 Season

Belper Ladies – Tina Beal

The Ladies evening team has in the past played in the South Derbyshire League, on different nights of the week. Last year as a team we decided to move to the Belper League who play their games every Thursday. The downside is the very short season, only 10 games in our group. We did however win every game and were happy to finish in first place. We didn’t do as well in the cup though, losing in the second round by one point. I would like to thank all the team for their hard work, company and fun. I am happy to continue as Captain next year and hope the whole team will join me, and perhaps some new faces.

Belper Singles A – Martin North

Having achieved promotion to Division 1 in the previous season, we more than met our expectations this year finishing a very creditable 4th in the League, just 1 point behind 3rd place Horsley. The playing record was played 18, won 11 lost 7. Most pleasing was that all players contributed throughout the season. 3 players (Tracey Mosley, Tony Higgott and myself) all won over 70% of their games.

Thanks to the groundsman, Mike Kettle, who has produced an excellent green for us. The quality of our green should not be taken for granted and this summer, which has seen a lot of greens suffering very badly in the prolonged hot weather, has highlighted the tremendous long-term work that has been undertaken on our green.

Finally, thanks to all those who have assisted on match days and non-playing members such as Pat Mason who have come down and supported and marked cards.

Belper Singles B – Janet Flint

I would like to thank my team for their hard work to keep us in Division 2, only just, 3rd from bottom, well done. Thank you to Pat, Pauline, Ivan and Audrey for coming to support us and a special thank you to Dave for running my team whilst I was on holiday. A big thank you for Pat for keeping us fed on beautiful scones. Thank you to Mike for a fantastic green and Tony for all his help on the green. See you all next season, and hope the weather is the same as this season.

Burton Ladies Tuesday – Tracey Mosley

We had another successful and enjoyable bowling season helped by the exceptional weather and the bowling green. We finished 4th in Division One out of 9 teams, having won 9 matches, losing 6 and drawing 1. We only lost 1 match at home and won 3 matches away at Stretton, Henhurst and Anglesey. The player averages were won by myself, having won 14 out of 16 matches. Thanks must go to our greenkeeper and members who have kept the green in immaculate condition and I hope next year proves to be as successful for both Burton Ladies and the club.

Burton Ladies Friday – Jackie Fisher

Following the sudden and sad death of Chris Williamson, I was asked to take on the role of captain of the Burton Friday ladies team. The team had only seven regular members, so I often had to ask Tina and a few other willing members to fill in as and when needed. Overall we finished 4th out of nine teams which is an improvement and I feel Chris would have been proud of us.

However, starting at a late time of 2pm on a Friday, meant often finishing around 6pm or later, resulting in usually being caught up in heavy traffic, thus making us very late getting home and an extremely long afternoon. So, following discussions within the team, everyone said that they would prefer playing in the Derby Senior Ladies team, which plays singles on a Monday /Tuesday afternoon as opposed to Burton Friday games. Bev North has kindly put in our application for next season. There has been a positive interest from another Etwall to play in this team which is great.

I am willing to stand as Captain of this newly formed team, unless anyone has an objection or would like to do so themselves.

Belper Over 55’s – Dave Dolman

A very good year for the team which I really enjoyed. After successive promotions we feared Division 2 might be a challenge, but everyone raised their game and we only missed out on promotion to Division 1 on wins, after finishing on the same points as Pottery and Holbrook.

Thanks to all those that played this year, and big thanks to Mike for the excellent green and global warming for some great weather. Final thanks to all those who often turn up to support us.

Belper Over 55’s B - Kath Irvine

What a brilliant year we had finishing 2nd in the league and gaining promotion to Division 4. This was achieved by winning all 9 home games. Away record was winning 4, drawing 2 and losing only 3. Also winning the Division 5 League Cup competition by 108 points to 85 against Mickleover, a very comfortable victory. What a great result for only our 3rd season in the league.

It was a difficult season for players as 2 felt they couldn’t continue with their bowls early in the season, but Ivan, Pauline, Peter Barnett and Jane Greaves filled in for me whenever they could. Certainly without them I could not have put out teams for the Cup games, so thank you to them and thank you to the rest of the team for continuing to improve and for their enthusiasm and effort every game we play. Well done all. Everyone is still very keen to play next year, hoping to see Martin and Lynne back in the squad and that we can continue to enjoy our bowls in Division 4.

Burton Parks – Stan Edwards

Having gained promotion last season to Division 1, I’m afraid the opposition teams were too good for us and of the 16 games played we only won 4 home games and finished bottom of Division 1. According to the Parks website our two best player averages were:- Singles - Tony Higgott, played 10 won 6. Doubles - Derek Taylor, played 14 won 7. I would like to thank all my players for taking part and special mention to our first lady participant, Beverley North. Also special thanks to Mike Kettle and his helpers for the excellent condition of Etwall’s green which is in great contrast to many of the away venues.

Burton Vets A – Tony Higgott

Burton Vets first division is not an easy league to bowl in, so I would like to thank all members of the first team for their efforts and friendliness throughout the season. We came 10th out of 12 teams in the division which was exactly the same position as last year. On the one hand I am relieved that I have not quite got the team relegated in my first year as captain, but on the other, I don’t think 10th place is good enough, and I certainly don’t consider home defeats of 12 points to 1 as happened on one occasion to be in any way acceptable. So if this team wants to continue bowling in the first division after next year, things need to change and we need to improve. However, that is something we can look at next year.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Edith, Pat Key and Pat Mason who frequently came up to support the team, helping with scoring and making tea, and in Pat Keys case making some lovely cakes for us on the last game of the season. Thank you, much appreciated.

Playing record: Home games: won 5, lost 6. Away games: won 1 lost 10.

Burton Vets B – Frank Weir

A very good season to report for the Vets B team winning the league by 43 points, only losing 2 matches. Peter Barnett and Steve Hall joining us a few months into the season was bonus for us.

We lost Martin Bowker halfway into the season and this was a down point for us and Martin. Next season will be a challenge I expect, we will miss the friends we have made in div 4 over so many years   

Derby Mondays A – Vince Askham

No report submitted

For the record the team finished 5th out of 9 in Division 3.

Derby Mondays B – Geoff Hunt

The Monday B team finished 4th out of 9 teams in Division 5. This was a good performance as we were fielding a team with several inexperienced players and new members to Etwall.

We had good numbers available this year for the eight-a-side format and I elected to give equal playing opportunity to all interested players, which meant that everyone had to take a rest from time to time (captain included). I am grateful and pleased that this was accepted without complaint.

Alan Key topped the team aggregate scores and was 5th overall in our division. This was a cracking effort bowling number 1 for most games of the season.

I would also like to thank Mike for turning out a beautiful playing surface as usual and the Committee, fellow captains and team members for their support for my debut captaincy season. My thanks also go to Pete Barnett, who stood in as captain on three occasions.

Derby Fridays A – Vince Askham

No report submitted.

For the record the team finished 7th out of 11 in Division 2.

Derby Fridays B – Dave Dolman

The team finished 6th out of 9 in the league this year. However, this is somewhat incidental as one of the main aims of this team is to give experience to new players. This we managed to do, and as the season progressed their results improved.

Many first team difficulties placed a strain on numbers for several weeks, but we always (just) managed to put a full team out. For next year I hope that both first and second teams can be organised at least a week in advance. I would like to say a special thanks to all those who filled in at the last minute to make up the team.

We all await any league changes in the hope that the team gets more than 16 games next year - I do not believe that this is enough games.

Thanks to Mike for the superb green throughout the season, and thanks to all the supporters, wives and helpers this year.

Election of Team Captains for 2019

The following team captains stood again and were elected unopposed.

Belper Ladies - Tina Beal

Belper Singles A - Martin North

Belper Singles B - Janet Flint

Burton Vets A - Tony Higgott

Burton Vets B - Frank Weir

Burton Parks - Stan Edwards

Belper Over 55 A - Dave Dolman

Belper Over 55 B - Kath Irvine

Burton Tuesday Ladies - Tracey Mosley

Burton Friday Ladies - Jackie Fisher

Derby Mens Friday A - Vince Askham

Derby Mens Fridays B - Dave Dolman

Proposed Kath Irvine Seconded Alan Wall

Derby Mens A - Vince Askham resigned this position and Alan Wall agreed to stand

Proposed Tony Higgott Seconded Martin North

Derby Mens B - Geoff Hunt was reluctant to stand again due to personal commitments in 2019. However due to the lack of volunteers Geoff agreed to be Captain when available. Dave Smith agreed to be Vice Captain and cover when required.

Proposed Janet Flint Seconded Jan Dolman

2019 Team Amendments

Ken informed the meeting that the Burton Friday Ladies Team has applied to join the South Derbyshire Senior Ladies. If accepted (Meeting on 12th November) they will play on Monday or Tuesday afternoons in an 8 singles format.

The Committee has also applied to the Belper League to submit a new mixed doubles team in the Wednesday evening league. The team will consist of 10 players (5 pairs). The decision will be made at the league meeting on 13th November.

If the team is approved, Dave Smith has agreed to be Captain.

Proposed by Jan Dolman Seconded Martin North

Election of Secretaries for 2019

Men’s Secretary, Alan Wall has agreed to stand again

Proposed by Dave Dolman Seconded Martin North

Ladies Secretary, Pat Mason resigned after more than 40 years.

Ken thanked Pat for her many years of service and the Committee presented Pat with a bouquet of flowers as a gesture of appreciation.

There were no volunteers to replace Pat, so Beverley agreed to take on this role.

Proposed Janet Flint Seconded Tina Beal

County Rules 2019

Beverley informed the meeting that last season there were a couple of reported instances, in the Derby and Burton Leagues, of unruly behaviour and bad language used on or around greens when matches were being played. Etwall was not involved in one of these instances.

The County is keen to stamp out this developing trend and have issued all clubs with a set of rules for 2019.

If any player is accused of Physical Assault, Racial Abuse, Verbal Abuse with Threats, Verbal Abuse - against a Minor, Verbal Abuse - against an Adult, Using Social Media to bringing the game into disrepute, either to one of their own players or the opponents, they will have to face both club and league disciplinary hearings and could face being banned from playing the game. This will apply with or without police intervention.

A full copy of the Disciplinary Code of Practice will be posted on the website in the members area.

So I would ask all members to be aware of these new rules and the Committee would also like to stress that in particular members should also refrain from using bad language particularly on the green and also to be aware that using bad language around the green may upset spectators. If use of bad language is reported to the Committee then members would have to face going through the Disciplinary procedure.

It feels like playing bowls is no longer just a pastime, but is now becoming embroiled in legal rules and procedures just to tick all the right boxes. However the Committee is bound by these League and County rules and will have to enforce them should the need ever arise.

A.O.B.

Joanne Bednall wished to thank all members of Etwall Bowls Club for making her feel so welcome in her first season playing for the Club. Both her and Dave Smith said members had been very friendly towards them, and Joanne wished everyone to know what a friendly club we are.

Beverley raised the subject of Team Selections, both from the Captains point of view of having reserve players and members who wished to play for a new or different team. One suggestion was to set up a database on the website of who wishes to play or is available for each team. However she felt this was too onerous a task to collate and then keep the information up to date. Instead asked all members who wished to play for a team to make their wishes known to the relevant Captain.

Derek Taylor told the meeting that Tony Chambers, a past member of the club had sadly passed away.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm