



## ASHCOMBE PARK BOWLING CLUB

### LADIES PRE-SEASON MEETING 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

Present: Pauline Woodland, Lesley Paterson, Averill Goacher, Pat Moulard, Shayne Mansell, Pat Romeo, Linda Shanks, Carol Hibbard, Lynda Barr, Sue Neville, Louise Carman, Jacky Barnes, Sandie Badman, Angela Petit, Lucy Owens, Charmaine Dempsey, Carol Smith, Sally Coles, Sally Hopkins, Marie Williams, Jan Davey, Pauline Wynne, Jan Matthews, Marion Pawsey, Helen Tidball, Gail Meek, Jane Capille

Ladies Captain Sally Hopkins welcomed everyone to the meeting and the following topics were discussed:

- Wessex League – Match due to be played on 26<sup>th</sup> April against Congresbury has been postponed until 17<sup>th</sup> June (2.00 start). A long- standing member of their club has passed away and the funeral and wake is being held on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Sally was able to rearrange the match in discussion with the Captain of Congresbury Ladies. Congresbury's match secretary passed on their thanks and appreciation for the cooperation shown by Sally.
- Southey Cup competition – **Scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> June (afternoon)**. \*10 players are required plus 1 reserve. Unfortunately, this match clashes with the Torquay tour and we may not be able to furnish a team. Sally will discuss with the Ladies not going on the tour to see if we have enough members available to play. We have no control over the dates for the Southey or the Fear Cup as these are set by County and the dates were not known before December.  
\*Ladies who have very kindly volunteered to play in the Southey so far – Jane Capille, Jackie Cornford, Sally Hopkins, Mavis Main, Shayne Mansell, Lesley Paterson, Pauline Wynne (if she is able to rush back from her cruise... bless her).

**Please ring Sally if you can help us by playing too - 07446868130**

- Milk for teas – Sally stated that in future we would be using long-life milk rather than fresh milk for match day teas. After some discussion we took a vote and the consensus was that we would prefer fresh milk which will be paid for from the raffle takings\*. A supply of long-life will be available for use should we run out of fresh milk as sometimes happens. \*There is now a member of the club who will be responsible for milk being available in the fridge all the time - it will be fresh semi skimmed milk.
- Internal Competitions – The draw has been completed and is now posted on the Website and on the notice board in the Ladies changing room. <https://www.ashcomebowls.info/club-competitions/>  
Wednesday Night Triples draw and teams can be found here  
<https://www.ashcomebowls.info/wednesday-night-triples-league/>

- Website ([www.ashcomebowls.info](http://www.ashcomebowls.info)) – This now contains up to date information on the Ladies bowling section. The fixtures section is more up to date than the fixtures book as Sally updates the information as soon as changes are known. The notice boards are still in use this season in tandem with the website. It is hoped that members will find all the information they need on the website and are encouraged to use the site regularly. Helen stated that she found the website easy to use and congratulated Sally on all her hard work.
- Marking and Measuring session – 22 members attended John McKenzie’s session on Sunday and all agreed it was very interesting and informative. It was brought to our attention that a bowler can stay on the mat until your bowl stops but you should not remain on the mat for instruction from your Skip. Instruction received when you are about to bowl your next bowl. There is no written rule that dictates who does the measuring (historically the number 2 in Triples and the number 3 in Rinks) therefore, as long as both Skips inform each other before the match starts, they can nominate any of their team to do the measuring. The same goes for keeping the score card - as long as both sides use players of the same position in the team. Any player can call for a measure but it is usually left to the measuring players. Too many players in the head is unhelpful and could result in bowls being moved accidentally. If the measuring players can’t decide the Skips can be called upon to assist. John has agreed to instruct new bowlers at the Introduction to bowling sessions.
- Visually Impaired – Lesley stated that there are Marking and Measuring courses specifically for measuring for visually impaired bowlers. Anyone interested please contact Lesley.
- Wessex League – Although we will of course be playing to win, we will on occasions use the opportunity of the Wessex League to train new skips plus giving opportunities for new bowlers to gain match experience once they have played in a number of Friendlies. It was suggested that we consider “3’s up” for up to 4 ends to allow skips to advise bowlers playing at number 3. This will happen occasionally on some rinks, with the opponent’s captain’s permission, of course.  
 “3’s up” explained – The bowler playing at 3 goes to the skip’s end whilst players 1 and 2 bowl. 3 then returns to the bowling end and 1&2 go to the head. 3 then bowls and returns to the head. The skip then plays as normal.
- \*Pushers are not allowed to be used at present. The greens team will advise when they can be used.  
 \*Please hold the pushers by the top corners/sides and do not push with your hands on the horizontal bar – doing so pushes the wheels into the green causing ridges and bumps.
- Players are advised not to walk through the head but to walk round to the sides to avoid disturbing the bowls in play. Also please stand behind and to the sides of the head not directly behind as this can be distracting for the bowler in play. Please remain still when a bowler is bowling. Be ready to play when it is your turn with your bowl in your hand.

- Introduction to Bowling – Louise explained that we have only one qualified coach remaining in the club at present (Steve Browning) but 5 of our members have embarked on a Coaching course which they will complete on 28<sup>th</sup> July. These are – Louise Carman, Allan Corbett, Sean Hopkins, Jason Capille and Andy Evans. They will be offering Introduction to Bowling as opposed to coaching and will run sessions on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 10.00am and on Fridays from 5.30pm. Louise emphasised that they are not offering coaching but an introduction to bowling.
- Holidays – Sally would appreciate dates of any holidays booked during the season as this information is useful for the selection committee. Either email her – [sally@nuttnan.co.uk](mailto:sally@nuttnan.co.uk) or by text 07446 868130
- Jason and Jane Capille – Jane stated that they would be leaving the club in September as they are going to live in Spain. They will be greatly missed but we wish them all the best for the future.
- Raffle – After much discussion it was decided to stop giving vouchers and to give £3.00 cash as prizes instead. Sally has organised a playing card style draw so that every rink/table will get a £3 prize.
- Reading the Head – Averill offered to organise a session on reading the head – date to be arranged.
- Drinks – There was some confusion as to when you should buy a post- match drink for your opponent. It was agreed that it is courtesy for the home team buy drinks for Touring/Friendly teams but on all other occasions it is preferable to buy your own drink. For some members the cost can be quite prohibitive.
- Wednesday night Triples – Hot dogs will be on the menu again. Louise asked for numbers of those members who wish to partake.
- Teas on arrival – Carol Hibbard asked who should make the tea on arrival of visiting teams for Ladies matches. It was agreed that this will be done by the reserves.
- Touring/Friendly matches – Usually bring supporters and there has been an issue with the number of teas/coffees requested and visitors helping themselves in the kitchen. It was agreed that we should charge 50p a cup for any non-playing visitors as the bar is always open on these occasions. Jane Capille suggested that orders for beverages can be made and paid for at the bar. The bar staff will make teas/coffees for the visitors (or a volunteer player at the time) but club members can make their own if necessary. We must stress that there will be absolutely no charge at all for all Ashcombe Members, whether they are players or social members – the 50p applies only to non-playing visitors on match days.

- Men's Trails – Andy Evans requested that teas be made available for the men's trials on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April. As the bar will be open it was felt that this would be unnecessary and would be difficult for the Teas supervisors to accommodate.
- Water station – Charmaine suggested we have a water station in the pavilion so bowlers can fill their water bottles there instead of using the kitchen. No decision made at this time. – Sally has asked Allan Corbett about whether this is possible as the sinks are too shallow to get water bottles under the taps. She will bring the subject up at the next AEC meeting.
- Open Day – Jacky Barnes gave out leaflets advertising Open Day. Members were invited to take some to distribute.
- Selection – A reminder from Sally that if you are selected to play in a match and then find you are unable to play, please let the Captain of the Day know (as listed on the Selection Sheet. Please don't just put a cross against your name. Many thanks.
- For all those Ladies who were unable to come to the meeting you missed out on some delicious cakes – Thank you Louise.
- Sally thanked everyone for coming and wishes you all a great season.

***Many thanks to Marie for producing these minutes,***

## **OTHER NEWS SINCE THE MEETING**

### **The TOP GREEN will be open for roll ups from Monday 22 April :-)**

Remember to keep an eye out on the "Greens Status" on the web site for up to date status of which greens and rinks are open.

### **Ladies Round Robin**

A huge thanks to Lesley for organising the Ladies Round Robin on Tuesday. 14 players attended and were able to play three games of singles, each game 8 ends rather than the usual 10 so as to prevent wear on the "tender" greens. It was wonderful to get back on the greens and many of us went away with some rather tired muscles.

The results were as follows -

1st - Jane Capille 6 points (won all three of her games) with 21 shots

2nd - Carol Smith 5 points (won two games and drew one) with 37 shots

3rd - Linda Shanks 5 points (won two games and drew one) with 36 shots

### **SELECTION**

Please also find attached the latest selection sheets, which can also be found in the Ladies Bowling Section of the web site, or the Mixed Bowling Section. There are a few amendments to Monday's St Andrews Friendly so I am attaching that as well.

### **EDITED – CLEVEDON PROM POSITION NOW FILLED – MANY THANKS MAVIS**

You will see that we have a vacancy for a "number two" player for the Wessex League game on Tuesday 7 May at Clevedon Prom. We have used up all those who have given their availability so if anyone would like to play as a number 2, please let Sally know asap.

Many thanks everyone

Sally