



The Irchester Bowler

“Newsletter For Members of the Irchester Bowls Club”

September 2010 Issue no 10

Chairmans Report

Firstly I would like to congratulate our ladies for doing so well in their County Competitions. Special reference should be made to our team in the Top Club; having reached the Finals against Hingham Ferrers B.C. at Wellingborough..

Having won the game overall by one shot, it was unfortunate that the result is given over the number of disciplines won. Our ladies did not quite manage to do this, as it was only the Fours that achieved their goal with a very resounding win on their rink. This resulted in Higham Ferrers coming out on top with 3 disciplines to 1.

None the less, it was a very good effort on their part. Well-done Ladies.

We have had a very good year in recruiting new members and now have the highest membership that we have had for several years, certainly the best that I can remember since the time I was Membership Secretary.

To all new members I would offer a very warm welcome to the Club and to say that it is very gratifying to see that they are already taking an active part in Club activities.

It has been very disappointing this year in that the internal Competitions have been very “slow off the ground” with many games not being played on time or with them not being played at all. This was even after the Committee allowed further time Even the Triples League and the Australian Pairs are running late. Personally, I feel that it is bad sportsmanship to not complete your games, even if you consider that you do not stand a chance of winning. By not completing the full round you may be spoiling the chances of other players who may be in contention on the scoreboard. Please consider this in future years.

The season is now nearly over and once again, except for the odd hiccup, it seems to have gone well.

As everyone knows, we did have a problem with the Gas Cooker as our members were preparing a meal for the Saturday’s match on 24th August. But they rallied around, over came the situation, and the players did finish up with a substantial meal that was served up on time.

This, of course, also created a problem on the Sunday but once again those providing the meal managed without the Cooker and produced a very good tasty meal, Congratulations to everyone involved.

Special thanks also go to Richard Sharpe for organising the Gas Board to come out on the day, but who, unfortunately could not fix the problem. He

then organised for the repair work to be carried out and we were back in business by lunchtime on the Monday, A typical example of our members pulling together!

No final decisions have yet been made regarding Short Mat Bowls over the winter period, although it is the Committees intention to continue with this activity, Please continue to watch the notice boards for information. As soon as we know what we are going to do, we will let you know.

On the Social side there are several events that are being organised so please give them your support. Once again, see the notice boards and put your name on the lists.

Finally, may I say a big “Thank you” to all those members who, throughout the season, have kept the Club going with all the voluntary help they have given. Without the green-keepers, gardeners, caterers, cleaners and many other jobs that are done around the Club there would be no Club. This work has been carried out ungrudgingly and without complaint, so thank you everyone.

What a pity we do not get more volunteers.

Please do not always leave it to someone else, your help is always appreciated and welcomed.

(Read the notice – Everybody, Somebody, Anybody & Nobody, this is very appropriate)

Winter Well.

Trevor

Green Keepers Report

January and February saw some of the worst weather conditions for many years, snow covered the Green for several weeks, and this caused a build up of a fungus disease.

When the weather allowed, a fungicide was applied, and this cured the problem.

Soon afterwards more weeds than usual appeared, the weeds needed to grow, along with the grass of course, to optimise the weed killer uptake.

This application produced a weed free sword, but inhibited the grass growth, therefore an application of fertilizer was required to encourage the grass growth.

You will have noticed (I hope) changes to the Ditches and surrounds.

The ditches are now 1 foot wide, and about 4” deep and have been lined with a new holding surface.

The edges of the surround slabs have been painted white.

The rinks have all been reset, and are bowling well in all directions.

During June and July the weather was exceptionally dry, but not very warm, once again creating difficult growing conditions.

The Green was regularly watered at night, mown 3 times week, and fertiliser was applied every month. Seven rinks have been needed twice a week for a prolonged period. Coaching takes place every Saturday morning, and we have endeavored to finish work by 10am. Given the difficult growing Season, and the amount of use the Green gets, the worn areas at the end of the rinks are inevitable, but generally I think that the Green looks very well, and this is due to all the care and attention plus hard work given by the "Green Team" and I would like to say "thank you" to them all on everyone's behalf.

George Willmott 31.08.10

Some Bits from our Secretary

THE OPEN GALA DAY.

I would just like to say a big thank you to everyone who was involved in making this year's Gala Day a big success again. As you may have seen from notices in the Clubhouse the stalls took a total of £942.95 and the Bar takings were £473.00.

Once again Club members (and also some non-Club members) helped either beforehand or on the actual day in many ways, either by giving their time to help or donating for the many stalls that we had. It is not possible to thank everyone who was involved individually, but you all know who you are!!

The weather again was very kind to us, but without all the support that was given by everyone it would not have been the successful day that it was. And judging by the comments that were made to various Club members our visitors also had a very enjoyable day - hopefully that means we will see them all again next year!

THANK YOU ALL AGAIN

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

Although there are no details in the Fixtures book we will be having our Christmas Coffee morning again this year on Saturday 4th December from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm. There will be posters going up in the Clubhouse soon about the stalls we will be having - and of course you all know what's coming next - we hope we can call on you to help with donations for the stalls as well as seeing you on the day!!

NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE FOR THE A.G.M.

The list will be going up in the Clubhouse shortly for the list of officers to be elected at the A.G.M. on Friday 26th November at 7.30 pm.

If anyone would like put their name on the list please do so. Could you make sure however that when you put your name up that you have a proposer and seconder and that you sign the sheet. This will then avoid any confusion as to whether people are actually willing to stand.

If anyone is interested in standing for Committee but hasn't done the job before and you are not sure what is involved please give me a ring and I will give you some information.

C.A.S.C. APPLICATION

Following on from the E.G.M. we have now received confirmation from the Inland Revenue that we have been registered as a C.A.S.C. (Community Amateur Sport Club). We have advised Wellingborough Borough Council and have now received a new rates bill giving us the 80% mandatory relief that being a C.A.S.C. entitles us to, rather than the 50% discretionary relief that the Council have been giving us. This means that for this year we will have saved £1085 on our rates bill and we will obviously make similar savings in future years.

Lynn Lax

From our Ladies Captain

Once again we are almost at the end of another Outdoor season, where did this one go?

I would like to thank those ladies that have once again, given me their support in the Ladies Matches. We have as usual won some, lost some, and drawn some, but they were all played in the right spirit, friendly.

Irchester Ladies have done well again this year in the County comps. Getting to the final of the Top Club is something to be proud of, as well as in other comps, so keep up the good work Ladies.

Have a good winter, look forward to 2011.

Velda

Social Events.

The Fund Raising Committee has been busy planning events at the Club in readiness for the "closed season". These events keep everyone in touch, and have the added benefit that as we have fun together, we are also helping to keep our subscriptions as low as possible, so please, if you are able, support the events, which are detailed below.

50's - 60's Night. Saturday 23rd October.

By popular demand, once again New Vintage will get us dancing the night away, plus a supper of Chicken and Chips .

Price£8.50 Tickets from Brenice 01933 312983

Race Night. Saturday 20th November.

Always good fun, and I'm sure if you shout loud enough your horse will win!! Fish and Chips Supper included

Price £ 4.00 Tickets from Fred Smith 01933 315282

Xmas Brass Band Concert Saturday 11th December

This was a big success last year and you are advised to get your tickets early. Same format as before, Rushden Brass Band playing, Buffet Supper, plus the BIG XMAS RAFFLE DRAW - make sure your there to collect your winning bottle!!

Price £7.00 Tickets from Richard Sharpe 01933 359792

Finally New Year' Eve,

A fun, low cost way to say goodbye to this year, and welcome in 2011. We are planning an "old fashioned" family type party, a bit of Line, Barn, and Disco Dancing , a few optional games, and maybe some surprise entertainers!! It's a bring you own supper night, and if you have any ideas for this evening, let Lyn, Ken, or Fred, know. Everyone welcome -

Club Gala 11th Sep See notices in Clubhouse.

Anything for the next Newsletter over Christmas for the New Year please to ken@race-night.co.uk or 01933 315571 Ken

