

BRIXHAM BOWLING CLUB _ REPORT WEEK 9

With the fine weather continuing, Brixham Bowling Club members continue to enjoy mixed fortunes in their various competitions. On reading last week's report by Brixham St Mary on their big victory against our B team, we noticed that they modestly failed to mention that one of the teams scored a 'Hot Shot Maximum' – scoring with all 8 woods on the 13th end of their match. Congratulations to W Stockman, T Lahaive, K Jones and K Henry on this outstanding achievement. For obvious reasons their Brixham B.C. opponents on the 5th green prefer to remain anonymous.

With a Riviera Mixed Triples League match closely following at Furzeham Green, the Brixham team were out for revenge. Another hot and sultry day, the dry greens were running fast making accurate bowling difficult. Val Pall's team got off to a flier on rink 2 and were 7-0 up after 4 ends. Stern words by Brixham skipper Sandra Sutton motivated her team who began to cut back the lead. She led by example pulling off some remarkable recovery shots when the chips were down. By the 9th end Brixham were ahead 9 shots to 7. After the tea break the home team surged ahead to take the match 26-11. Next door on green 3 Paul Harris' team was locked in a titanic see saw battle with Mike Beckett's St Mary's team. Recovering from a slow start his team were 11-8 ahead after 11 ends and 17-13 up after 15 ends. With just 3 ends to go, St Mary's fought back valiantly. Last end - Brixham 2 up – all to play for! The quality of bowling in this tense finale was outstanding. The skippers had to find a way through to the jack which was surrounded by a mass of woods of both colours. At that point St Marys were two up – scores level. Mike Beckett pushed that up to 3 as he knocked one of his team's woods up into the count. Try as he could, home skipper Harris could not find a way through the cluster. The tape measure came out. Were St Mary holding? It was close but they had the 3rd wood by an inch to take the match 18-17. What a comeback! On the last green, the result was much more straightforward as Brian Muirhead's team took their match 26-12 for Brixham,. Brixham won the match 8 points to 2.

Congratulations must go to Brixham's Ladies 4-3-2-1 team who progressed to the 3rd round of the County competition with a 6 shot overall away win against Paignton Torbay. This was another closely contested match which was marred by an amusing but curious incident. During the 6th end the green sprinkler system mysteriously came on drenching the players who had to beat a hasty retreat to the club house. Was it a considerate member hoping to cool the players off in the intense heat OR was it a devious attempt to put the Brixham players off their game? The match restarted after a 10 minute drying off period and Brixham held their nerve to progress into the next round where they will play Totnes.

Well done also to Thelma Bunney and Jane Inett who progressed to the third round of the Ladies Over 55s County tournament after they defeated a Brixham St Marys team 23-15

The last couple of weeks have not been so good for the Men's A and B Teams. Promoted to the MDL Premier League for this season the A team unexpectedly got off to a flier winning their first 2 games but since then they have struggled losing their third game in a row away to Paignton early in the week. They did then bounce back to beat Kingsteignton at home by 12 point to 2. The B team continue to struggle at the bottom of the D division losing heavily to Torbay Country Club at Oldway in their latest match. A good performance by David Taylor's team who won their match 23-19 ensured Brixham did not go away completely empty handed. They lost the match 81-62 taking just 2 of the 14 points on offer. Better news from the Ladies teams. The A team had a superb victory against Newton Abbott at home. Both Mo Thomas' and Jenny Moore's teams drew their matches while Dot Langford's team were drawing 9-9 at the halfway stage of their match. They then hit a purple patch to win on their green 23-10 to ensure Brixham won the match by 13 shots and by 8 points to 2. The B Team then made it a double celebration by winning another close match at home against Torbay Country Club by 6 points to 4. Brixham won on two greens and lost on the third. When the scores on each green were added together the final total was a tie 55-55 meaning that the bonus points were shared.

Another good week for the club. Morale is really high at present!