

Brixham Bowling Club – Final Report of the 2019 Season

As the outdoor bowls season draws to a close, members at Brixham Bowling Club can look back with great satisfaction at a highly successful summer. The season has raced by with matches coming thick and fast. The main highlights include

-Promotion to the Premier division of the South Devon League for The Ladies A team who ended the season as Division 1 champions.

-The Men's A team just missed out on promotion to the Premier division by finishing 3rd in the MDL first division while the Men's B team achieved a credible 5th in division 4 after finishing last in 2018.

- In the Men's over 55s South Devon competition there are 4 separate leagues composed of 10 teams each. Brixham won the V division championship and went on to pit their skills against the winners of the other 3 divisions. They were keen to win the trophy for their captain and long serving member Roy Moore who sadly passed away in August. Unfortunately they lost their semi final against Brixham St Marys but won the 3rd place play off on finals day at Marldon.

- After an intensive recruiting campaign in the spring, we welcomed 29 new members to the club. Towards the end of the season a new tournament was organised for them. 16 players took part in a pairs competition. Each team played 3 short matches. The top two scoring teams played a 6 end final which was won by Terry Hanniford and Carol Griffett who beat Tiejun Guan and Eamon Wykes.

- Perhaps the most satisfying highlight of the season was the success of the annual Captain's Charity which thanks to the creativity, generosity and hard work of club members raised a record £1600 for the Cystic Fibrosis charity.

With the league season over, the focus moved to the finals of the internal competitions and friendly matches against touring teams from all over the country. The Reed Trophy is an annual mixed triples competition. 12 teams took part this Summer. The teams were drawn out of a hat and each played 3 matches. A match consisted of 3 games involving 4 ends. 2 points were awarded for a win and 1 point for a draw in each game. After 3 matches the maximum achievable score was 18 points. Remarkably 2 teams achieved the same score of 15 points. The champions were decided by totalling the number of winning shots scored over 36 ends. The winners were Mo Penhaligon, Mick Stephens and Maggie Goldsmith who beat Dot Langford, Ken Butler and Sue Smith by 47 to 32 shots on countback.

Finals Day was blessed with superb warm, dry and sunny weather. Most club members took part in the competitions this year and knock out matches have been going on throughout the summer. 14 trophies were up for grabs. There was a real buzz around the green as many spectators turned up to watch the finalists fight to get their hands on the much coveted trophies. Congratulations to Mike Friend, Peter Farndale, David Farley, Brian Coad, Bebs Harvey, Dot Langford, Sally Lees, Jean Tully and Jane Inett winners of the singles competitions and to Bill Gray/Mike Friend, Jane Inett/Margaret Watters, and Jenny Farley/David Moseby winners of the pairs competitions.

With friendlies against visiting teams from Kent, Bognor, Cornwall, Essex and Luton, the season ended with sunshine and fun. Many members will still be playing bowls during the winter taking part in indoor league competitions and friendlies at the two indoor centres at Torbay Country Club at Oldway and The Toorak Hotel in Torquay.