

Brixham Bowling Club - Report number 4

Although success in bowls is a measure of the skills of the players, their confidence can also be a big factor in results. Brixham's A team and the Riviera team have both struggled this season losing all 3 opening matches. Both teams produced remarkable results. The A team beat Dartmouth at home by a remarkable 111 shots to 44, with all 4 teams skippered by Chris Dawes, Ken Penhaligon, David Hayden and Tony Pearce winning their matches to secure all available 14 points. The Riviera Mixed triples team beat a strong Torquay B team also at home to win their match by 8 points to 2. Hopefully these victories will kick off the season for them. For the B team, the opposite has occurred. After an amazing start to the season which saw them topping the league temporarily after 3 matches, two heavy defeats by Newton Abbott and Kings have brought them down to earth. How fortunes can change!

The past week has been very successful for the Men's over 55s Triples team. They were sitting in 3rd place in the league after 5 games with fixtures against the 2 teams above them to come. They won the first match at home to Torquay by 6 points to 2. It was nearly a whitewash. David Hayden's team won their match 34-6 while Chris Dawes' team was level 12-12 with one end to go. Torquay won by 3 woods to take the two points for this match while Brixham took the 4 points for winning aggregate score. On the next morning it was off to Brixham St Mary for a table topping match. Being a local derby there is always an extra edge to these matches. Captain Roy Moore had made 4 changes to the team with only David Moseby and Graeme Davies retaining their places. Was this wise? It proved to be an inspired strategy. St Marys got off to a flyer. After 6 ends Brian Miller's rink was 6-1 down and Tony Pearce 6-4 down. As they got used to the green they began to catch up. At the halfway stage, Brixham were 5 woods up. They say that games can change after tea. This was certainly true for Brixham as they played some stunning bowls limiting St Mary's to 3 shots on one rink and 7 on the other. The result was a 24-10 win to Brian Miller, David Moseby and Graeme Davies on one rink and a 19-13 victory to Tony Pearce, John Galloway and David Farley thus securing all 10 points for Brixham. They now stand proudly at the top of the league. How long will it last?

And so to the Ladies B Team. They had a superb start to the season when they beat Kingsteignton at home by 64 shots to 40 with teams led by Bebs Harvey, Mo Wilmott and Jenny Hopkins winning their matches to take all 10 points. They then visited Babbacombe where they lost all 10 points in a heavy defeat. Hopefully they will bounce back in their next match against the Country Club at Oldway.

Highlight of the latest round of friendly matches was a closely contested match against Westlands from Somerset. Brixham looked as though they were heading for a thrashing when at half time they were losing on 5 of the 6 rinks to stand 25 shots down. The old adage things can change after tea plus firm words from skipper Mo Wilmott led to a dramatic recovery in the second half. Teams led by Mo Thomas, Thelma Bunney and David Moseby won their matches while damage limitation by Jenny Moore, Bebs Harvey and David Hayden whose team fought back from 11-0 down to a narrow 15 -19 defeat meant that Brixham came very close to winning the match. Westlands won by just 3 shots, 94-91. Another dramatic match in a week full of twists and turns. All we now need is some warm weather to make this into a memorable season!