

Brixham Bowling Club – Week 12 Report

The league season is over, just a number of Friendly matches and the club finals day to go. Where has the Summer gone?

Brixham Bowling Club started the season full of excited anticipation after so much success in 2017. With the Mens A team achieving promotion to the dizzy heights of the Mid Devon League Premier Division and the Ladies A team similarly being promoted to the South Devon League top division, both teams knew it was going to be challenging to retain their places at this level. The Men's team came so close to staying up missing out by finishing 2 points behind Torbay Country Club. They cruelly lost out by 12 points to 2 to Paignton in their penultimate game in a closely contested match which does not truly reflect the points difference since they lost by just 8 shots (77-85) when scores were aggregated over the 4 greens. Their last match was against Shaldon at home – a team that needed to win to take the league title. After 8 ends Brixham were ahead on 3 of the 4 greens but Shaldon gradually pulled back to win the match and take 12 of the 14 points on offer. Oh so close to staying up.

The Ladies team finished second from bottom to go down but also can look back with pride after a season when they battled hard, never letting their heads drop.

After a late season surge both the Mens and Ladies B teams recovered from a disappointing start to the season. With wins against Kingsteignton (6-4) and Ivybridge (8-2) the Ladies finished 3rd in their league, while the Men's team ran champions Bitton Park close away from home winning 1 and drawing on 1 of the 4 greens but losing on points overall. David Taylor's team won their match 17-15 while Paul Harris' team drew 15-15. Bitton Park have won on almost every green in their unbeaten run this season.

The Mens over 55 team finished third and the Riviera team played well despite finishing last in their league.

One recent friendly match stands out with Brixham drawing an exciting match 111-111 against a very strong team from Welshpool - another game where even when you are losing every single score achieved counts.

Congratulations go to Ken Penhaligon, Jean Tully and Janet Bolland. Their team won the annual club tournament for the Reed Trophy. David Hayden, Mike Holbrow and Anne Dyke finished runners up.

Yes, it was a mixed season overall for Brixham but there is a lot of positivity in the club inspired by club Captains David Moseby and Jenny Hopkins. After one of the best summers for weather on record, club members will be looking forward to the new season with its fresh challenges during the winter months.