

Minutes of the Pre-Season Meeting 6th March 2020

9am Clubhouse

The meeting opened at 9:05 with 23 members present: Mo Wilmot, Jenny Hopkins, Margaret Watters, Sybil Greatbatch, Anne Goring, Sandra Sutton, Anne Gray, Dot Langford, Liz Harris, Marion Turner, Margaret Dyer, Jenny Farley, Janet Bolland, Sally Lees, Anne Stenning, Sally Hoare, Susan Smith, Anne Dyke, Tiejun Guan, Sue Dawes, Themla Bunney, Jenny Moore, Jane Inett.

1. The Secretary welcomed everyone to the Ladies' Pre-Season meeting. She apologised for the change in date and the early start time but we really did need to meet before the Club Pre-Season meeting on Saturday 14th March.
2. Apologies were received from: Audrey Taylor, Maggie Goldsmith, Mo Penhaligon, Jan Boyt, Margaret Holbrow, Carol Dixon, Sheilagh Butlin, Jenny Pocock, Lesley Loach, Bebs Harvey, Geraldine Nicholls, Lin Oakden, Margaret Bond, Jean Tully, Kay Turner, Audrey Armitage, Margaret Medway, Judy Miller, Petra Stephens.
3. Captain's Remarks - Captain Mo is looking forward to the coming season. She congratulated the A Team on their promotion back to the 1st Division last season. There will be a focus this season on the A Team remaining in the same division. The B Team started really well last season but the results dipped in the second half of the season but there will be a real push this coming season for promotion. Obviously we also have a new team commencing in the C Team and Captain Mo hopes there will be continued support for the C Team. There is also the Riviera League who also did well last year. This is the league which gives newer bowls competitive experience and is for mixed teams. There is also a packed programme of friendlies this year. This means there are plenty of opportunities for games for all of us.

Captain Mo reminded us all to check dates carefully before we put our names down for selection as there were occasions last season after the teams had been picked that people withdrew because they were not available. This makes the Captain's busy schedule even busier if there is a need to find last minute replacements.

The Opening Day is 18th April. At 10am there is a 'Try-It' session for new bowlers. Currently there is a leaflet drop being undertaken regarding membership recruitment. At 2pm is the Opening Session for all. Please remember to wear our new club shirts. The Bar will be open. After the session there will be tea and cakes and Captain Mo urged members to let Sally Lees know if they would bring cakes to that.

The Ladies' Lunch will be Monday 30th March at the Beefeater at White Rock - time 12 for 12:30. Please let Captain Mo know before then if you are attending as she needs to book the final numbers. There is no set menu so we choose on the day.

Captain Mo finished by wishing all a happy and enjoyable season.

4. Catering -The Secretary reminded us that Sally Lees had served her apprenticeship under Anne Stenning and Dot Langford and is in charge this season and feels sure that we don't need to be reminded to support Sally wherever possible. Sally urged us to let her know what sort of cake we will bring to the Opening Day by the Pre-Season meeting next week. Sally informed us that following complaints about the choice of make of coffee last season that this will be changed but a price rise will be needed. Captain Mo informed us that consideration was being made for the following season to make an inclusive membership fee which included the price of tea and coffee. There was a mixed reception to this as some members do not take a tea or coffee and others may not attend as much as other people. This information will be shared with the Management Committee.
5. Tea Rota - the Secretary has yet to confirm that Mo Penhaligon will draw up a spreadsheet for the rota as she has before with Lin Oakden ensuring all slots are filled. The Secretary urged the ladies to get in quick to volunteer on the rota and reminded all that this is a rota for not only us but also all the men. Anne Stenning reminded us that often an extra pair of hands are needed on the catering events.
6. Club Competitions - Vice Captain Jenny is the Competition Secretary this year. Jenny informed us that the Competition Sub-Committee had met. Ken Butler is taking on the Men's Competition Secretary role with Rob Cann (previous Comp. Sec.) supporting him. There is a rule change affecting the men - 18 ends in the rounds with 21 in the final. Jenny will ensure this information is on the Competition Sheets. No change in the format for the Ladies and Mixed Pairs. Jenny thanked Chris Dawes for producing the Entry Forms and Jenny requested that these be completed as soon as possible. The last date for entries is 4th May. Following this date, the draws will be completed and put on the boards. Jenny reminded us that we need to adhere to the draw dates. Bad weather or illness may see the dates being moved but Jenny is the arbitrator on this. Jenny also reminded us that before we enter the competitions, we need to check that we are available on the Finals Day - 12th and 13th September. The handicap system will remain the same this year. For the whole day competitions, the draw will be made on the day of the competition as is the custom with Bowls England. Jenny recognised there was a good number of entries last year and hoped to see similar support this year.

7. Club Night - the Secretary believes the first Club Night will be 6th May, but this will be confirmed on 14th March.
8. Pre-Season Cleaning - the date has yet to be fixed. The Secretary reminded us that all need to be involved not just the ladies. All who come need to bring buckets and cleaning items. The date will be announced on the 14th March.
9. AOB -

The Secretary thanked those who had fixed the issue of the hot water being too hot in our changing room which is perfect for the current situation.

The Secretary reminded us all of the need to follow the advice on hand hygiene in light of the current Coronavirus situation. Clearly shaking of hands has stopped but we all must remember to wash hands regularly and use tissues etc. It was also highlighted of the need to regularly clean the tables down and other surfaces. The Management Committee must ensure a good supply of soap and cleaning materials to ensure we do as much as necessary in light of the current situation.

County Competition and County Selection - the Secretary has circulated the County Competition draws. A copy will be in the Clubhouse. All County game information will be on the Boards during the season.

Janet Bolland informed us that the fixtures for the A, B and C Teams are on the board. There is currently a change on the A Team v Newton Abbot game on 4 May with the start time now being 6pm. Janet urged us to try the sizes of the club shirt before we buy as she can't change the size once bought. Janet showed us a white jacket she has ordered for herself from the manufacturer of the shirts. If members would like to order one, we can at approx. cost of £40. The Management Committee has approved it for matches. Buying this top is a voluntary thing with no compulsion to buy. Captain Mo reminded us that our blue blazers are to be worn on A and B Team matches - there may not be enough for the C Team. New blazers of the same colour seem impossible to source.

Captain Mo reminded us that club shirts need not to be worn for Cub Night or roll ups but for all friendly and league games.

Thelma Bunney gave us the date of the Awards Evening - 13th November. There will be no disco as there had been concerns raised at the Management Committee from some club members at the cost. There was a mixed reception from this. Anne Dyke said she was embarrassed by so few being there to receive their cups last year. Thelma explained that a number of competition winners had a clash of events and had to prioritise the other event related to their work. It

was felt that all club members should be involved in what they would like this event to be and perhaps a survey may be a good way forward.

Sue Dawes updated us on the Club Tour on 21 - 25 September. There are currently 30 members going and 28 are playing. Sue did say there is room for more. There are four matches booked for the tour. Final payment is due with Sue by 17th August.

Captain Mo stated that the Selection Committee will decide on the A and B Teams after the Full meeting next Saturday.

Sally Hoare reminded us she still had Club earrings. Cost £3 with £1 of this going to the Captain's charity.

Sandra Sutton made a plea for cork tiles. She had purchased some so that she could line the Joker display board as the board is very hard to push pins in. The tiles have disappeared from Sandra's locker so if anyone has any spare Sandra will be delighted to receive them.

Sally Hoare confirmed that there is no *March Coffee Morning*.

Meeting closed at 9:55am