

NORTH LEEDS BOWLING CLUB

February Newsletter 2022

*The Centenary Season 2021 is now part of our Club history.
Now is the time for the club to move forward so we can remain sustainable for another 100 years*

BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Firstly I am sure all our members would wish me, on their behalf, to congratulate Trevor Holliday on his appointment as President of the North East Leeds Veterans League. This is welcome recognition for his services to the league and crown green bowls in the area in general.

Secondly I would remind everyone that following the AGM we have two new members on the main committee, David Jones and Paul Mitchell and we look forward to their input. Anyone with thoughts on how we may improve our club and what it has to offer for members do please contact Paul, David or any of the committee with your thoughts.

Thirdly I would inform everyone that we are in the process of setting up a new web site largely instigated by Paul Mitchell and his team. This will be more informative and provide details regarding the club in general. It will also more specifically provide better information with regard to current and ongoing events at the club, both in terms of social bowling and events plus links to the respective leagues and our fixtures etc.

You may access this at ***northleedsbowlingclub.co.uk***

YOUR GREEN

The green is our number one asset and needs to be prioritised as such, both in terms of effort by members and through availability of funding. There has been a significant amount of work carried out following last season and it is anticipated more will be required before we get underway this season. This has required significant financial outlay on professional expertise. More funding may well be required in terms of equipment to make life a little easier for those members who volunteer to help with the crucial on going maintenance work to the green and immediate surrounds. Ideally if we are to enjoy a quality home playing surface it is recommended that the green is cut three times a week. Since we cannot fund having a paid groundsman to do this it may be difficult to achieve. However our team of volunteer green cutters plan to cut as frequently as is practical.

Mark Somers who coordinates the ground works would welcome any members who have not yet felt able to come forward to help. Anyone who feels that with a little guidance from the team, they might be able to lend a hand, even occasionally in the season do please contact Mark Somers 07926128102.

MEMBERSHIP 2022

Our Treasurer Terry Rock would like me to remind you all that :-

Annual membership falls due in March and the Playing Membership fee is required prior to playing when the season opens in April. This is also a League rule.

It is planned to have a club coffee morning on **Saturday the 19th March** when hopefully the green may be available for a roll up. This will provide an opportunity for a drink and a chat and for subscriptions fees to be paid; more details for this event will be forthcoming via an email nearer the time. Due to Lloyds bank having revised rules on accounts, we are

having to move to a new business account. This is in process and hopefully will be in place before the date when subscription are due. We are aware many members prefer to pay via direct transfer to our account. As soon as a new Bank Code, Account Number reference etc are confirmed by Lloyds we will of course advise all members via an e-mail.

For those few who were not at the AGM last November I would bring to your attention that those members who were in attendance proposed and approved the raising of the annual full Playing Subscription from £45 to £60. This was seen as a small way to ease the existing increased costs of running the club and take into account the short fall in income from membership and events over the last two Covid disrupted seasons.

No increase to social membership fee was proposed.

It was further proposed and agreed that new playing members for the coming season, plus those who joined at the back end of last season, would be offered a reduced introductory fee. So for the 2022 season subscriptions will be:-

Full Playing Membership £60
Introductory Playing Membership £30 for one year
Junior Playing Membership remains £15 free first year
Social Membership remains £15

One of the very best ways members could help the club without additional cost or physical endeavour on their part would be to make a concerted effort to introduce new members to our game and to the club. New members, particularly playing members, would in turn then help our funds but also gain in physical fitness and good fellowship themselves.

SOCIAL BOWLING & PRACTICE SESSIONS

We would hope that this more social element at the club may be stepped up this coming summer. Monday afternoons will be particularly aimed at social bowling with help and guidance being provided to prospective new members by more experienced current members. It is also anticipated that the regular Tuesday morning practise sessions will continue.

There is further more an intention to provide at least one social bowling event per month across the season, largely on Sundays but also some mid week events as well.

I would also remind social bowlers that there will be more access available to the green on Saturdays and Thursdays now that we are only running one team in the leagues on those days. If those teams happen to be playing away the green will be open for use.

SALES

Does anyone have bowls that they wish to sell or care to donate to the club for use by new members to learn with until they decide to purchase their own.

Similarly with any unwanted bowling equipment bags / holdalls etc. for sale or simply to recycle. If so please let me know and I will place an advert in following newsletters or add them to the club woods in the green cupboard in the club.

2022 LEAGUE & CUP BOWLING

This coming season it is currently anticipated that the inter-club matches will be played under the normal League and Cup format with trophies and club promotion and or relegation at the end of the season to be competed for.

The **Wednesday Evening** team will continue in the **Cross Gates Evening League Division 3** - Terry Rock will again take on the captaincy of the team. With club withdrawals from the league it has been resolved that Divisions 1 and 4 will have 8 teams

and divisions 2 and 3 (our division) will have 7 teams competing. The season to start 12th April and end 17th August with cup finals to follow. No doubling up allowed in A teams if they are short handed.

Our **Ladies team** who have been in the **Leeds League Division 1** for many years have had to withdraw. This is due to the league voting to return to eight members a side rather than six under last years Covid conditions. Unfortunately it is not viable to be able to meet this requirement since currently we only have eight ladies wishing to play league games and it is not possible for all of them to guarantee being available every match day. It is very much hoped that perhaps with the proposed drive to introduce new members to the club that this decision may be reviewed for the 2023 season.

The **Thursday Vets Team will continue in North East Leeds Vets League Division 1**
Team Captain Mark Somers will be continuing juggling resources, a difficult task at times and it is to be hoped that members will be as supportive as possible. The first three fixtures will be :- *14th April home to Swillington - 21st April away to Rothwell - 28th April home to Holt Park - The cup first round will be on the 5th May when we will be playing Rothwell A at South Leeds Cons green. We will receive a 16 point handicap in our favour.*

The **Saturday Barkston Ash League Team will again be in Division 4.**
Josie Hall has handed on the baton of captaincy to Hilary Asoko and I am sure you will all provide her with as much support as possible. The League AGM is once more to consider a change to 8 rather than 10 people per team a move we will support. Even if this were to happen it seems unlikely that we could reinstate our 'B' Team for the 2022. However perhaps this might be possible in subsequent seasons if our efforts at recruitment prove to be successful. What we do know is that the season will start early in April and hopefully we will know more following the League AGM on the 21st February.

CLUB DEVELOPMENT FUND LOTTERY

Thanks to all those who continue with their support for our little lottery that will help us to raise funds for specific essential projects. The annual re-draw for numbers will take place at the club at a point in May and you will receive further information about this in the next newsletter. During the season the results will be posted regularly on the notice board. The entry fee will remain at £1 a week, preferably paid annually or half yearly.

For the record the winning numbers taken from the Saturday night Bonus Ball in the Health Lottery since 25th May 2021 have been - **22 - 35 - 31 - 20 - 48 - 01 - 35 - 07 - 38 - 45 - 34 - 16 - 50 - 10 - 04 - 22 - 37 - 35 - 09 - 11 - 50 - 50 - 31 - 40 - 50 - 16 - 02 - 08 - 48 - 23 - 48 - 13 - 46 - 04 - 43 - 19 - 42 - 32 - 08 - 30 -**

All winning cheques for £25 have been issued to the lucky winners as appropriate.

YOUR COMMITTEE WISH YOU ALL WELL FOR THE COMING SEASON
Don Player Hon. Sec. - 0113 2667397 or dcs.p7@virginmedia.com