

## Notes from Pre-Season meeting Burpham B.C. on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in the Village Hall at 7 p.m.

**Colin Colbrook**, Club President, opened by the meeting welcoming the 42 members present. The Annual Fixtures Books were available to collect and sign-up sheets for matches were available at the back of the room. The President's Charity this year is the Oakleaf Enterprise. The charity's aim is to transform lives through the provision of wellbeing activities, work-related training, employment support and counselling. Brian and Rose Conway's daughter works for the charity.

**Liz Hyland**, Club Treasurer, reported that the total club membership is 118 combined between playing, non-playing and life members. A substantial balance is in the club bank accounts but without the bar revenue the club would run at a loss. The reserve fund is important. It will be drawn on this year to cover 2023-24 and future electricity costs going forward. Should the council cease to maintain the green at a future date, annual costs will increase.

**John Kershaw**, Men's Captain, began with a request that all members should be prepared to help with club tasks when asked. There had been a disappointing response when work to the ditch was needed. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early for all roll-ups to allow the organisers to draw the teams. The Whicher Cup is a season long competition and, as a trial this year, it will finish as part of the club finals. Roll-ups are on Thursday evenings, Friday afternoons and Sunday mornings. Friendly matches are played on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. The WSL teams are selected from a squad. The club has entries in the Surrey and West Surrey competitions.

**Rex Thorpe**, Men's Vice Captain, reported on the GWDL (Old Codgers) and the Friday WLS leagues squads. Members need to be aware that the Thursday evening club night roll-up will not start until the Knaphill Triples afternoon matches have finished. Late comers will be accommodated. When the green is soft the bowling committee has agreed that the protective netting mats will be used at the bowling ends to prevent damage to the green. Question: request to simplify the presentation of team sheets.

**Ade Hughes**, Ladies Captain, reported that the ladies first roll-up is on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April will be followed by a short meeting about the season ahead. There are sign-up sheets for the ladies' Tuesday roll-ups and friendly fixtures on the ladies notice board. We have squads for 3 ladies leagues, Monday evening WSL, Friday Surrey Advertiser and the Sapphire, which is played alongside the men's WSL on some Saturdays. The ladies have more entries in the Surrey and West Surrey competitions this year than previously.

**Alan Mogg**, Fixtures Secretary, reported that the friendlies sign-up sheets are on the clip boards and will be played in Club Colours (new club shirt with navy below). Members were reminded to wear regulation flat soled bowling shoes (not loafers/trainers) on the green and that shoes should be changed before and after bowling to avoid contaminating the green with products picked up on roads and pavements. Peter Challens' open roll-up is on 11<sup>th</sup> May and there will be a collection for the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice. The Southbourne away day on 3<sup>rd</sup> July needs 36 players. The Sutton & Kirkby touring team is visiting again on 26<sup>th</sup> August. The Annual Lunch is on 8th November. There will be bar snacks after the Thursday club night roll-ups which follow the Knaphill Triples (3 teams this year). The need for the protective mats will depend on the weather and softness of the green

from divots made during bowling delivery. Question: on how to place the protective mats - at the Opening Drive there will be a demonstration how to place the netting mats at bowling ends. Question: serving teas during matches - avoid movement and distracting bowlers who are bowling towards the club house. Carrying hot tea pots when teas are served greenside may be an issue for some duty people. The members of each duty team (bar and teas) should help with the service.

**Alan Hughes**, Competitions Secretary, (read by AdH) 75% bowling members have entered internal competitions. There are also one-day competitions entered separately during the season. The draw will be on Thursday club night on 25<sup>th</sup> April. The draw sheets will be posted in the clubhouse and on the website. Members are reminded to arrange their matches during the specified period.

**Bob Hughes**, for the coaches, reported that members' refreshers sessions are booked on the mornings of 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April. John K and Bob are level 2 coaches, Linda, Ade, Geoff Sheldon and Jeff Harkman are Level 1's. Members were reminded to think about Technique (correct bowling action), Practice (frequently) and Concentration (prepare your shot before stepping on the mat to bowl). Avoid distracting other bowlers when they are preparing to bowl.

**Geoff Sheldon**, online applications, (read by AdH) the Bowls Surrey online Club Match system is being introduced this year on a selective basis using Rex's Friday WSL, Simon's Saturday WSL and Ade's Saturday Sapphire squads. Those involved in the squads are aware and we've had some teething problems but are working round them. The support team is Geoff Sheldon, Ade, Cheryl, Bob and Colin Cooke. These are the only squads using the Club Match system at the moment, all other matches are using the clipboards. Rink bookings are made using the Burpham BC website as in previous years. For logging on issues contact Geoff and with rink bookings contact Cheryl.

**Ade Hughes**, General Housekeeping, regarding clubhouse security please make sure that if you are the last person to leave the premises you check the lights are off and all doors are locked. Check that the bowls hut and fence are locked and the main door must be double locked (you must turn your key in the top lock). Don't put the bowls hut key in your pocket and take it home! The fire alarm system is checked weekly, usually at 1 p.m. with a short burst on the fire bells. The Alternative Bridge Club hires the clubroom every Tuesday evening throughout the year and we do not use the club room when they are in. They have a key to the club house. We still use the changing rooms and they do not. Players using the club on Tuesday evenings just need to be aware of the arrangements. This also applies to some Tuesday and Thursday mornings if players are practicing when U3A groups hire the club room. The hiring brings in revenue to cover some of our club outgoings.

The meeting closed at 8 p.m. N.B. 14 members sent apologies for absence.

**Bowling Committee meeting on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April** will take up the following points:

**Dress Code** for games other than matches against external opposition and finals days will be confirmed. This will be communicated to members by email and with notices in the changing rooms and on the website.

**Whicher Cup** competition clarification of the modifications made this year will be confirmed with the organisers and to members. Whicher rinks are booked commencing Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April and include the Bank Holiday on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May but not Mondays 27<sup>th</sup> May and 26<sup>th</sup> August.