



NEWSLETTER



Melton & District Indoor Bowls Club Limited

April 2018

Editor: David Brown, Tel 01664-566152

A Bit of Fun

Our resident poet has been at it again and has come up with a poem which reflects the recent sporting news. It is to be read using the tune of Allen Sherman's song "Hello Mudda, Hello Fadder". I hope you enjoy "The Gentle Sport" by Walter Reid.

Hello Dolly, Hello Nobby,
Here we are, at Melton Mowbray,
Indoor bowling, aces strolling,
Lesser mortals groaning; points against
are mounting.

When the youngsters take on ancients,
Some are noisy, some lack patience,
Every session, has its passion,
Some get vocal well beyond the normal
ration.

What's the betting on Foxes or the
Hunters,
There's no takers; no silly punters,
Take some potshots, like the Hotshots,
'Gainst the Redcoats, dressed in their
finest whatnots.

Guys are bowling, bald heads shining,
Some are drawing, some are driving,
Gerry's Hatricks, lazily reclining,
Others on their knees, as usual conniving.

Rules were flouted, cheats undoubted,
Eyes are blazing, cheeks are pouted,

Wait a minute, call the umpire,
'Snot cricket! We'll do without the Smith
and Warner type of liar.

E.I.B.A. National Finals 2018

Once again another marvellous E.I.B.A. National Finals were held at our club, where we have been treated to some brilliant bowling. We were also delighted to see Les Gillett and Chris Rodgers reaching the pairs Semi-Final – well done to both of you, you have done us proud – *Making the final next year would be great lads' so do your best.*

From the President

My reason for this little note in the Newsletter is to say, once again, a huge thank you to our many friends – old and new – who continue to volunteer to help out on these special occasions for the club. After what I feel has been a good year for me as President, it is most gratifying to have made such great friends who are continually willing to help.

Future EIBA National Finals

As you may know, this club has, for many years, staged the EIBA National Open Championship Finals. The first staging was in 1989, and other than a short break in the early part of this century, we have staged the event every year since. Melton has become synonymous with bowls and

recognised as the home of Indoor Bowls in England.

We also need to remember why we exist as a club, which is to provide indoor bowling for our members, and this year we feel that we overdid the staging of other organisation's events. We had the EIBA event, which was followed by the County Finals, and then the English Short Mat Finals, a total of almost three weeks when our own members opportunity to bowl was very limited. Of course, if we are to allow outside organisation to use our facilities, we need to make sure that they are financial viable.

The 2018 EIBA event was the last of a three year contract, and prior to the 2017 event, we were asked to reduce the fee that we charged by one-third. The Board's view, was that we had agreed a three year contract, and stood by that, so we declined their request.

We were then invited to put forward a proposal for a further three years beginning in 2019, and after a lengthy exchange, where a number of alternatives were considered by both sides, I can confirm that we have been unable to agree on a suitable fee. So this club will not be staging the EIBA Finals again within the foreseeable future. If we are asked to put a proposal to them in future years, it will be based on this business making a satisfactory margin. We are not prepared to subsidise the EIBA.

ESMBA Finals 2019

Next year we will be staging the four day English Short Mat Bowls Association finals during the same week as they were held this year. The event will begin on Thursday 11th April and end on Sunday 14th.

Junior News

U18 Midlands Junior League

Saturday 3rd March saw our juniors travelling to Leicester for the penultimate game in the group stage. Although Leicester had fielded their strongest team, it was a team short of two crucial players and although this may not have necessarily been in Melton's favour, it was definitely the catalyst for their play. The Melton pairings, who have developed in stature and confidence this season, gave it everything they had got and with it came the glory they longed for.

Final score - Leicester 21 Melton 42

U18 Midlands Junior League

Sunday 4th March was the last group game with a tie against Barwell at home. Riding high on the previous days win, Melton juniors were on a mission not only to win but to win well and thereby taking first blood on all rinks. Although Barwell put up a good fight, Melton was giving away nothing easily to the point of winning all nine games.

Final score - Melton 46 Barwell 17

The final was due to be played against Desborough on Sunday 25th March but due to lack of communication from the league organiser, the game has had to be postponed as most juniors from several of the clubs, will be competing in the Stamford U18 Open Singles on that day.

Stamford U18 Open Singles

Sunday 25th March saw six members of our junior club competing the annual U18 open singles event at Stamford. Alex Warrington, Isabelle Pymm, Max Magee, Toby

and Tyler King were drawn in group A, while last year's runner-up Paul Warrington was drawn in group B. With the first of the matches underway, it was Alex who secured the first win of 9-7 over Sam Ormiston (Huntingdon) following it with wins over Sam Brugnoli (Huntingdon) and Nathan Puttrell (Spalding) but lost to Owen Aspinall (Stamford). Isabelle having lost to Sam B. and Owen A., went onto beat Nathan P and lost on a measure to James Cherry (Spalding). Max having only just lost his first game to Owen A. went onto win matches against James C. and Nathan P. before losing to Sam B. Toby secured one win against James C. having only just lost to Nathan P. Unfortunately Tyler lost all three of his games.

Paul on the other hand, drew his first match against Megan Mackinnon (Riverain), then went onto beat Noah Tarabad (Stamford) and Kat Bowman (Leics) before falling victim to Max Mackinnon (Riverain) on the last end of their match which denied him a place in the semi-finals. Alex also faced disappointment by being denied a place in the semi-finals on shot countback.

The event was eventually won by 10 year old Sam Brugnoli.

EBYDS

Sunday 8th April saw competitors from five counties for the EBYDS Midlands Regional Final here at Melton. Among them were seven Leicestershire bowlers competing as Warwickshire qualifying entrants with three of them from Melton. The junior section saw Grace Wade still in her first year of bowling and fellow bowler Isabelle Pymm, one of last year's national finalists both competing in different groups while

Alex Warrington competed in the senior section.

Grace unfortunately didn't get the best of starts with losing her first match to Alice Atkin (Church Gresley) but by putting her nerves behind her, came back to win her second match convincingly against Alex Trip (Des'b) and only just lost her last match on the last end to James Cherry (Spalding). Combined with the points won in the skills section, saw Grace finishing 10th overall. Isabelle fared better with wins over Erin Trip (Des'b), Rhianna Russell (Riverain) and Freddie Trew (Northampton). Combined with the skills section, saw Isabelle finishing 4th overall.

Alex in the senior section too lost his first match against Ben Bywater (Erewash) but then went on to beat Shannon Swift (Northampton) and Liam Reeson (Boston). Combined with the scores from the skills section, Alex finished 3rd overall.

The top two from each section automatically go through to the National final with the remaining places made up by the highest scorers from across the regions. It is therefore hoped that both Alex and Isabelle will be amongst them. We wish them both the best of luck.

The National Final will be held here at Melton on Sunday 21st October 2018.

County Finals

Melton has fared very well in this years County finals, winning in no less than nine of the sixteen competitions, also gaining third place in the Men's inter-league. This is the best set of results for Melton since the club opened in 1987, so well done to all concerned.

The winners were:

Mixed Pairs -	C. Rodgers & S. Dixon
2 Wood Pairs -	L.Parnell & E. Giblett
2 Wood Singles -	J. Robinson
O' 60 Singles -	J. Robinson
Fours -	C. Rodgers, D. Welch, T. Warrener & J. Butcher
Triples -	C. Rodgers, D. Welch & J. Butcher
U/18 Singles -	P. Warrington
U/25 Pairs -	E. Giblett & J. Butcher
U/25 Singles -	J. Butcher

What a fantastic achievement for our players at the end of what has been an excellent season for the club

Presidential Handover

After a successful season as president, Paul Noone handed over the Chain of Office to Pat Wright for the 2018/19 season during the AGM on Tuesday 24th April.

We thank Paul for his dedication over the past twelve months and hope that both he and Val enjoy their well earned holiday in Spain in the next few weeks.

I have no doubt that Pat will continue in Paul's footsteps by providing a professional face to the role of Ambassador of the club to the outside world as well as to our members. I am sure that all our members will give Pat plenty of support during her term of office.

Project Activity

Over the next few months, we will be undertaking a number of projects to improve our facilities. These will include modifications to our surface water drainage system on the South Easterly side of the building. The aim of this, is to separate the drainage from each side of the building roof, to limit the risk of water entering the building. At present, the two sides come together on the inside, in the Restaurant corner of the building.

We will also be having a new till behind the Bar. This will have a number of features consistent with modern tills, which include a stock taking facility.

Also as a result of this, we are able to move to plastic membership cards which will save the problem of printing new cards each year. The new cards will be able to be swiped at the new till, so when members pay their membership renewal, their card will be swiped in the till and the receipt will include their name, membership number and fee paid.

The same card will be used to gain access to the changing rooms.

We are also planning to install powered assistance to the doors on the entrance to the building, because at present a number of people have found it difficult to open the doors when entering the building, particularly those in wheelchairs.

We plan the work to have minimum impact on members, but please be considerate when the work is going on.