



# NEWSLETTER



## Melton & District Indoor Bowls Club Limited

April 2017

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### **Ah, So!**

The frequency of sexual activity amongst senior males, apparently depends very much on where they were born.

Statistics just released from "Statistics Canada" and the "United Nations Board of Health Team", revealed that:

North American, Australian, New Zealanders and British men between 60 and 80 years of age, will on average, have sex two to three times per week, (and a small number a lot more), whereas Japanese men, in exactly the same age group, will have sex only once or twice per year, if they are lucky.

This has come as very upsetting news, to both me and most of my buddies at the bowling club, as none of us had any idea that we were of Japanese extraction.

### **U25's Midlands League**

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April saw the Melton trio of Ethan Giblett, Paul Warrington and Jordan Butcher making the trip to Leicester IBC for the final of the newly formed U25 Midlands Triples League (sponsored by Aero Bowls), against Billie Swift, Connor Rollings and Kieran Rollings of Northampton.

With tensions running high the match got underway with both teams treating the travelling spectators to some exceptional bowling.

The Melton boys could not have asked for a better start, when Jordan with his last bowl, took the jack clean-out of the head going from one shot down to six up on the first end. From

there on in, Melton managed to maintain the pressure, and no matter what the Northampton players tried, they found it almost impossible to stop Melton from scoring. It was unfortunate that having played so well, Northampton had to concede defeat after the sixteenth end. The final score was Melton 24, Northampton 12.

Unfortunately neither the Aero trophy nor a company representative was present, as the current league co-ordinator had failed to give Aero sufficient notice of the date of the final. I have since been informed the trophy will be sent direct to the winning club shortly.

Fantastic! Well done lads.



from L - R Billie Swift, Connor Rollings, Kieran Rollings, Jordan Butcher, Ethan Giblett and Paul Warrington

### **U18's Stamford Open**

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017 saw two of our junior members competing in the annual U25 Open Event at Stamford and District IBC.

Our youngest competitor Isabelle Pymm (11) took on Mathew Barnett (Riverain), Alana Thomas-Handley (Desborough), Liam English (Charnwood) and Rhys Taylor (Charnwood). Although Isabelle played well throughout, unfortunately she met with defeat in all four games to more experienced players. However the experience she has gained will be invaluable to her.

Paul Warrington, our other competitor fared somewhat better. His first game against Rhys Taylor resulted in a 6-6 draw. Further matches in the group stage saw a 21-0 win against Keelin Mullen (Desborough), 12-4 win against Minah Elsayed (Desborough) and a 10-6 win against Emma Muir (Desborough). Overall Paul finished in top spot in group A, and earned a place in the semi-final.

Paul took on Joshua McCarthy (Egham) winning 11-4 while the second semi-final was contested between Adam Fuller (South Forest) and Emma Muir (Desborough) which Adam won 10-7.

Although Paul continued to play well, it was the more experienced Adam who took the honours winning 8-3.



Adam Fuller (South Forest) winner, Paul Warrington (runner-up)

### **Editor's note:**

I keep saying that the performance improvements from our junior players over the past twelve months or so is outstanding, and a credit to our coaches involved with the Juniors.

The introduction of more competitive play, particularly against other clubs, can only help to improve their experience, and bodes well for the future success of our club in competitive play.

### **EIBA National Championships**

Once again this event was a success, with excellent bowling being witnessed day in and day out. Many of the regulars were in action and the four team games held, were as usual, very noisy from lots of supporters.

The event next year, will be the last of our current three year contract, although we do have first option on a continuation, should we wish to accept the terms being offered. We will be looking carefully at the financial viability of this event over the next few months, before any decision is made on its future here at Melton, and if any member has any views about the staging of this event, either for or against it, we would be pleased to hear from them.

### **ESMBA National Championships**

For the first time, we staged the English Short Mat Bowling Association Championship Finals from Thursday 6th to Sunday 9th April.

This is very different from the game that we are used to, although they use the same bowls, which surprised me. They also bring the last 64 qualifiers to the event, which means that when the fours are being played, there are lots & lots of players on the green.



The Fours being played

The number of very positive comments about our facilities, received from both players and spectators, was incredible. One of the umpires told me that he had been doing the job with the ESMBA for twenty years and had never been to a club like ours with such excellent facilities. Very encouraging!

We have since been asked if we would consider staging the event again next year and also adding a further two day event over the Easter weekend, which would of course have no impact on our own members as we would normally be closed for all bowling activities at that time.

Once again, the Directors will look at the financial viability of staging these events before making any decision.

### **More Junior Club Success**

Alex Warrington and Isabelle Pymm competed in the regional final of the English Bowls Youth Development Scheme (EBYDS) on Sunday 23rd April and both played well.



Isabelle Pymm aged 11

Isabelle managed to finish 2nd overall in the Junior section which gives her an automatic place in the National Final in October.

Unfortunately Alex didn't fair so well due to the high calibre of experienced bowlers in the senior section.

Once again, this demonstrates the outstanding success that the club is having through its Junior Club activities. Congratulations to both players on their success, and we look forward to seeing Isabelle compete in the National EBYDS event later in the year, and wish her every success.

With the current level of coaching available for these young players, we hope to repeat the success that we had in the 1990's, with a number of our Junior Club members going on to play for England at both junior and senior levels. We had a number of girls achieving this goal at that time, namely, Helen Dabbs, Heather Stapleford, and Emma Bass, so with dedication and good quality coaching it can be done. Let us wish our current group of young players, every success for the future.

### **Rink Booking**

Last month I mentioned that we were planning to change the system of rink booking from the existing paper system to an electronic system, using a computer tablet located in the same position as the current book, by the Bar.

The work to create this has been completed by our regular software development designer, Barry Beeken, and will be installed within the next week or so.

The system is very easy to use and is similar to the system used at the Latham House surgery when booking in for an appointment, having a touch screen. The Bar Staff will all be trained in its use and will assist if required.

The benefit of the new system is that it is linked to the Bowls Management System, and the office staff can see when changes are made, thereby making it easier to follow-up any issues.

We recognise and understand that some members don't like change, but this system is really simple to use, so please just give it a try. You will however, need to have your membership number at hand when using the system, so that it knows who you are.

### **Club Coaches**

I am pleased to report that all four of our sponsored Level 1 Coach Qualification applicants have successfully completed the training. So when they become official we will have 10 Level 1 coaches in the Club.

We also have a number of members preparing for their Level 2 coaching qualification, so the club will have excellent resources for the ongoing coaching of our members.

Our thanks must go to Peter Bailey for organising all of this, and by the way, we were able to obtain support funding from the Bowls Development Alliance towards the cost of undertaking this coaching training.

### **Obituaries**

#### **Pearl Dixon**

It is with sadness that I report the death of Pearl at the age of 92 years on Friday 7th April.

Pearl was a founder member of the club, as were most of the family, although Sue is the only remaining member still playing bowls.

Pearl's husband Richard, who passed away a few years ago, presented the club with the brass bell that is used to signal the start and finish of the bowling sessions back in 1987, during the construction of the building.

We send sincere condolences to Roberta, Sue and all the family at his time.

#### **Eric Walton**

Regrettably, we also recently lost Eric, who has been a member of the club for many years, although he had been less active in the past few months. Eric passed away quite suddenly at home at the age of 89.

We send sincere condolences to Eric's wife Liz and all the family.

#### **Royce Varley**

Finally, it is with regret that I report the death of Royce following a short illness, at the age of 74. Royce was a founder member of the club, indeed way back in 1985, he completed a parachute jump to raise money for the club when we were busy fund raising, in order to get started on the building of the club premises that we all now enjoy.

Those members who can recall the early days of the late eighties and early nineties, will remember the regular nightly joke telling sessions from Royce, who always seemed to have a ready supply of new jokes available, and kept us all suitably entertained.

Royce was also a formidable bowler, particularly outdoors, where he won the county singles championship in 1977. Tony Allcock had won it in 1976 and again in 1978, so it gives you some idea of the quality of players around at the time.

He also qualified for the EBA Singles when it was held at Mortlake before moving to Worthing, where he also went on to compete on a number of occasions.

He regularly played for the club competitively, and would always turn out in the Inter-league games.

His most recent success was in managing the Melton "Team Pork Pies" to the National Championship Title in the 2015 Fantastic Fives Competition, our first National Title.

Royce will be remembered for his humour as much as for his excellent bowling ability, and will be missed by many members in the club.

We send sincere condolences to Maureen and all of Royce's family.