



Victoria Park Bowling Club Newsletter- February 2024



VPBC Awards Night

This year's Awards night was again held at the Old Links Golf Club in Churchtown.



This is an excellent venue, the 3 course meal was delicious, served quickly and piping hot. After the meal came the presentation of the awards. We had bought some new cups to replace damaged ones and gave all winners a lovely keepsake trophy . It was really nice to present awards to some of our new members along with our more experienced bowlers. With the formalities over, everyone was free to fill their glasses and get their dancing shoes on. It was a lovely evening enjoyed by all who attended.

Chair Sue Mountford

Winter Leagues

We are having much more success on the all weather green at Ormskirk this year, thanks to Haydn and all the team putting in the time and effort to practice. Well done.

The indoor at Dunes is still popular and good fun, as is the games afternoon in the clubhouse. Our teams in the winter league at Fleetwood Hesketh are having mixed results but are all enjoying the bowling and the good company.

Chair Sue Mountford

Annual General Meeting

28th January 2024

The AGM was held on a lovely sunny morning at S&B Sports Club. It was most enjoyable to get together once again at the start of a new year and



dream of the warmth to come and the friendly banter on and off the green.

Mike Bimpson was able to attend the meeting and take the minutes as his hospital treatment had been postponed. He now expects to have his operation in a few weeks time and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

The minutes of the AGM are attached for your perusal.

Acting Secretary Dave Spratt

Teams Report

In the close season, team captains check to ensure they have sufficient numbers of players for the forthcoming year.

On the whole this has now been done, though several teams needed to recruit new members.

At the AGM, Mo Ahmady, the new Vets A captain, recruited several new players and now has sufficient.

Both our Parks teams qualified for promotion but were unable on their own to move up to the next division for different reasons. The two captains put their heads together and came up with a plan to move some players and recruit others so that we can continue to field two teams. New members were recruited at the AGM. It was a close run thing but seems to have worked out.

Nigel Williams was also looking for new players for his Wednesday afternoon team and recruited three at the AGM and is now set for the 2024 season.

Teams Leader Ian Goulding

Greens Team Report



Throughout the country, the last 3 months have seen a much higher level of rainfall than normal. The result has been that we are only just starting to prepare the greens for play in only 8 weeks time.

Thankfully, we did a lot of work in Sept and early October which has now set us up with the right conditions for bowling on or before the 1st April.

I am also very pleased to announce that plans are up and running for a pumped irrigation system that, we hope, will avoid the greens turning brown, cracked and hard as they have done in some recent dry years. This will be our big improvement project this year.

For various reasons, it is a big challenge but, with the support of the VP Management, it is coming along well and will be ready by May for, perhaps, the start of the dry weather.

Greenkeeper Paul Crummey

2024 Membership subscription now due

The first signs of spring are appearing in some areas and the time has come to pay your 2024 membership subscription. Your current membership expires on 31 March.

Due to the rising costs for goods and services that are affecting us all, the AGM agreed a membership subscription of £60 for 2024, a modest increase of £5 on last year. At about £2 per week for the whole bowling season, this is great value for money.

Please pay by

• Bank transfer (preferred): Sort 30-97-88. Account: 34056760. Reference: please enter

your name(s).

- Cheque payable to Victoria Park Bowling Club. Please put your name(s) on the rear side of the cheque and put it in the Treasurer's post box in the pavilion.
- Debit or credit card. Please see Sheila Mo, Sue Mountford or any committee member at the Club if you wish to pay by card.

After payment, you will receive an email within a few days enclosing :a receipt for your subscription, an electronic 2024 membership card and the 2024 car park barrier code. For Park security reasons, the car park barrier code must not be passed to non-members under any circumstances. Visiting team captains are notified of a unique barrier code that is to be used for their visit only

If you have any query about your membership or the amount due, please contact me by email at: vpbc.treas@gmail.com

Treasurer, Steve O'Toole

Keep in Touch

If anyone wishes to speak to the Committee Officers, you can contact them on the following emails:

- 📧 Chair Sue Mountford: vpbc.chair@gmail.com
- 📧 Secretary Mike Bimpson: vpbc.sec@gmail.com
- 📧 Treasurer Steve O'Toole: vpbc.treas@gmail.com

Car Park barrier code

As a result of unauthorised use of our barrier code by unknown persons over Xmas, VP Management have had to cancel the 2023 barrier code. You will receive the 2024 barrier code with your membership renewal acknowledgment email.

If you find any problem with the barrier, please press the call button on the keypad and a remote person will allow you in if he/she is satisfied with your reason for using the car park.

Acting Secretary Dave Spratt

Calendar of Events	
Date	Event
Every Mon	Short mat Bowls at the Dunes 10-12
Every Tues in pavilion	Games Afternoon - starts 12 noon
Every Wed	Short mat Bowls at Dunes 10-12 & 12:30 to end
Every Mon, Wed, Fri	Weather permitting - join the Greens Team 10-12
23 Mar (to be confirmed)	Greens open for play
30 Mar (to be confirmed)	Round Robin 1.30 latest, then weekly on Saturdays
2 Apr (to be confirmed)	Round Robin 1.30 latest, then weekly on Tuesdays