Victoria Park Bowling Club
Newsletter- April 2024

Greens Information

Unfortunately over the last six months we have had the wettest period of weather for many years, consequently the work on the greens has been delayed and are therefore not presently suitable to play on.

The Greens Team are hopeful that the weather will improve and they will be able to get the Greens suitable for playing in the near future. Because of this, notice for the opening of the Greens may be at short notice and could be one or two days. All members will be informed once the date is known.

Spring and the New Season

Having given the unwelcome news regarding the greens there is some heartening news. Hopefully the cold dull Winter days are behind us and a warm, welcoming Spring is on the horizon.
The majority of the Team matches will commence in April, Team Captains will ensure their players are informed of the fixtures. The fixtures are also be displayed on the Web Page together with the league tables and stats so that everyone can keep up to date with the teams progress..
The 100th year of the Flower Show will be held this year and VPBC will be once again holding a Festival of Bowls over the period of the show, we are asking for donations for the Tombola Stall which is a good fund raiser for the Club. If members would like to donate any unwanted gifts or bottles please leave them in the Club Storeroom and inform Sue Mountford.

Let's have a fantastic successful season

Club Spring Random Pairs Competition

The first Club Competition of this season will be the "Spring Random Pairs", it will be held on **Sunday 28thApril**. A list will be placed on the Club Notice Board in due course for members to enter their name. Paul Crummey and Graham Whittaker have kindly agreed to organize the event, and will answer any questions members may have.

Club Shirt Colours

Following much discussion with members and the Committee it has been agreed to use the colours and shirt design shown below, the Club Badge will be embroidered onto the shirt. The cost will be approximately £25, if a lot of members order the shirt the price may be reduced. The size chart is shown below and Sue Mountford will be contacting the Team Captains for their orders and hopefully getting sample sizes for members to check their size. Should members who are not team members wished to purchased a Club Shirt they should contact Sue.

Should teams require caps with the Club Colours, Team Captains should speak to Sue who is in contact with a local supplier. It was agreed that Members would get their own Royal Blue fleece to suit their needs

Size Chart for Style 1 Ladies Polo	
Ladies Fit Sizes	
	To Fit Chest
XS	32 inch
S	34 inch
M	36 inch
L	38 inch
XL	40 inch
2XL	42 inch

Size Chart for Style 1 Mens Polo	
Adult Sizes	
	To Fit Chest
S	34-36 inch
M	37-39 inch
L	40-42 inch
XL	43-45 inch
2XL	46-48 inch
3XL	49-51 inch
4XL	52-54 inch
5XL	55-57 inch
6XL	58-60 inch

Indoor Bowling at Prestatyn

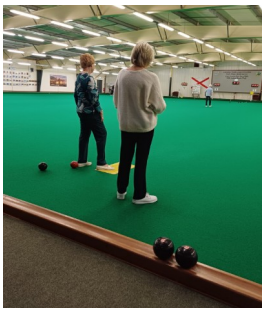
On a lovely sunny day, 13 VPBC Members took a day trip out to the Prestatyn Bowls Centre. They then played 11.00 until 1pm. Following a lovely lunch, the afternoon session ran from 2pm till 4pm.

Although after a days bowling it was a long drive home, it was once again a great way to spend a Sunday

Thanks go to Eric Ireland for organising a successful day which everyone enjoyed.

Sue Davies pointing out to Paul that his bowl is just out

Allen looks on in disbelief that Mo is adamant he's won the end again



Denise and Maureen weighing up their options

Winter Team News

Ormskirk Winter League

The Ormskirk Winter League season concluded in early March. The team have had good fun all winter braving the elements.

By January the team had climbed to lower mid table, but due to a late season series of unfortunate results, some of which were very close, the team ended up lower down the table. The Team consisted of:

Irene Kermode, Debbie Barnes
Debbie Herold, Janice Hobson
Steve Halliwell, Mike Wardle,
Gary Baker, Paul McCabe
and
Team Captain Haydn Preece

After putting in many hours of practice on Thursday mornings they really gelled as a team. With the experience they have gained this season will be competing for a higher place in the Ormskirk Winter League Table next season.

Any member who would like to join the team next winter please let Haydn know during the summer. You will be most welcome. It's a great way of keeping your bowls going during the close season and of course socialising. Please be aware you do need warm kit and waterproofs !

A special mention to our Winter Club Member of the Season Irene Kermode who showed tremendous commitment when playing and marking cards on non playing days.

Thank you Irene

Ormskirk Winter League Pairs Competition

The Victoria Park players have been excellent in the Ormskirk Winter League Pairs Cup Competition.

The Pairs Final will be held at Ormskirk on Sunday 7th April and it is a pleasure to announce that Irene Kermode and Mike Kellet will play Steve Halliwell and Haydn Preece.

Both pairs reached the final having recorded excellent wins over some very experienced players on Ormskirk's all weather green.
Good luck to both pairs.

2024/25 Membership Fees

The Treasurer is delighted to report that over 100 members have already renewed their membership. Many thanks to the members who have renewed. It does help the Committee to plan for the season ahead.

If you have not yet renewed, please can you pay the 2024 membership fee of £60 before your membership expiry date of 31 March. All members who have not renewed will have had a reminder email from the Treasurer explaining how to pay.

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

Come and Try Bowls

This season the Club will be holding two (2) Come and Try Bowls Events on **Saturday 11th May and 25th May** (to coincide with the Big Bowls Weekend). Both events will be advertised locally and if you have any family or friends that you think would like to have a go please bring them along. Coaching will be available followed by tea and biscuits.

Calendar of Events	
Date	Event
7th April	Ormskirk Winter League Pairs Final
28th April	Spring Random Pairs Competition
5th May	Flat Green Challenge (VPBC v Kings Gardens)
11th May	Come & Try Bowls (Saturday morning)
24-27 May	Big Bowls Weekend
25th May	Come & Try Bowls (Saturday morning)
26th May	President's Cup
23rd June	Chairman's Pairs
28th July	Summer Pairs
15-18 August	Bowls Festival at the 100th Southport Flower Show
1st September	Club Away Day
15th September	Singles Day Ladies & Gents TBC
29th September	End of season Competition
Dec '24	Awards Night Old Links Golf Club
1 St Feb '25	AGM at S&B Sports Club