

NEWSLETTER

Number 22
October 2018

A review of the past month, a preview of the coming month and more

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to

Philip Peel
of Marsden Park B.C.
for sponsoring this
issue of the newsletter

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UPS & DOWNS ALL DONE & DUSTED

So that's it all done now, another season completed and all the titles, promotions and relegation matters decided. The winners and losers can pack their bowls bags, take them out of the car boot where they have resided for the last six months and put them back in the understairs cupboard where they can be forgotten, fester and grow mould, unloved and uncared for over the Winter months. What will not be forgotten by many is the success and disappointments that have been enjoyed and endured over another thoroughly enjoyable bowling season for Huddersfield Veterans.

Congratulations to those teams that have deserved and attained some success and commiserations to those who bowled well on occasions but didn't always get the rub of the green on to those teams that found themselves out of their depth and relieved that they will be playing in a lower standard next season. It takes all sorts to make up a successful League competition and we think we have a real mix of all sorts who all contribute in making this the highly successful competition it is.

THE 2018 LEAGUE ROLL OF HONOUR

Section 1 Winners	LOCKWOOD CON A
Section 1 Runners-Up	ELLAND C&BC A
Section 2 Winners	RASTRICK
Section 2 Promoted	LONGWOOD
Section 3 Winners	THORPE GREEN
Section 3 Promoted	KIRKHEATON CON
Section 4 Winners	BROCKHOLES B
Section 4 Promoted	BRADLEY & COLNE
Section 5 Winners	LOWERHOUSES
Section 5 Promoted	THONGSBRIDGE B
Section A Winners	NETHERTON CON
Section A Runners-Up	SHEPLEY
Section B Winners	LINDLEY LIB
Section B Promoted	OAKFIELD T&BC

In the November newsletter we will be including the annual Team-by-Team Review of the 2018 season.

MARSH UTD WIN BISTRO

All the signs were there to indicate a closely contested Final for the last trophy of the Veterans season, the Bistro. The two finalists were 3rd and 4th in Section 1 both were playing off Scratch, both teams were in form as both had won their last five league fixtures. However it didn't turn out to be the spectacle we had been promised as a surprisingly one-sided contest saw Marsh Utd A overwhelm Milnsbridge A by 92-61.

Whether that was because the winners played particularly well or the losers went off form or the green suited the winners better or the winners won the tactical battles or some other obscure reason is all part of the reason we love this sport. What is clear is that Marsh Utd took control from the outset and it was only in the latter stages that Milnsbridge started to compete but by then it was much too late as the winners collected their biggest win in this year's competition with it's unique 'Five-Pairs' format which challenges most teams to find the winning combinations.

So Milnsbridge were unable to add to their previous tally of five Bistro titles but Marsh Utd deservedly collected their third in total and first since 2012. Congratulations to them



The three lady markers on duty



Route to the title

Round 1: Bye

Round 2: beat Thongsbridge A 105-94

Round 3: beat Almondbury BC A 92-72

Quarter-Finals: beat Cowcliffe 102-79

Semi-Finals: beat Netherton Con B 103-103 (3-2)

Final: beat Milnsbridge 92-61

Previous Bistro successes: 2012 and 1984

WATERLOO BEAT TOP GIANTKILLERS TO WIN 2018 TEAM KNOCK-OUT



The Team KO Runners-Up Broad Oak A

A great giantkilling run from Broad Oak A in the Team Knock-Out ended in the final when Waterloo proved to be one Section 1 opponent too many and a 146-110 scoreline saw this trophy go to Waterloo for the third time in their history. Broad Oak had also won this competition once before, in 1980, but they were unable to add to that this year following a resolute display from Waterloo who only dropped six points all day.

Whilst the final may have proven to be Waterloo's most decisive victory on their way to the title it was no easy run-in with four Section 1 opponents, including the title holders Lindley Lib A, to overcome in their path to claiming the trophy.

It would be wrong not to log the contribution that Broad Oak have made to this competition this season as they beat three Section 1 teams, including Lockwood Con A and Milnsbridge A, to reach the Final. However when it came to the ultimate test it was Waterloo A that rose to the occasion to win their first trophy for eleven years (Bistro 2007).



Route to the title

Round 1: beat Thongsbridge A 132-128
Round 2: beat Lindley Lib A 133-120
Round 3: beat Almondbury BC A 127-114
Semi-Final: beat Marsh Utd A 125-121
Final: beat Broad Oak A 146-110

Previous Team KO successes 2005 & 1992

BADGERS LIFT SUB-TEAM KNOCK-OUT



Congratulations to Brockholes B in beating Holmfirth A to win the 2018 Sub-Team KO Final and in doing so collected the team's first ever knock-out trophy. An absorbing match played in great weather on a fast and well kept green at Broad Oak made for a wonderful spectacle for this well contested final. After being 22 points behind after the three pairs had completed their games it fell to the Holmfirth singles to recover ground.

At one stage it looked like they would do that as they were within four points of catching the fast starting Badgers. However the deficit proved to be too much and it was Brockholes who ran out as 155-140 winners. It was a good day for the Croft Care sponsored competition who had some of their residents joining us for the day and enjoying a sumptuous tea provided and donated by the Broad Oak catering ladies - thank you.



Route to the title

Preliminary Round: beat Marsden Park 153-144

Round 1: beat Kirkheaton C&BC B 161-151

Round 2: beat Outlane 159-146

Semi-Final: beat Netherton Con B 155-134

Final: beat Holmfirth 155-140

This is the first Knock-Out trophy that Brockholes 'B' has ever won.

GRAHAM TAKES OVER-70's KNOCK-OUT TITLE

Well done to Graham Illingworth the Milnsbridge A captain in winning the Over-70's Knock-Out this year when defeating Roy Mudd of Waterloo 21-15 in the Final at Lockwood Cons.

It was not the warmest of days for the eight finalists representing seven different clubs (Rastrick had two representatives) to line up on a green still recovering from the hottest and longest summer for many a year. It was a real test for the survivors with many fancying

their chances as both last year's finalists had been eliminated at the Preliminary Round stage.

The two eventual finalists were favourites to progress to the ultimate stage as they were the only two Finals Day bowlers in the top twenty of the Section 1 averages. However there were some good displays on the last day with 2016 winner Peter Booth of New Mill from Section 2 continuing his good form in this competition by reaching the semi-final once again after beating Roger Stopford of Rastrick only to go out 20-21 to Roy Mudd in the semi-final.

In the other half of the draw the eventual Champion carried on relentlessly and rarely looked in any sort of danger of not reaching the final. This achievement

added to Graham's impressive record in Veterans' League bowling as he has won the top individual knock-out competition, the Rose Bowl, twice (in 2010 and 2014). A deserving winner on another good day of Veterans' League bowling with the always tricky Lockwood Con green asking lots of questions of the bowlers.

Route to the title

Preliminary Round: beat J. Townend (Paddock) 21-10

Round 1: beat G. Price (Milnsbridge) 21-17

Round 2: beat G. Fellows (Meltham) 21-18

Round 3: beat D. Iredale (Rastrick) 21-16

Semi-Final: beat P. Green (Brockholes) 21-13

Final: beat R. Mudd (Waterloo) 21-15



GREAT PAIRS FINALS DAY

Of the Finals I have managed to get to this year the one I have enjoyed the most was the Pairs Knock-Out Finals Day at Almondbury Lib. Some top class bowling, good competitive displays throughout the day and a surprise but very merited outcome. The eventual winners were Geoff Rollinson and Peter Sykes from Holmfirth who were the rank outsiders and the only Section 3 duo to progress to this stage. They were pitched against six pairs from Section 1 teams and the Section 2 pair from Crosland Moor.



The sun shone and the good bowling just kept flowing as the successful pair eliminated their Crosland Moor opponents at the quarter-final stage. Then overcoming the strong Lockwood Con pairing of Peter Kain and Ron Manning who were looking to extend their club's dominance of this trophy as Lockwood Con have won it for the previous three years with a different pair each time. That was a hard battle before it went 21-19 in favour of the Holmfirth couple and they were then matched against the Almondbury BC representatives of Donald Crowther and Bob Lees in the Final. That looked to be heading towards a valiant but unsuccessful Holmfirth display at 18-19 down but they fought back most commendably to win 21-20 to take the honours.

The 2017 Final had been an epic with two Lockwood Cons pairings going head-to-head and a 21-20 nail-biting result but it was more than matched by the 2018 performance. A personal thank you to all pairings for a great day of competition which I thoroughly enjoyed and congratulations to the winners.

Route to the title

Round 1: beat Greaves/Barlow (Clayton West) 21-12

Round 2: Bye

Round 3: beat Chomiak/Cliffe (Crosland Moor) 21-16

Semi-Final: beat Kain/Manning (Lockwood Con) 21-19

Final: beat Lees/Crowther (Almondbury BC) 21-20



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CLUB REPS CORNER

It is transfer time with clubs now able to recruit bowlers from other clubs from now right up until the last day of the close season. The process being that a club seeking the transfer of a bowler should contact the League Secretary with the bowler's details. He will then contact that bowler's present club to ensure that there is no reason that the transfer shouldn't go ahead and to alert them that this bowler will not be available to them next season.

The transfer would then go through unless there is a good reason for it not to, such as the bowler still owing money to his current club. No forms required and usually a painless process but clubs would be wise to start the process as soon as possible so both involved clubs are aware of what bowlers are going to be available to them for next season. If the Half-Year Meeting supports the proposal to reduce the qualifying age to 60 then you may want to be fast out of the blocks in recruiting newly available bowlers before someone else snaps them up.

Clubs will shortly be receiving listings of all their registered bowlers and are asked to update these records by removing bowlers no longer bowling with them for whatever reason. We are also continuing to ask clubs to add bowler first names to these listings so that we can include that detail on the Bowlsnet registration to make it easier for clubs when completing match records in the future.

We currently have three vacancies on the League's Management Committee with Eddie Haigh resigning recently to create a new vacancy. If you are interested in learning more about the role and have some interest in veteran's bowling then just get in touch or maybe one of your clubmen would like to extend his involvement in local bowling. The Management Committee meets monthly throughout the year at 10am on a Monday morning and meetings usually last two hours. All matters about the League and its Knock-Out competitions are managed through this process and all members are encouraged to contribute to discussions.

Final reminder about the Clubs' Half-Year Meeting which will be held at 2pm on Monday 15 October at Paddock I&C. All clubs should have received the paperwork relevant to this meeting and any club not represented will be fined £5 as per our rules. Reps are encouraged to bring a fellow clubman along with them (especially if you are warming them up to take over your role in the future) but remember it is only one vote per club.

Any club considering entering a new team or withdrawing a team for the 2019 season needs to ensure that they have made the League aware by the deadline of 14 January 2019.

A date for your diary: The League's Annual General Meeting will be held at 2pm on Monday 18 February 2019 at Paddock I&C.



CROWN THAT!

How many clubs know the height of the crown on their green? We know what the YCGBA Handbook says but that was probably entered many years ago but things change. Bill Blackburn of Lindley BC recently had his eyes opened on this matter and relates the story.

'According to the Yorkshire handbook the Lindley BC crown is 11in. Last week my son came with a blackboard with a yard measure taped on and a laser gun. After we had ascertained the centre of green he placed the gun on a spirit level and aimed it at the blackboard which was about 18in from green edge. It registered 22in to the bottom left hand side, 14in to the top, 14in to far side and 16in to side in front of conservatory that averages out at 14in.'

Quite different to the 11in recorded many years ago and the weather and green maintenance history have obviously impacted on that since. Does your club really know the accurate height of the crown on your green and which local green holds the biggest and slightest crowns in your opinion?

FREE FIRST AID TRAINING

Once again we have organised a free First Aid Training session for local bowlers. Led by the British Red Cross this training is aimed at providing an initial response to various different scenarios including heavy bleeding, heart attack, broken limbs and someone who is having a stroke.

This session will be held at Paddock I&C on Wednesday 24 October from 10am-12noon. There is a maximum of 15 places available and we need a minimum of 8 to make it viable. It is not only open to Veterans bowlers as we are happy to accommodate anyone interested in acquiring such life-saving skills. Get booked on to this course by emailing info@hdvba.co.uk.

THE EXAMINER

For many years The Huddersfield Examiner has had an important role in keeping clubs and bowlers apprised of results and league tables. That has applied to many Leagues including the Veterans but things are changing. The advent of Bowlsnet producing bang up to date league tables and bowler averages along with a results service that is very impressive means that Examiner reports are always 10 days behind Bowlsnet.

However we all like to see all these things in print and, despite the time-lag I soon hear from bowlers if the weekly report has not appeared in the local rag. The Examiner has been very good to the Veterans' League in recent years and we now seem to get a full page of reports most weeks. That may be changing as The Examiner is centralising all its sports reporting in Manchester. How this will impact on future reporting remains to be seen but the early signs are worrying.



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

If you have registered to receive the monthly HDVBA Newsletter then the November 2018 issue will be arriving in your email inbox by

TUESDAY 30 OCTOBER

To include the full
TEAM-BY-TEAM
2018 REVIEW
&
HALF-YEAR
MEETING REPORT

*Reserve your copy by
registering at
www.hdvba.co.uk*

FANTASY LEAGUE NEWS

Congratulations to Kenneth Broadbent of Kirkheaton Con for winning our season-long and still unique Fantasy League competition sponsored by Well Bowled of Luddendenfoot. After leading the table for 22 of the 26 week season he finished 10 points ahead of club mate Reg Bailey with Andy Broughton third of the 65 starters. Tony Emerson took the prize for winning the second Knock-Out competition which concluded on the final day of the League season by beating Peter Swinden 36-35 in the Final.

INTER-DISTRICT NEWS

The two Inter-District team captains have both decided to stand down from their roles this year. Frank Greenwood (Home Team) and Donald Crowther (Away Team) have held these positions for many years during which our representative team has had considerable success in the Yorkshire League and the Hickson Trophy competition. Both feel that it is time to stand aside and let someone else have a chance at this leading role. Our Inter-District team has been highly successful during the present captains' reign with last year's fourth place finish the lowest suffered over that period.

Both will continue to make themselves available for selection in the team but wish to leave team selection to new leaders. Traditionally the role of captain has been a player-captain role although there seems to be no reason that it couldn't be held by a non-playing captain. Anyone interested in learning more about the role should contact any Management Committee member with Frank Greenwood obviously the most knowledgeable on this matter.

NEXT MONTH

It may be the end of the season but the HDVBA website and monthly newsletter will be operating right through the Winter months to keep you informed of changes and developments as the Management Committee continues to meet and work during the close season. In the November issue of your newsletter will be a full report on the Half-Year Meeting with photographs of presentations made to teams and individuals as well as a comprehensive report on decisions taken on rule changes and other matters. We will also be including a full Team-by-Team Review of the 2018 bowling season. Which teams have hit the jackpot and which have under-performed, we give it to you straight.

Then in the December issue we hope to restart the 'My Bowling Life' series where we talk to local bowlers about how bowling has related to their private life and which milestones in both have impacted on them. The bowling season may be over but there is still a lot going on in the Veterans' world and you can follow it all by reading your newsletter every month of the year.

HOW OLD SHOULD A VETERAN BE?

The 2018 League bowling season is now completed and that means that we are approaching the Half-Year Meeting (2pm Monday 15 October) when any changes to our League Rules are usually made. One proposal back on the table again this year will be the qualifying age for bowlers in our League.

The Rules Revision Sub-Committee has recommended to the full Management Committee that members should be allowed to vote on this issue again this year. The current qualifying age under our rules is 62. A proposal to reduce that age limit to 60 will be put before members clubs at that meeting.

A survey of 52 Veteran/Seniors Leagues has shown that we are the only League with the qualifying age being set at 62 and only one of three Leagues that has the age set above 60. Some have the age limit set at 55 but the vast majority have 60 as the entry age.

So what facts are taken in to account when determining the preferred age that bowlers can start bowling? There are a few reasons to reduce the entry age.

1. It will allow clubs to recruit more bowlers when many are struggling to field regular full teams.
2. New bowlers are attracted to other Leagues earlier than we can offer them a game. Once signed up they are often unlikely to move to another Club or League.
3. It could encourage new teams with a balance of younger bowlers to join the League. Currently such teams are attracted to neighbouring Leagues with lower entry age limits where they can start bowling earlier.

The strongest objection against the change seems to come from bowlers concerned about the problems of playing younger (or less old) bowlers. So on a wet day a younger bowler could take advantage of their greater strength by bowling long marks to make life difficult for older bowlers. Is this a valid argument or are there other reasons why clubs have failed to support this motion in the past?

Last year this same proposal was voted 19-18 in favour of the change however our rules require a two-thirds majority before any change can be introduced. Therefore the motion was defeated.

With the vote being so close last year the Management Committee agreed that member clubs should be given the opportunity to discuss the option once again this year. How will your club vote? Club men everywhere should make sure that their club representative is fully up to speed with the feelings of club members prior to attending and voting on this proposal and all the others at the Half-Year Meeting.

2019 RULE CHANGES

The Half-Year Meeting is the forum for determining any changes to League Rules. This year there are no proposals put forward by member clubs but the Management Committee have agreed and circulated proposals for a number of updates.

There are some proposed alterations to KO competition rules regarding bowlers practicing on neutral greens prior to a match being played there. The current ruling only stipulates that this is not allowed up to seven days in advance of venues being used for KO Finals. This proposal asks that this rule be extended to all rounds of all our team and individual KO competitions.

Some proposed changes regarding the administration of Individual and Pairs KO competitions with draws being made prior to match days rather than on the day at greenside but not published until match day. This has come about due to a concern that some bowlers are not showing on match days once they learn who their opponent will be. By delaying sharing that information it is hoped to improve attendance records in the early rounds of some of our competitions but at the same time easing the responsibilities placed on clubs hosting such games to organise draws and matches at greenside.

50th ANIVERSARY UPDATE

The 47 clubs in our League have all received copy of a Questionnaire about the Association's 50th Anniversary celebrations and given the opportunity to comment on some of the early ideas of how we might best commemorate this milestone.

Thirty-four of those clubs completed and returned the Questionnaire and this makes interesting reading. A breakdown of those responses can be found overpage and they show the preferences of those clubs to suggestions from the Management Committee. The Questionnaire has helped identify schemes that are worth pursuing and these are listed as 'Recommendations' at this stage.

At this point this detail is for information only with no proposals to progress any of them at present. The next stage is to cost up and investigate further the practicalities of each Recommendation before returning to clubs at next February's AGM with firm proposals for a programme of events and projects to mark the anniversary. Turn over to see the 'Recommendations' from the club's Questionnaire.

YOUR NEWSLETTER

I am very grateful to Philip Peel of Marsden Park Bowling Club who generously sponsored this issue of your Newsletter. If you would like to sponsor a future issue then it costs just £20. Full details from the editor.

HDVBA GOLDEN JUBILEE CLUB QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS (R)

1970
2020



- Momento's** – Clubs gave a 78% YES response to HDVBA providing momento's
- Momento's** - 51% of bowling clubs selected “set of club mugs” in their first two preferences **(R)**
- Momento's** – 39% of clubs thought lapel badges should be a first/second choice consideration **(R)**
- Publications:-** Over 78% of clubs considered we should publish a special G/Jubilee article
- Publications:-** First choice was 45% of clubs in favour of special Golden Jubilee Yearbooks **(R)**
- Publications:-** Second choice was 33% in favour of printing sponsored jubilee scorecards **(R)**
- Levy** – Over 70% of bowling clubs said YES to a 10p per bowler (£1 per team) per game levy
- Levy** – Less than 21% of clubs said NO to the introduction of an annual team levy
- Levy** – Responses suggested HDVBA consider converting levy to a lump sum levy or annual fee **(R)**
- Team Photo** – A huge 73% of clubs said YES to a Golden Jubilee article publishing team photo's
- Team Photo** – Only 18% of clubs said NO to a Golden Jubilee publications with team photographs
- Team Photo** – A majority considered photo's should be in a special edition of the Yearbook **(R)**
- Events** – 75% of clubs considered HDVBA hold both special Golden Jubilee AGM's /HY Meetings **(R)**
- Events** - 68% of the 75% preferred rebranding of HYM or holding a special end of season event
- Events** – The remaining 25% of club responses advised us to do nothing or did not respond
- Competitions** – Up to 66% of clubs stated we should do nothing to upgrade HDVBA competitions
- Competitions** – Only 28% of clubs selected “ Rebranding the Rose Bowl” in their first two choices
- Competitions** – The remaining % clubs were evenly split over new 6 Man /Int Div / Int Dist Comp
- Charities** – 69% of clubs agreed HDVBA should support a charity during our Golden Jubilee year
- Charities** – Charity of choice was approx. 39% for prostate cancer & 59% for Kirkwood Hospice **(R)**
- Charities** – Some 25% of Clubs reported they are currently committed to annual charitable events

Important Supporting Notes!

1. Returned Questionnaire's received from a total of 34 No Clubs averaging 9 bowlers/ club
2. Ratings of 10% can be roughly equated to the views of approximately 30 No bowlers
3. The percentage figures are generally based on appraisal of a Club's first two preferences
4. Based on the survey results activities initialled (R) are now recommended for a viability and costing check before progressing the final selections to the implementation stage.
5. All club representatives will be advised of our findings at the HDVBA Feb 2019 AGM

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