

NEWSLETTER

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WELL-BOWLED FANTASY LEAGUE 2017

£120 in Prizes - Free Entry

£5 to every entrant

Full details on Page 2

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NEWSLETTER BY POSTING A
COPY ON YOUR CLUB'S NOTICE
BOARD OR FORWARD BY EMAIL
TO OTHER CLUB MEMBERS.**

Bumper Year for the Knock-Outs

We are looking forward to another bumper year for our Individual and Pairs Knock-Out competitions in 2017. A very commendable 10% overall increase in entries last year provides some optimism that the serial decline over recent years has been reversed.

Entry is now open to all our 2017 competitions with a £1.50 per person entry fee for all except the Rose Bowl which is just £2. All this goes towards the total prize money anticipated to be over £1,300 again this year.

2017 K.O. PRIZE FUND

(to be confirmed)

Rose Bowl - £440

Over-70's - £280

Over-80's - £180

Pairs KO - £300

LD Trophy - £115

TOTAL = £1,315

The one competition not to show an increase in entries last season was the Lower Divisions Trophy which attracted just 24 entrants as opposed to the Rose Bowl which had 76 starters. In an attempt to boost interest for this year the rules regarding entry for the LD Trophy have been relaxed a little and Non-Starred Bowlers from Section 3 clubs are also now invited to participate.

We hope that all our reigning Champions will be defending their titles and that includes Eddie Haigh (Rose Bowl), Peter Booth (Over-70's), Dennis Iredale (Over-80's), Phil Hunter (LD Trophy and Eddie Haigh & Mick Cox (Pairs).

All the qualifying rules for entry for all competitions are on the HDVBA website along with the new improved online entry form which proved so popular last season.

New Treasurer in Post

Alan Stephenson has stepped in to the position of HDVBA Treasurer following David Armitage stepping down after three years in the role. The Annual General Meeting supported the proposal of the Management Committee that Alan should assume this important position. Alan bowls for Waterloo B.C., has just completed a lengthy stretch as Treasurer at the Yorkshire CGBA and was President of the HDVBA from 2013-2015.



FANTASY LEAGUE £120 PRIZE FUND

WINNER: £60

2nd: £25

3rd: £15

KO1 WINNER: £10

KO2 WINNER: £10

£5 Well-Bowled Sales Voucher to every entrant and a free raffle entry for two prizes of bottles of wine.

FREE ENTRY

Fantasy Bowls League

Entries are going well for this year's Fantasy Bowls League with last year's final total of 33 entries already passed with five weeks still to go before the closing date. The 2017 competition is bigger and better than ever! Prize money has gone up from £50 last year to £120 this time around with prizes for the top three in the end of season table and also for the winners of the two KO competitions we will be running later in the year.

Not only is it free to enter for all HDVBA bowlers but this year we are giving **every entrant a free £5 Sales Voucher** which is valid with our Fantasy League sponsor Well-Bowled of Luddendenfoot when you spend £30 with them. If that isn't enough to entice you to enter, every entrant also goes into a raffle with two prizes of bottles of wine (courtesy of David Union).

All you have to do is select a team in each of the seven Sections of the HDVBA Leagues. Every point your teams win through the season goes to your Fantasy League total. Most points wins the dosh, Easy Peasy.



2017 Fantasy League winner, Mel Walker, spends his £50 Sales Voucher with Well-Bowled.

We are very grateful to Well-Bowled of Luddendenfoot for their continuing support of this great competition. Weekly reviews on our website will keep you up to date with your selections performance. Every week you will find yourself searching out a key result in each of our Sections, it's great fun. Entries are open now and you can amend your selections as many times as you like before the closing time of 11:00am on Monday 3 April which is the start date of our League fixtures.

Bowlsnet Passwords

The Bowlsnet developer has been busy during the close-season adding some new features to the system for the 2017 season. You can already view some of these by visiting the site. One change will affect all those clubs that use the system to provide their weekly results in to the League. Any user with a password of less than 6 characters will now need to add a '9' to the end of their password to gain access. It only affects those with passwords of less than 6 characters.

REMEMBER



All matches in 2017
start at 1:30pm

*Will you be the
one who forgets?*

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Discussion Board Topics

There is quite a bit of activity on the Discussion Board at present and one topic that has created a few responses is the suggestion that we should look at seeding for Singles matches in the future. This would involve each club seeding their selected Singles bowlers 1 to 4 based on their in-season average. The two No.1 seeds would play each other etc. There seems to be some support for this rather than the present lucky dip which is open to tinkering and the more astute teams can predict and arrange who they pair up against. Listen to the arguments about why, or not, it could be extended to the Pairs as well. Then there are some early murmurings about a totally new scoring system for League matches. Visit the Discussion Board, listen to the points being made and join in if you like. You don't have to be a Board member to view the discussions but you will have to sign up if you want to join in the debates.

Club Reps Corner

All the draws for the early rounds of our four Team Knock-Out competitions have been completed and are available both on Bowlsnet and the HDVBA website. Club Reps are advised to note these and add them to their team fixture lists and also note where your green is being used by other teams in these competitions. You have a duty of care to these visitors.

A lot of work has been done through the close-season by the League, clubs and the Yorkshire CGBA Registrar to improve the record of registered bowlers in our League. That work indicated that 170 bowlers were on our books without a BCGBA number. Work got that down to just 2 missing numbers (out of 1,901) and then a further exercise to identify duplicate numbers produced another 108 bowlers. These have all been worked through and we now have a really clean database of records. To maintain that the system on Bowlsnet has now been locked down so clubs can no longer add or amend these records themselves. Any new bowlers or amendments to existing records have to be channeled through the League Secretary from now on.

Dates to remember:

6th March: the deadline for submitting any appeal against the identified Starred Bowlers for your club.

31 March: the deadline to ensure that all your bowlers have a BCGBA number. Failure to provide it by then means that those bowlers will be deleted from League records and will not be available to start the 2017 season. Check all your team complies on Bowlsnet under Player Registrations.

9 April: the deadline for home clubs to submit the first set of league results for the 2017 season. Finally we are bowling again.

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Two special people, two special awards

The 2017 Annual General Meeting was delighted to mark two special achievements by bowler members. Arthur Tracey has decided to call it a day attending HDVBA Management Committee meetings at the age of 88. A former President and prolific trophy winner from a family of dedicated bowlers Arthur feels he needs to be stepping down on some of his



Arthur Tracey



John Pix

involvement now. His long service was marked by a presentation at the AGM when another Special Award was presented to Canalside bowler John Pix. John's prompt actions when an opponent suffered a heart attack before a game last September was responsible for saving the life of the bowler. John intervened to provide a life-saving intervention which kept the Primrose Hill Lib bowler alive until the emergency services arrived on the scene. Very well done to both.

Knock-Out Headlines

Just browsing through the first round draws in our four team knock-out competitions to identify some of the plum ties. The Sub-Team KO sees a rerun of the 2016 Final when Outlane defeated Slaithwaite 161-145. Slaithwaite are now a Section 3 team and will be looking for revenge over their Section 5 opponents. The 2017 Bistro competition saw a catalogue of giant-killing acts with the 5-Pairs format not being every team's cup-of-tea. Holders Milnsbridge A have a difficult opening defence when they meet last season's losing semi-finalists Kirkheaton C&BC A. Probably the biggest shock last year was the Round 2 defeat of favourites Lockwood Cons by Lindley BC B from Section 5 and the Section 1 Champions may be more comfortable with fellow Section 1 opponents in Elland C&BC A this year. Last year's losing finalists in the Team KO, Holmfirth A, haven't even qualified for the competition this year as their final league position last year left them below the Section 3 half-way mark which determines which KO competitions teams will contest. A proven KO team like Holmfirth will fancy their chances in the Sub-Team KO where they meet Almondbury BC B. The 6-Man Julie Fuller Trophy sees holders Longwood have a difficult opening tie against Thongsbridge B. They are in the opposite half of the draw to co-favourites Lockwood Cons so it is all set up for a potential cracking final - until the giant-killers step on the scene of course.

APRIL NEWSLETTER

If you have registered to receive the monthly Newsletter then the April 2017 issue should be arriving in your email inbox on

THURSDAY 30 MARCH

[Register on www.hdvba.co.uk](http://www.hdvba.co.uk)