

NEWSLETTER

A review of the past month, a preview of the coming month
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Knock-Out Deadlines Loom

It's that time of year again when thoughts turn to Finals Day in some of our prestigious competitions and none more so than our Individual and Pairs KO which always make for great days in League history. However you won't be part of that event or our history if you don't enter and the closing date for our first competitions is imminent. If you intend enjoying competing in the Over-70's, Over-80's or Pairs K.O. competitions this season then you have less than two weeks to get your entry in. The closing date for these three competitions is Saturday 13 May with the draws for the first rounds being made at the Management Committee meeting two days later. Lots of ways of entering including using our [Online Entry Form](#).

Entries to date appear to be down on last year at present after a resurgence of interest last season when we had a 10% increase in overall entries after a few years of reducing numbers. The total Prize Fund of over £1,300 offers an incentive as well with how that is divided up in the table alongside. Entry fees are just £1.50 per bowler for all the competitions except the Rose Bowl which has a £2 entry fee. Huge interest last year in the Rose Bowl which is our top knock-out competition open to all league bowlers and we had over 80 entries last year. The closing date for that is 27 May as it is for the Pairs K.O. so you really do need to be getting yourselves organised if you intend being involved this season. All the details are on our [HDVBA website](#).

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

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



The First Aid Training session class is pictured above. Report inside along with details of a second session being held in May.

First Aid Training

We had a successful launch of our First Aid Training Programme with 14 attendees at the first two-hour session held on 19 April. Led by the British Red Cross it covered a wide variety of situations, was very inter-active where all the attendees had to contribute and they all went away with some new skills and a certificate of attendance.

We would very much like to organise a second session if there is the interest amongst individuals and clubs. Although a date has still to be finalised it will be on a Wednesday morning in late May. If you would like to register your interest in attending then please let us know by [contacting us](#) now. The course is completely free of charge. If there is insufficient interest from Veteran's League bowlers then it will be opened up to other local community groups and again if you would be interested then also put your name forward now. If we can't hit the minimum number of 10 then the session will not go ahead.

Fantasy Bowls League

We have 43 entries for our 2017 Fantasy Bowls League competition and no less than 60 of our 89 teams have attracted at least one entrant's support. Surprisingly no two entries are identical and we are up and running. The table below shows the top selections in each Section as well as the number of teams selected.

S'n	Favourites	%	Teams
1	Lockwood Con	84	8/14
2	Brockholes A	28	10/14
3	Springwood	28	9/12
4	Huddersfield RUFC	51	8/12
5	Outlane	44	8/12
A	Longwood	60	7/12
B	Skel Windmill	42	10/13

The early leading contenders seem to change every week at present with a reminder that last year's winner did not hit the top place until the first week in August so if you don't feature just yet stay patient it is a very long season. Weekly updates appear on the HDVBA website right through the season. We are also running two Fantasy League KO competitions and the first will start its 6-week cycle on 22 May. In addition all the 43 entrants will go into a raffle for two prizes of bottles of wine, kindly donated by David Union, at the Management Committee meeting on 15 May. We will try and get all the free £5 sales vouchers out to every entrant as soon as possible but if you are keen to spend yours then please get in touch (info@hdvba.co.uk). The vouchers are valid up until Christmas.

HDVBA OFFICERS

President

ALAN SHARPE
137 Fernside Avenue
Almondbury HD5 8PW
Tel: 01484-324640

General Secretary

JOHN HOYLE
129 Kaye Lane
Almondbury HD5 8XT
01484-308051
john.hoyle20@ntlworld.com

Treasurer

ALAN STEPHENSON
159 Lascelles Hall Road
Kirkheaton HD5 0BE
01484-303259

League Secretary

JEFF JACKLIN
47 Rowley Hill
Fenay Bridge HD8 0JF
01484-304811
jefftheref2000@yahoo.co.uk

Competition Secretary

DAVID SYKES
26B Deyne Road
Netherton HD4 7ET
01484-323338
daves007@ntlworld.com

Club Reps Corner

All clubs are reminded that the HDVBA only allows League games to be postponed and rearranged in extenuating circumstances. If you are a few regular players short that will not suffice to allow a postponement. Usually it is because the green isn't playable or there is a clash with a club member's funeral. You can always check by contacting the League Secretary for confirmation but agreement to alter a fixture is very much the exception.

Do you get frustrated waiting for your away fixture result to appear on Bowlsnet? Well there is nothing to stop the away team adding the result to Bowlsnet even though it is the responsibility of the home team. Whoever completes the result online first it still awaits verification by the other side so any errors should be picked up then. Any errors should be reported to the League Secretary for correction. We have started compiling a list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about Bowlsnet to aid the casual users as well as those charged with using it to input match results. Ask a question and get the answer added to the list.

Two things to remind all clubs about:-

1. Lindley BC play their 6-Man home fixtures at Paddock I&C.
2. There is no off-street parking any longer at Lowerhouses BC.

Another reminder that it is the responsibility of Club Reps to collect and forward their members' entry fees for the Individual & Pairs competitions to the Competition Secretary. Please ensure the entry fees are with the League by the closing dates otherwise these entries will not be accepted and the names will not go into the draw. Thank you.

Inter-District

The Inter-District season starts on Friday 5 May when our team will play Wakefield with the home leg being played at Lindley BC (1:30pm start). They will be hoping for a good start against the team that finished bottom of the eight-team competition last year whilst aiming to improve on our own third place finish. Support is always very welcome and you get to watch some of the best bowling in the area featuring the best bowlers in West Yorkshire Veteran's bowling.

The Huddersfield squads for the first match have been finalised from which our two eight-man teams will be selected. They are:

HOME TEAM: F. Greenwood (Golcar Lib)(captain), E. Haigh (Lockwood Con), A. Bamforth (), G. Brook (Netherton Con), M. Cox (Lockwood Con), B. Gibson (Meltham), G. Howe (Milnsbridge BC), J. Hoyle (Brockholes), P. Kain (Lockwood Con), R. Manning (Lockwood Con) and R. Sutton (Meltham).

AWAY TEAM: D. Crowther (Almondbury BC)(captain), D. Booth (Rastrick), A. Broughton (Almondbury Lib), M. Gilbert (Shepley), P.R.Green (Brockholes), F. Griffin (Waterloo), D. Hewitt (Cowcliffe), H. Hick (Almondbury BC), D. Pollard (Cowcliffe), R. Stopford (Rastrick) and D. Walls (Brockholes).

New Scoring System being Debated

The HDVBA Discussion Board has had a flurry of activity with three topics featuring prominently. The most contentious being the idea that we should adopt a new scoring system to replace our existing and long-established way of awarding points in our League competitions. This seems to have been prompted by some other neighbouring leagues changing their systems and most recently the Halifax League introduced an increasingly popular marking regime which some of our members have now had experience of and like. This involves awarding points to the losing bowlers based on how near they were to the 21 target with the winner getting 5 points and gradually reducing levels of points depending on how far the loser pushed the winning bowler.

There is also the suggestion that we should resurrect our Champions of Champions competition to involve all our Individual competition winners in a one day KO event. Would that be a walk-over for the Rose Bowl winner? Then finally the suggestion that we should have a rule change to enable a non-neutral green to be used in our KO competitions where two teams from the same club meet each other. Wouldn't it be better for them to use their own green rather than having to meet on a neutral green as there would be no advantage to anyone? You can witness the full exchange of the debates on our [Discussion Board](#) without registering to be a member but if you want to add your opinion to any discussion then you will need to register to join in.

May Diary

As the weather warms up (hopefully) we begin to see the start of the additional competitions that run alongside our full league programme. That means bowling two or three times a week for some but that is how we like it. The Pairs and Over-80's Knock-Out competitions begin their 2017 cycles this month and all of our team competitions make their first appearances of the season.

Tuesday 2nd	Sub-Team KO Round 1
Friday 5th	Inter-District v Wakefield @ Lindley BC
Tuesday 9th	Sub-Team KO Round 2
Thursday 11th	Bistro KO Round 1
Thursday 11th	Julie Fuller Trophy Preliminary Round
Saturday 13th	Closing date for entries for Over-70's, Over-80's and Pairs KO competitions
Thursday 18th	Team KO Round 1
Friday 19th	Inter-District v Halifax @ Lindley BC
Thursday 25th	Pairs KO (down to 16)
Friday 26th	Over-80's KO (down to 16)
Saturday 27th	Closing date for entries for the Rose Bowl & LD Trophy competitions

JUNE NEWSLETTER

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

SUNDAY 28th MAY

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

All Inter-District, Team and Individual & Pairs Knock-Out competitions have a 1:30pm start time.