

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This bowling season seems to have come and gone quicker than ever. A symptom probably of getting older which many of our members can identify with.

On that note we need to recruit new members and I was pleased to see that we have several volunteers who have agreed to take on this task next year. Membership has been declining for the past few years and we need to make recruitment a priority next season.

On a positive note we have had a good bowling season full details of which will be in The Captain's reports so I will not reiterate them here.

There are other positives to the season; we now have a defibrillator thanks to your generosity and again thanks to your generosity we have donated to The British Heart Foundation.

I would also mention that our website has been completely revamped thanks to a lot of hard work by our secretary, so please make use of it.

During the winter a great deal of work is due to be carried out. The steps and balustrading will be replaced, the clubhouse will be redecorated and work will be carried out on the green. The CCTV also needs to be replaced. The club is extremely grateful to those members, who will be involved with this work,

I would like to thank The Management Committee for their hard work throughout the season and I would also mention and thank those members who are not on any committee but regularly carry out essential work for the club. This work includes ensuring our boiler; electrics and fire safety are maintained, assisting the greenkeeper, cleaning windows, carrying out minor repairs, painting and grass cutting.

I have deliberately not mentioned anyone by name as I would be sure to miss someone but please be sure that I know everyone who contributes value to the club and I and the club are extremely grateful.

Winter well and make sure you keep yourself fit and healthy for next season.

Bob Taylor

SECRETARY'S REPORT

This will be very brief as I have been carrying out the usual tasks as previous secretaries. However I would like to thank Paul for his informative and helpful handover when I took over this post.

As a Club we are now moving into the 21st century and using technology to help us organise ourselves, with much more use of the Club email to keep us all informed.

Also this year the management committee has arranged for the website to be updated and it has a more modern look and is much easier to use. I have tried to keep it updated with interesting bits of news and I feel it is a good advertisement for our Club. I know that people from outside the Club have used the website to find out when the Club would be open and members available. There are directions for visiting clubs with a postcode for the long stay car park so they can avoid the town especially on Saturdays. This year I have uploaded the AGM information which can be printed direct from the website.

It has been a busy but enjoyable year. Winter well everyone.

Laura Taylor
Secretary

CATERING REPORT 2018

Once again it has been a busy season with regard to friendly and tourist games with a few last minute changes to keep us on our toes. However some of the club competitions, which in previous years have been all day events and therefore we provided lunch etc, this year due to lack of support have only involved half days, so our revenue will be down on last year.

However, finals weekend was particularly well supported this year and it was good to see so many spectators. Special thanks to Marion who spent the whole weekend in the kitchen to keep us all fed and watered; she did a wonderful job. It was very much appreciated.

The new cooker purchased last year has been a great success; we have also bought some new mugs for the kitchen and are looking to update some other things next season.

Thanks to everyone for their help over the season.

Gill and Marion

2018 Ladies Captain's Report.

After a sticky start to the season, we weathered it well and overall it has turned out better than expected. It was disappointing that we had to withdraw from the 2nd division of the D.W.B. League due to a lack of players for varying reasons. After a dodgy start Division 1 ladies did well to finish 3rd in the D.W.B League pipping Dorchester A in the last game of the season. Well done ladies.

The Edna Paisley league also suffered from lack of names this being partly to do with the rules. I am currently trying to get them revised so that we will have a wider choice of ladies to select from. Thanks to Jill Willcox for organising these games.

The ladies playing in the Friday 2 wood Triples League won the league very well done to them. Thanks to Janet Tattershall for organising the games.

Congratulations to Lyn Craddock, Laura Taylor and Pat Cornick on being the 2018 Bowls Dorset winners representing Dorset at Royal Leamington Spa. Congratulations also to Frances Hewett and Gill Hunt who were the D.W.B. League Drawn Pairs winners.

In the friendlies Paul and myself spent most Monday morning's either trying to get people to play or telling members that the game was off or down sized. Selection is a hard job at the best of times and with these extra hazards of shortage of names or the game being down sized did not make the job any easier. Hopefully next season more members will be putting their names down for selection.

We had a short end of season meeting for the ladies to try and get a feeling of what we could do to try and improve things for next season. I thought that the meeting was positive in its outlook, and although nothing could be set in stone the Committee's aim is to be able to restore a team for the 2nd division next season.

I would like to thank everyone who supported me during the season in particular the Ladies Committee members and all the Officers of the Club. Special thanks to Paul for all his help. Winter well everyone.

Margaret Clapp
Ladies Captain.

Captain's Report (Men)

The 2018 season has been marked with much success but also many challenges. We started the season with 43 members indicating that they wished to play league on a Monday and only 37 on Friday. We also had only enough players to satisfy 4 teams in the Percy Baker League, so our 5th team was withdrawn from the league prior to its start. Discussion took place within the men's committee as to whether we should withdraw our third team from the Friday league. With some arm twisting we managed to persuade some additional members to play, so the Friday 3rd team was retained.

Following a poor 2017 league season, the 2018 season has seen all our teams who were demoted at the end of last season, promoted this year.

In the Monday League our first team won Division 1 West and will play in the Premier League next season. Our second team won Division 2 West and are promoted to Division 1 West. Our third team will remain in Division 2 West and despite many team changes and on occasions having to field inexperienced players they gave of their best.

In the Friday League last years 'B' team which became this years 'A' team has continued to perform well. Following last years Division 1 league win they finished runners up this year. Bridport B (last years 'A' team) has bounced back by winning the Division 2 title this year with games to spare. Our 'C' team played in division 2. They made it through to the end of the season by the skin of their teeth due to lack of numbers.

None of our Percy Baker league teams made it through to the final knockout stages.

Well done to all our teams who have performed so well this season. The challenge next year will be to keep all our teams in the leagues they now find themselves in.

The Men's Committee met weekly throughout the season to select all our league teams. The members shared the responsibilities of captaincy for the various teams. The committee co-opted Mike Stephenson in to its ranks to captain one of the third teams. Following long term injury and illness to several players during the season it has been very difficult to find enough bowlers to fill all our teams. This resulted in us spending much time on the phone trying to find players to fill the gaps. The stress it put on the committee is not fair on its members and cannot be allowed to continue next year. We may not have members willing to stand for posts if the job remains as difficult as it has been this year. Following a post season men's meeting it was agreed by a vote to continue in 2019 with 3 teams on a Monday, 4 Percy Baker Teams, and 2 teams on a Friday. In the future should we have an increase in membership we may be able to reinstate our Friday third team.

It has also been difficult at times to fulfil our friendly fixtures especially those which are played away. The management committee, along with the match secretary, will address this issue during the winter months.

The Captain's Charity Day was a brilliant success and to be able to buy our defibrillator in one hit was superb. Thanks to all who donated so generously.

My thanks goes to the Ladies Captain, Margaret, for her help and support this season.

Finally, and most importantly, my sincere thanks goes to the rest of the Men's Committee who have been a fantastic support to me. They have worked tirelessly for the benefit of the club. All their hard work must not be underestimated.

Here's to an equally successful 2019 season.

Paul Tibble (Captain)

Ladies Competition Secretary Report 2018

The 2018 ladies competitions ran smoothly with everyone completing their rounds on time. Numbers of entries were disappointingly low this year, with only five entrants for the Championship Singles & four in the Handicap & Two Wood singles. These small numbers result in minimal entry fees which do not cover the cost of engraving the winners & runners up trophies. This clearly cannot continue and unless more ladies enter the competitions next season, the singles competitions will not take place. Entering Club Competitions gives members of all abilities and experience an ideal opportunity to practise and improve their playing skills in a competitive environment and I urge all ladies to consider entering as many competitions as possible next season to ensure their continued success. You will find the competitions listed on the Ladies Membership Form which is issued to members before the start of the 2019 season.

The Ladies Drawn Triples Day had a loyal band of twelve ladies who took part (the lowest number of entries to date) and I thank all of them for their support. We shared an enjoyable lunch together afterwards and the two winning teams played each other on Finals Weekend.

The mixed one day competitions were successfully completed and we hope to see more members taking part next season - all members are welcome to enter - irrespective of ability, age or experience!

May I thank everyone who contributed to the success of the Finals Weekend, particularly Brian & his greenkeeping team, the umpires Bob and Laura, Marion & Gill for providing the lunches and refreshments and those members who acted as markers. Congratulations to all the finalists who provided us with some very competitive games.

A. Tibble Comps. Sec

MENS COMPETITION REPORT 2018

The record breaking weather we had in 2018 brought some challenging super fast rinks but as usual Bridport bowlers coped very well.

The final's weekend was played in fine conditions and there was some excellent bowling. Congratulations to the winners to all the finalists and a big thank you to all who helped during the weekend.

The one concern Alison and I have is the drop in numbers for our single day competitions i.e. single sets and veterans etc, a few more entrees would be very welcome.

Again, thank you to all who helped out during the season and I wish you all good luck next year. JOHN CARTER

Fixture Secretaries Report 2018

The problems our Captains have faced this year have also affected many other clubs which resulted in clubs contacting me to request reductions in rink numbers as well as cancellations brought on by lack of members support, illness, a reduction in membership, and bad weather.

Discussions with our committee and other friendly match secretaries have resulted in an agreement to reduce the number of rinks for friendly matches to four or four rink triples.

Collectively we have cancelled nine matches this year, four by us (Severalls, Charmouth, Totnes, and Crewkerne), three due to bad weather, (Honiton, Melcombe Regis, and South Petherton), two from other clubs, (Chard and Tiverton), The number of friendly matches agreed for 2019 look similar to 2018 with the exception of Totnes (due to lack of support), and Axminster (due to their poor green)

Finally, some good news, to date we have received requests for four Tours for 2019 (Carshalton BC, Clarence BC Weston S Mare, Avon & Somerset Police, Swansea & Bristol), there is also one for 2020 (Sussex county bowls), and Two County matches agreed for 2019 (Dorset v Devon and Devon Ladies v I O Wight)
Bridport Match Secretary

Geoff Strange

GREEN KEEPER'S REPORT 2018

The summer of 2018 has been one of the most challenging for greenkeepers; the long hot days throughout the summer has meant hours of watering first thing in the morning and again late evening; they were long tiring days. However we survived thanks to my loyal helpers Dave Roberts, Peter Scott and Paul and Keith, not forgetting Mike Craddock the long grass merchant, window cleaner Harry Gray and Bob Taylor the flower man! During the closed season we will be scarifying, hollow tining, top dressing and reseeding and cutting will continue, weather permitting.

The club has many projects this winter so we will be calling on volunteers for help!!!

The management teams continue to keep Bridport Bowls Club one of the best in Dorset, lets pull together and keep it that way.

Also my very great thanks to all who drove me to Poole Hospital for my treatment this summer, it was very much appreciated.

Winter well and look forward to next season.

Brian Rumble Your Green keeper

Social Report

Unfortunately, the social side has been both quiet and disappointing this year.

We started off by holding the annual Spring Fair in Match prior to the season commencing, which was well attended and raised £298.

This followed a Quiz – Italian Evening scheduled for February which had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers.

In June to celebrate the Royal Wedding we had hoped to host a full ‘High Tea’ with prosecco along with fun bowls for the amazing price of £8, again this too had to be cancelled due to a disappointing response.

Deciding to revert back to the tried and tested formula we recently scheduled another quiz along with a fish/chicken supper for the beginning of September which we’re happy to say pulled in 47 for what proved to be a successful and fun evening which everyone present seemed to enjoy and in the process raised £76 from ticket sales only.

We are not unperturbed by the social side falling short on previous year’s takings as we feel we have a few ideas for the months leading up to next season, commencing with the traditional Autumn Fayre which is taking place in October and a Music Quiz being lined up for December. We are also hoping to resurrect the ever popular and fun Race Night Evening. For a new idea we’re formulating a Games Night, which we hope will capture the imagination and support of our members.

Both Margaret and I would like to thank our fellow Social Committee members Bob and Jean Seadon, along with Philip Wilson for their continual support and assistance.

Liz Kennedy
Asst. to Social Secretary

FROM: Bob Willcox, Bar manager
To: Laura Taylor, Club Secretary

End of year Bar Report – 2018

Please find below the report regarding sales and purchases for the club bar. For comparison purposes I have put the similar figures for the 2017 season:

	2018	2017
Banked	9321.04	10043.10
Purchases	5393.84	5777.17
Gross profit	3927.20	4265.83
Stock difference	-146.77	+92.24
Bar Float difference	+36.29	+21.44
NETT PROFIT	<u>£3816.72</u>	<u>£4379.51</u>

As can be seen the profit for this year is approx. £563 less than for the same period in 2017.

The takings broken down on a monthly basis are:

	2018	2017
Oct – Mar	431.49	755
April	445	663.6
May	2108.05	1854
June	1218	1600
July	1825	1990
Aug	1775	1850
Sept	1518.5	1330.5
TOTAL	<u>£9321.04</u>	<u>£10043.10</u>

As percentages the above figures are:

	2018	2017
Turnover	41%	44%
Mark up	71%	76%