



# THE BLOCK

AT THE CENTRE OF SHORT MAT BOWLING IN DEVON

May/June 2012

Number 44

The AGM was held on 21<sup>st</sup> April and all matters were dealt with satisfactorily. Details of the new Committee are listed below. The competitions next year will have a new format and Secretaries will have all the details in due course. We will no longer have a Finals Day as all competitions will be played to a conclusion on the day. We are therefore considering the possibility of moving the Annual General Meeting around the various areas so it could be coming to a Village Hall near you! More information will be sent later in the year. If you enjoyed the competitions this year and look forward to entering again next year can we ask that you help with the setting out and putting away of mats and equipment. There is no merry band of "elves" to do this and many hands make light work. A lot of you do this already and it makes such a difference to the day. Richard Ivings (our County Competitions Secretary) works very hard to organize the day and make it run smoothly so any assistance you give is much appreciated.

## Devon County Committee 2012/13

Chairman – Andy Crane 01752 893056 [andrew.crane857@btinternet.com](mailto:andrew.crane857@btinternet.com)

Vice Chairman – Vacant

Secretary – Irene Smith 01392 871176 [jandismith@tinyonline.co.uk](mailto:jandismith@tinyonline.co.uk)

Treasurer – Robert Bartlett 01404 861434

Competitions Secretary – Richard Ivings 01392 210268 [ivings\\_r@hotmail.com](mailto:ivings_r@hotmail.com)

County Team Co-ordinator – James Smith 01392 671157 [smiffy\\_101@hotmail.com](mailto:smiffy_101@hotmail.com)

A ' Team Manager – Robert Ivings 01392 210268 [robert@m-ivings.freemove.co.uk](mailto:robert@m-ivings.freemove.co.uk)

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Committee Member – Rose Morrison 01364 644614 [tcsc-rose@hotmail.com](mailto:tcsc-rose@hotmail.com)

## News from the Clubs

Merton Short Mat Bowling Club played off their Lord Clinton Cup semi-finals and final on April 12<sup>th</sup> 2012. The final was a good game with Doreen Tolley and Roger White beating Julie Stacey and Brian Toop 10-8. Lord and Lady Clinton presented the trophies for all the club competitions, also our donation of £132.20 was accepted by Nigel Weeks on behalf of The Clinton School. This was made up of the proceeds from the Graham Heaman triples held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March and the entry fees of The Clinton Cup competition. Lady Clinton then picked the winning ticket for the Club Draw which has been running throughout the season, the winner was Roger Tinson. Our regular Thursday get-togethers have now finished until September although we will be playing in a Summer League. Our next event will be the Summer Triples on 30<sup>th</sup> June, spectators are always made welcome.

Four players from Merton Short Mat Bowling Club scored not one but TWO eight wood hot-shots in one eighteen end game in the North Devon and North Cornwall Evening League against Woolsery Wasps on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The final score was 48 to Merton and 4 to Woolsery. The four players were Doreen Tolley, Jeanie Sheppard, Audrey Bignell and Skip, Graham Heaman.

Stop Press:- Another eight wood hot-shot was achieved at Morwenstow on 20<sup>th</sup> March, the players were Doreen Tolley, David Kirton, Audrey Bignell and Graham Heaman.

Julie Stacey, Merton SMBC

### Exeter Nomads Ladies Pairs Tournament

This ever popular competition attracted its usual maximum number of twenty-four entries which were drawn into six groups of four teams in each.

The 'round-robin' part of the competition produced the usual mix of pleasure and bafflement with comments such as "I never expected to win that...." or "I can't find this mat....."but through it all came good humour and sportsmanlike (or should that be sportswomanlike) behaviour.

Lunch of homemade soup, French bread, cheese and biscuits and fruit was later followed by the knock-out stage of the tournament with the six group winners and two highest runners-up going through to the last eight.

Some excellent bowling finally brought us to the final between Jan Ovenden from Winkleigh playing with Paula a guest player substituting for another Winkleigh player who was unfortunately ill on the day and Caroline Pavey and Sue Cockerham who played as Sidbow (the players being from Sidbury and Bow).

After seven ends the score was 6-5 to the Winkleigh pair but a determined two shots and two singles saw Caroline and Sue edge ahead to win a great final 9-6.

Another thoroughly enjoyable day and our thanks to all the ladies for making it so.

Exeter Nomads Short Mat Bowls Club Charity Triples Tournament in aid of Children's Hospice South West

The spirit of this annual tournament is to always ensure that our chosen charity are the real winners of the day and this year our competitors truly upheld this tradition.

The twelve teams played off the usual round robin in three groups of four and at lunchtime we had a fun interlude with two mats put together and three blocks in the middle. Two bowls for £1.00 and the nearest to the jack scooping half the pool and the other half going into the Charity fund. Throughout the day penalties for hitting the block or going off the side during the round robin also helped to swell the pot.

Lunch was home-made cottage pie with fresh vegetables and a dessert (Nomads like their food!) and then after completion of the round robin we held our usual "Auction of Days Out" to local attractions and theatres. These generous ticket donations and prizes by our sponsors put another £100 in the kitty.

The competition continued with the semi-final where the two losing teams were from Wonford and Woodbury and the final was played between teams from Ottery St. Mary and Shebbear. Brab Hallowes and Bev and Evan Williams from Ottery St. Mary were the winning team.

Mr. Terry Rocke, a volunteer from the Children's Hospice came to watch the final and kindly presented the trophies to the Winners and Runners-up. His short talk on the work of the Hospice was inspiring and showed how worthwhile our small contribution is to their work. We were delighted to have raised £425 due to the generosity of all who took part. Thank you from Exeter Nomads.

John Smith Exeter Nomads

Short Mat International Magazine

Some of you will have been on short mat holidays and already know Bob Weafer, who has now moved to Devon and joined Winkleigh SMBC. But for those of you that do not know Bob, he publishes the above magazine and would be very pleased to receive any reports or photographs from tournaments that your Club hold - his contact details are as follows:-

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Why not send in a report on your Club or your League and if you are holding a tournament tell us all about it.

Please send items for inclusion in the next issue to Irene Smith 40 Winslade Park Avenue, Clyst St. Mary, Exeter EX5 1DA. Tel:- 01392 874416 e-mail: [jandismith@tinyonline.co.uk](mailto:jandismith@tinyonline.co.uk).