



THE BLOCK

AT THE CENTRE OF SHORT MAT BOWLING IN DEVON

September 2012

Number 45

A new season starts in September, much earlier than other years, but we have to abide by certain dates set by ESMBA so the first Inter County match is on 15th September closely followed by County/National Triples the following day. As you will know by now we have moved the matches back to the Isca Bowling Centre in Exeter. At the time of the AGM we had no intention of moving from the Plymouth venue but unfortunately we were told we could not use Saturdays and this was so limiting that we had to find another venue very quickly. The County Committee spent many anxious days trying to find another venue, possibly a little more central for all, but to no avail so we finally decided to return to the Isca Centre. I know some of you will be very pleased but it does mean that the south and west of the County have to travel once again. The draw for the competitions is on the web-site and this will be updated with results as the season progresses. Please check that registration with your Club has been completed. We trust you will all have an enjoyable season whether it is in playing County Competitions, a League, or for some people just a friendly roll-up. If your Club is having a tournament then let us know and we will put a report on the web-site with photographs if you have them.

County Committee

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Chairman decided to stand down during the summer, Rose Morrison will be Acting Chair for the rest of the season. Please contact any member of the County Committee if you need information during the season, their contact details can be found in the last edition of The Block or on the web-site.

Inter County Competitions

These will begin on 15th September with the first match at home against Somerset. Devon has two teams, a Premier Team and an 'A' team both having 20 players in each. The format consists of two Singles players, two sets of Pairs, two Triples and two Fours who play their opposition twice. Two points are awarded to the winning side for each game and there is a bonus point for each combined discipline having the most shots. Last year the 'A' Team won the National Trophy so will be looking to keep up their performance. Further games are played during the winter season against Cornwall and Dorset and the winners and runners-up of the group travel to the Midlands to play other Counties. These games are exciting to watch so why not come along to the home games and give your support. Details and results can be found on the web-site.

News from the Clubs

The Merton Short Mat Bowling Club Summer Triples Tournament took place on Saturday 30th June 2012. As in the previous two years, we decided to run the tournament on the same lines, requesting sponsorship from local businesses. Those who supported us were:- WCM Plant, K. Sheppard Plastering, Hancock's Garage Ltd., Malt Scoop Inn, Barometer World Ltd., The Bell Inn, R & S Ware, DP Paintwork, BT Autos (Winkleigh), Peter Bright Thatching, Pound-Wise Bookkeeping Service. As a club, we have had an expensive season, having purchased two new mats at a cost of just under £1900, so the sponsorship received has helped considerably. Thank you all for your support, also thanks to all who donated raffle prizes. The first prize went to Anstey SMBC who won every game, and the runners-up were Woolsery SMBC who won three games and lost one.

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY: Our next tournament will be held on 1st December 2012.

Julie Stacey, Merton SMBC

Exeter Nomads SMBC held their Annual Mixed Fours tournament on 29th July. As usual the places were filled very quickly and we had twelve teams participating. The round robin session was played in the morning and early afternoon. Lunch was served in two sittings and when all the games had been completed the play-off for the final places began. The final was played between a team from Moretonhampstead and a team made up from players from Shebbear and Colyton. It was a good final with the team from Moretonhampstead taking the trophy. Thank you to everyone who supported the day and we look forward to seeing you at our competitions next year.

Devon web-site and technology (devonshortmat.co.uk)

When I took on the role as County Secretary in 2007 I could only reach about 12 Clubs by e-mail, I can now reach an astonishing 91!! This of course saves an enormous amount of time and money on envelopes, paper and postage. Yes a few things go astray and we all have senior moments but by and large it works. As for the web-site, this has been on-going for the last two/three years and is growing all the time. I know not everyone has access to the internet and we try and send things out by post for those that are not connected but most Clubs have someone who has access and could pass on the information. Not only does the web-site tell you what is going on in Devon but also there are links to other County sites and the ESMBA, also some links which are just useful information sites. Richard Ivings, our Competitions Secretary, does an excellent job in updating it, sometimes every day, so keep looking to find out more.

Irene Smith, county Secretary

FOR SALE:- 1 Wyegreen Med/Fast Short Mat Carpet £95 and 1 cover/carrying case for carpet £35. If sold together £110.

Contact:- June Hewer (Bridestow & Sourton Short Mat Bowls Club).

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