



THE BLOCK

AT THE CENTRE OF SHORT MAT BOWLING IN DEVON

September 2011

Number 41

The Winter Season is upon us again - but where did the Summer we all looked forward to go? I hope you are all ready for the Winter League games and for those of you that enter County Competitions will enjoy playing at our new venue in Plymouth. The first event there is the County Pairs preliminary rounds on 1st October. Club Secretaries will have the Diary of Events and should, by now, have received the draw for the County Competitions which was made at the August County Committee Meeting. Thank you to the Club Secretaries that have returned the registration forms, I think as a County we are very lucky in keeping the number of members fairly stable. We do not have as many under-18's as in the past so please encourage any that do play as they are the future for our game. Registration expired on 31st August so check with your Secretary that this has been done. Remember this is a requirement if you are playing League matches or County Competitions.

Irene Smith

www.devonshortmat.co.uk

Our web-site has been up and running for a year now and is being looked at regularly by lots of people so if you have not visited the site yet do try. Richard Ivings updates it regularly so there is always new information to read and links to other sites. All the League results will be there (providing you remember to send them in!!), as well as information on all the County and Inter-County competitions. There are also links to various other sites which may be of interest. We can put photographs of your tournament winners if you wish so contact Richard for further information. Tel: 01392 230268 or you can e-mail him ivings_r@hotmail.com

Inter County Competitions

The first game this year is an away game against Cornwall on 25th September 2011. The first home game is against Dorset on 22nd October 2011 at the Racquets Centre in Plymouth - support is always welcome.

News from the Clubs

Does your Club have a new Secretary? If so please make sure that the County Secretary has been informed so that all the information gets to the right person. We have had several instances where the information has been sent out but not passed on as the Secretary has changed.

We would like to welcome the following Clubs:-

Plymstock St. Marys -contact is Roger Bunce 01752 348647 rogerbunce@hotmail.com

Down Thomas Plymouth - contact Vicky Hingston 01752 316255

vickyhingston@hotmail.com

Buckland - contact Shirley Smale 01822 855349

The Merton Short Mat Bowling Club Summer Triples Tournament took place on Saturday 25th June 2011.

Following the success of last year's tournament, we decided to run this year on the same lines, requesting sponsorship from local businesses. Those who supported us were:- K. Sheppard Plastering, Merton; Pound-wise Bookkeeping Service, Merton; Barometer World, Merton; Peter Bright, Thatcher, Petrockstowe; WCM Plant, Merton; Hancock's Garage, Hatherleigh; Tolley & Ward Builders, Northlew; Taw and Torridge Coaches, Merton; CropMech, Huish; A & A Davis, Huish; The Bell Inn, Monkleigh; Derek Bolt, Merton,; Mick Cannon, Plumber.

Due to the outstanding generosity of the sponsors, we will be donating £65 to the Merton Bell Fund.

Thank you all for your support, also, thanks to all those who donated raffle prizes.

Results:- 1st prize went to Four Seasons who won every game, the Runners-up were Westward Ho! who won three games and drew one.

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY: OUR NEXT TOURNAMENT WILL BE HELD ON 3RD DECEMBER 2011.

Julie Stacey, Merton SMBC

The Beryl Westcott Triples was held at Broadclyst SMBC on 6th August in aid of Village Hall funds. Clubs were invited to send three players who would join with a Broadclyst player to make a team of four. The tournament was won by Lis Appleton, Rob Gayton and David Eastwood from Exeter Nomads who played with Vic Daniels from Broadclyst. They won with 8 points and 31 shots.

Are you holding a tournament at your Club this season? If so send in a report and it will be printed in the next issue. All contributions about your Club are most welcome.

Markers Course

This has now been discontinued. The reason being that we were not getting enough people interested to make it cost-effective and only one or two people that had taken the course and passed, were willing to help at County Competitions. It had been hoped that we would have enough volunteers to do this at various events to ease the load on the players, particularly in singles competitions but unfortunately this was not the case so reluctantly it was decided to stop running any courses. The County Committee extend their thanks to everyone who has taken part.

County Points List

From this season the County Committee have decided to remove the County Points system that has been used in previous seasons as it was deemed it did not give the County Managers enough flexibility when picking the County Teams. Therefore from this season players will not be awarded county points for reaching certain stages of the County Competitions. From the 2012/13 season there will be a selection committee comprising the two County Managers and the Area Representatives and together they will decide the two County Teams.

Change of contact details:- Please note that Eric Pavey (Area representative for the East Area) has a new address as follows:-Oakdene, 1 Ridgeway, Ottery St. Mary EX11 1DT
Tel:-01404 811566 e-mail eric.pavey@hotmail.com . This is also the contact details for the Secretary at Sidbury SMBC (Caroline Thompson).

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.