



THE BLOCK

AT THE CENTRE OF SHORT MAT BOWLING IN DEVON

December 2011

Number 42



The first rounds of the County competitions and ICC matches have been played at our new home at The Devonshire in Plymouth and the feedback we have received has been very positive. The venue is spacious and the food is excellent. In fact one of the visiting Inter-County teams was heard to say "forget the bowls let's just come for the food". A lot of heart-searching went into the change but it would appear to be worthwhile. The website is proving to be very popular so if you have not checked out all the news the address is (www.devonshortmat.co.uk). A big thank you must go to our County Competitions Secretary, Richard Ivings, who does a great job in up-dating it as soon as he receives any new items.

It was very sad to hear of the death of three Devon Bowlers. Derek Jewers former County Treasurer, from Ivybridge SMBC, Allen Miles, former County Team member from Beaford SMBC and Margaret Holwill from Hartland SMBC. All of them were committed players and gave a lot of time to our sport over the years. They will be sadly missed by their families and those that knew them.

Inter County Competition

Both teams have made a good start this year. The Premier team have won four out of five games only losing to Somerset away by 2 points but with impressive wins over Dorset at home 31-9 and Cornwall at home 33-7. The 'A' team have won all their games including a home win 30-10 against Cornwall. Both teams top their group with just one more match to play at home against Somerset. The Plymouth venue has given both teams a good home advantage and they should progress without too much difficulty to the knock-out stages after Christmas.

We would like to welcome Sparkwell SMBC who are now affiliated to Devon County Short Mat Bowling Association. The contact is Mrs Pamela James 01822 612250.

Please note:- Buckland have now changed their name to Yelverton SMBC.

Congratulations

Well done to Michael Ivings (Exeter Nomads SMBC), James Trott (Musbury SMBC) and Lee Toleman (Wonford SMBC) in being part of the team selected to play in the British Isles Team in Scotland. They travelled to Dumfries on 18th November and took part in a rink of four together with Bronagh Malone from North Yorkshire. The England team were the winners of the event in a nail-biting finish against Ireland. This is the first time England have won since 1992.

County competitions

All the preliminary rounds of the Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours have now been completed and the names of the qualifiers have been posted on the web-site or sent to the Secretary of the relevant Club. The next rounds will be held after Christmas. All the competitions were played in an excellent spirit and all went well. Unfortunately due to people pulling out at the last minute on the fours day it meant that some teams had long gaps between their games. We apologise for this, it is not an ideal situation but unavoidable. If you have not entered any county Competitions before why not give it a try next year. There is a lot to learn from the games and it always throws up a few surprises.

For Sale

Henselite Sapphire Bowls Size 3 med/heavy £60 o.n.o.

Contact Lucy Brown 01827 680131 Winkleigh SMBC.

2 Felt underlays to slow down and take out some uneven floor problems £20 each

Contact Bill Neal 01237422869 [email:- william.neal08@btinternet.com](mailto:william.neal08@btinternet.com) Westward Ho! SMBC.

Wanted

Double Upright Rolling Machine - Contact Cicely McCabe 015487 856388 West Alvington SMBC.

Second-hand fast mat - contact Margaret Renouf 01647 440944 e-mail:- southbarn2002@btopenworld.com Moretonhampstead SMBC.

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.