

March 08

Issue 30

PALM READER

The Palmerston Indoor Bowling Club Magazine

Charity Supper results in £800 donation

A successful start to 2008 with January Race Night proceeds in excess of £200. The charity supper in February resulted in a £800 donation going to the Rainbow Centre. Both events involved a lot of hard work for the organisers and their teams. Well done Roy and Malcolm and their helpers.

Easter Coffee Morning- Saturday March 22nd – (less than 3 weeks time)



We are grateful to the 10/12 volunteers who have offered to help our teams on the day. Rene will be contacting you with details shortly- please report at 9.00am on 22nd if possible. Now we need the rest of you to come along with your contributions (home made cakes, preserves, games, jigsaws etc)- boxes are already in the Committee Room waiting for your 'bottles' for Harry's stall!!! Entrance fee is only 50p for coffee, biscuits, hot+ bun. Remember 'the early bird catches the worm' and Bruce's fuchsias are soon snatched up!! See you Easter Saturday 9.30am!

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New Members

If you have any queries or problems after joining the club, please contact any committee member (photos on entrance foyer notice board).....they will be only too pleased to help. Don't forget you can always raise any questions / worries through this magazine where letters or emails (b.hayles@ntlworld.com) are always welcome

Markers Course

Dependant upon the interest and demand it is proposed to hold a **MARKERS COURSE** at this club. The object being to improve the standard of marking and give those members who take part and pass the final assessment the competence and confidence to mark at any local level.

The course will be organised and managed by umpires, qualified lady markers and coaches.

The course will be based on a syllabus provided by the EBUA and will be very similar to the 'Old Club Umpires' course for men, and the nationally accepted course for ladies which gives ladies a national qualification. Members who successfully complete the proposed course will not have a qualification recognised outside this club, but will give all a very good grounding and ladies a sound base if they wish to progress to their national qualification.

An internal certificate signed by an international umpire and coach can be prepared if those taking part so wish.

Those taking part will need to purchase the book :- 'The Laws of the Sport of Bowls' cost £1-50p and be prepared to do quite a lot of home work, particularly in relation to the 'Laws of the Sport'.

The course will provide detailed guidance on the law and a thorough practical grounding in measuring etc..

Until the demand for this type of training can be judged dates etc. cannot be arranged. The initial course will be limited to **ten members** on a first come first served basis. Watch for the list going up on the board.

Cancellation Fee

The friendly against Horsham on the 16th February that was cancelled has incurred a cancellation fee of £93. Please try and support these matches as much as possible. Details of matches are always on the notice board

Joint Management Committee

Can members parking in the disabled bays be sure to display the appropriate badge

Thank you



Theft is not a nice word.

However 25 sommeliers knives (bar wine bottle openers) have been removed from behind the bar. These cost the club money and I would appreciate their return.

Peter Carter

D.O.B.S

Charity Drive

The mixed drive on Saturday 26th January that replaced the cancelled Whitchurch match raised £40 for charity.....Thank you all

A Coach's Eye View (Graham Clapham Senior Coach)



To Centre the Jack

It is the role of the Lead Player on the Rink to achieve this important task as quickly, quietly and efficiently as possible.

In "Laws of the Sport of Bowls" Crystal Mark Edition

Section 8

"Play, players and their duties"

Rule 37.4 "The Lead" (states)

The Lead of the Team to play first in an End should;

Place the Mat as described in Law 19.1.1 and

Deliver the Jack and make sure that it is centred before delivering the first bowl of the end.

Clear and Precise, as Rules should be

But for those that are new to the sport and others that might have not got round to viewing the 'Laws' as yet, I might like to expand for a 'Palm Reader' article, to try to address the 'Hand Signals' involved in the Task.

After placing the Mat, the 'Lead Player' should deliver the 'Jack' a minimum of 23 metres from the Front Edge of the Mat.

This achieves a Legal Jack for this End.

In most cases it will need to be 'Centred', by a player at that end of the Rink, having received instruction (Hand Signals) from the Lead, who should be standing within the confines of the Mat.

The Instructions should begin quickly with an approximation of how large the distance is from the 'Centre Line' of the Rink, to where the Jack has come to rest. We are fortunate at Palmerston to have 'Centre Line Dots' down most of the Rink. (Thanks to Rink Management) This is not always the 'norm' and never if you bowl outside, therefore 'Hand Signals' should be quick and as accurate as you can make them. (Diagrams later in the Article)

[If due to a wide or wild Jack delivery, the distance to the Centre is great, a quick call of "Long way" or "Metre plus" might initially achieve a faster response in movement]

Focusing on the Rink No's at the far end, which need to remain visible at all times, the 'Lead Player' will see whether the Jack needs more movement, L to R or R to L.

If so, arm movements should commence across your upper Torso, with hands slightly forward, index fingers pointing.

The adjustment to the Centre that is still needed should be the distance between the 'Index Fingers'.

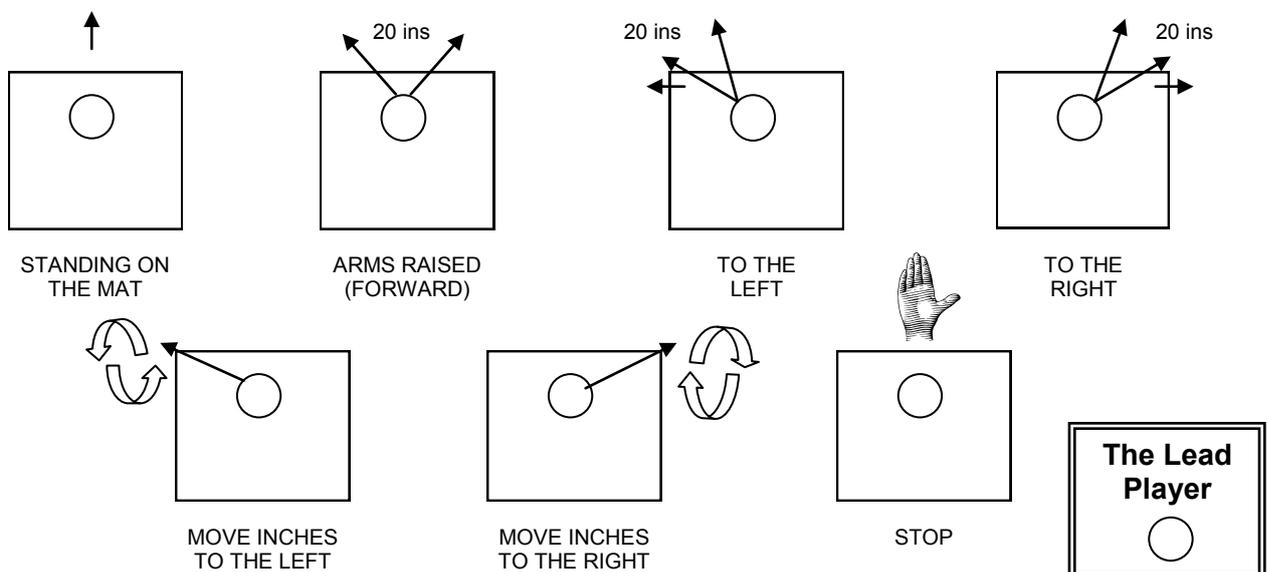
I believe it is comfortable to try to have an 'Index Finger' spread of no more than 20 inches or 50 centimetres maximum, otherwise you might over balance or strain.

R to L or L to R, these indications will clearly be seen and the player moving the Jack will comply.

Final adjustment must now be minimal and therefore a 'Single' hand movement can suffice.

Lots of words to try to describe, but it does cut down on noise levels. 'Silence is Golden'

Ideally, all this should take seconds to complete, with a minimum of back breaking manoeuvres.



This Seasons Bowls for the Ladies.

I have been the Ladies Captain for 3 years and I feel now it's time to give up so please someone take the job over as we do need our ladies teams.

The games are very enjoyable and you meet some very nice ladies as well as playing bowls. I am not giving up completely as I am going to take over as Competition Secretary so I shall be around.

To date this season we have done quite well.

0.60s Mason Trophy Red won the first round and lost in the second. 0.60s Mason Trophy Blue won the first round and lost in the second.

We did not do so well in the Yetton Trophy, the Vivienne Trophy or the Yetton Plate losing in the first round of each of these games.

The teams did very well in the Egham Trophy where we won the first two rounds and lost in the third which was the round before the Zone Final, so very well done to all the people involved.

Last but not least is the Riversmeet and up to date we are top of the league, so let's hope we can keep up the good work . Three more matches to play.

KEEP GOING..... WELL DONE ALL CONCERNED.

Janet Livingston

Ladies Captain

From the Chief Steward

I wish to thank all Stewards for carrying out their duties especially with the extra task of collecting the visitors one pounds for temporary membership. We the stewards' main job is collecting Green Fees and putting the cash etc down the shoot, an income to the club. Another responsibility is to clear the club of all personnel in case of Fire and to check the visitors names from the visitors book which should be up to date at the reception desk. Hosts must make sure all their visitors names are entered in same.

Please Ladies and Gentlemen we could badly do with more Stewards to carry out duties. When you perform the duties you receive vouchers and they are to pay for your games of bowls. So please come and join us.

Yours Truly

Chief Steward.

Charles Livingston



Guess the Venue??

AGM

Saturday 12th April 10 am

Please make a note in your diary and try to attend as this will be very important to us all

The Betty Metherell Rose Bowl Competition

The competition was very enjoyable and was won by **Janice Tolputt**, many congratulations to her. It was a shame that the competition only attracted four rinks of triples.

(Continued from page 1)

Spring Cabaret Dinner – Saturday March 29th

Watch Notice Board for details. Richard will be publishing the menu shortly. The entertainment is already booked – Phil Owen, popular musician and vocalist. He performed at the recent Charity Supper and was well received. Poster and booking list under preparation.

We are introducing new procedure for purchase of tickets. Members will be asked to complete envelope with details of number of tickets required, names of all guests and payment due. Place payment in envelope, seal and pass to bar steward who will issue tickets as requested. Tickets must be claimed at least 7 days before the event. Any remaining tickets can then be sold to any members on 'reserves' list. Social Committee will have greater control of the number of tickets sold as well as who bought them. We ask for your co-operation.



Proposed Summer Programme

Saturday May 3rd – Cabaret Dinner (Theme to be decided – any ideas?)

Brookfield School Band – Negotiations in hand with Musical Director. Optional dates have been offered in June & July. We await their availability. As most of you are aware the School are always anxious for the young performers to be safely home by 10.00pm. We are considering the possibility of starting our dinner early. After we have enjoyed the talented children the evening could continue with some fun quizzes or background music to complete the social evening. Let us know what you think.

When we have a definite date from the School we can arrange a Race Night possibly on June 14th.



Thought is being given to other activities that could be organised during the summer months (we are still waiting for some ideas from you). What about – Cheese & Wine (maybe with help from local vineyard), Curry Evening, Quizzes, Bingo, Games (Darts, Skittles, Jengo etc), Whist, Chess, Rummikub, Beetle Drive. We need to know which of these you would support. An interesting and amusing 'after dinner speaker' is under consideration. If we list them on the Notice Board you could indicate your support and maybe the help of your knowledge to organise them??



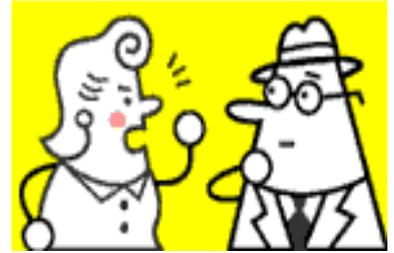
Function Room Hire – The Restaurant is available for hire by members for all special occasions – wedding, anniversary, birthday, reunions, retirement, all family celebrations. Charges have recently been reviewed and are now inclusive of room hire, bar services, PRS fee and security services (previously charged individually). The maximum charge is £100+VAT (£117.50). Richard's menus and services are legendary! Application forms are available from the Desk Steward. Book early to reserve your chosen date.

Don't forget the COFFEE MORNING – EASTER SATURDAY 9.30am – 50p!

Rene Bowshell

Social Secretary

Have your say



I have been asked by one of our members if there could be a small section in the magazine to remember bowling friends who have recently passed away. If anyone would like to take the responsibility of producing this regularly, I would be only too pleased to put it in the magazine. Please contact me if you are interested. Ed

Bowls Needs a More Colourful Image

I have been encouraged to write this article as I discovered in the winter edition of Bowls International Club Edition that I am not alone in my views on the PIBC dress code. Chris Burton of Scarborough IBC wrote the following letter which eloquently expresses my viewpoint.

The game I feel is suffering not so much from an image of being a 'cheap sport,' but more for being dull and rather boring.

Is our game competing in the modern age? Has its presentation and image changed since the middle of the last Century? Our national, international and TV images has. Bright coloured modern clothing, coloured woods, even a blue portable rink. The game has changed with the introduction of sets, tie-breaks, re-spotted jacks etc.

But go into the indoor stadiums and what do you see? Players in grey and white, the occasional club shirt and little atmosphere. It is like watching the sport on black and white TV with the sound turned off. And I guess it is the same outdoors, where they play in whites.

The traditional grey or white trousers/skirts, together with club shirt is fine for inter-club matches, but at club level the game needs more colour, a relaxation of the traditional club dress code of grey and white for internal matches and something more than a diet of triples games.

My county senior team still play in formal white short-sleeved shirts and county tie. We only need the bowler hat and we are back in Victorian days.

Now before the powers that be throw up their hands in horror, I'm not throwing open the door to jeans, tracksuits etc, but we could follow golf club dress codes of smart casual trousers and polo shirts.

We might then see a bit more colour in our clubs. Chris Burton, Scarborough IBC

This is supported by Bowls England Chief Executive (and former World Bowls Champion) with the following quotes

"Clubs must ensure a more relaxed approach to dress code to encourage new recruits, and to reserve formal dress for those occasions which require it. Dress code is a major obstacle in advertising our sport as one of the most enjoyable and popular participant sports in this country"

He also says "Bowls has a golden opportunity as a 'Sport for All' to capture those participants who may be looking for a less physically demanding sport in which to participate. We are a sport which has no barrier with regard to age and physique and therefore must be of unique attraction."

I believe that our future depends on a drive for new members, not only from our friends and colleagues, but also from those sportsmen forced to retire from more active sports like football, rugby, squash, badminton, tennis and golf who need to be introduced to our skilful, competitive and sociable environment and at a cost which is comparatively very affordable.

An important part of the social environment is to be able to wear smart casual clothes that permit everyone to feel comfortable. The simple motto required is 'casual clothes for casual bowls'. League teams should be encouraged to develop their own team colours.

Important matches would continue to be recognised by playing in whites but the wearing of club shirts should be encouraged when playing teams from other clubs.

I would very much like PIBC to be at the forefront in this change in attitude which is gathering pace, and consequently to reap the future benefits of a progressive, vibrant, sustainable membership.

Bill Jackson

Lighter side Lighter side

Why is a bunny the luckiest animal in the world?
Because it has four rabbit's feet!

Why did the Easter egg hide?
He was a little chicken

What's the difference between a counterfeit £10 note and a crazy rabbit?
One is bad money, the other is a mad bunny!



How does Easter end?
With the letter R!

How does the Easter Bunny stay fit?
EGG-xercise and HARE-robics!

What do you get if you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?
Hot cross bunnies

Why does the Easter Bunny have a shiny nose?
Because the powder puff is on the other end!

Friday / Saturday / Sunday - 4 / 5 / 6 April - Finals weekend.
That brings us to the end of the winter season.

For full details see the Finals Schedule on the Competition Notice Board nearer the time

Report on Ladies Leagues and Competitions 2008

Leagues

Following the national trend, our ladies league programme has been struggling over the past few years. There are now fewer teams in all sessions and the Monday and Thursday 6.15pm time slots with only four teams in each are on the brink of collapse.

The leagues are the "bread and butter" of all indoor clubs and without them the club will not survive. If any ladies would like to play in any of the league sessions, in particular Monday at 6.15pm or Thursday at 6.15pm I would be grateful if they could ring me, as it may be possible to make up new teams for next season.

In an attempt to utilise rink space on Thursday evenings in the 6.15pm time slot, it has been suggested that we run an Open Pairs league. Teams would consist of any combination of male/female players with a minimum of four and a maximum of six members per team. Depending on the response the Open Pairs league will commence in September. If you are interested and can provide a team, please add your details to the list on the notice board.

Competitions

This season there were thirty-eight entries in the ladies club competitions, not many when you consider that we have over 300 lady members but it was an increase of thirteen on last seasons figure. Hopefully the growth will continue and even more ladies will enter in future.

As an experiment, to spread the event throughout the season, the competition rounds were completed using a "play by date" format. Next season by popular demand they will be played on fixed dates. Some flexibility will be allowed though and after consultation with the Competition Secretary rounds may be played before the specific date.

Finally my congratulations to all the competition and league finalists and my very best wishes to everyone for a successful and hopefully dry summer.

Rose King

P.I.B.C.



Fund Raising Coffee Morning



Easter Saturday, 22 March, 9.30—11.30

Entry 50p

Coffee — Hot Cross Buns — Biscuits



We really need lots of donations for the stalls, such as cakes, preserves, books, jigsaws, boxed games, DVDs, CDs, unused gifts, toiletries, bottles, plants, crafts etc. See sign-up list for proposed list of stalls .

Don't forget

We are always looking out for new members of any age group.

If you know of anyone interested in playing bowls, tell them about the 'have a go' sessions starting at 9:30 am on the second Sunday of the month.