

## CLUB MESSAGES

### **Message from Dave Crockett**

All members are invited to enter an all-day team competition to be played on Saturday 24th July which will include a lunch time meal supplied by a local provider. The competition will comprise an even number (6, 8 or 10) of drawn teams (fours). The teams will play a match in the morning consisting of 8 ends each of rinks, triples and pairs and the same in the afternoon against different opposition. Lunch will be taken in the clubroom, bring your own soft or alcoholic drinks. The cost per player is anticipated to be £6 to cover lunch and prizes. The winning team will be decided by first the total shot difference over both matches and then, if equal, the highest number of shots. On Sunday 23rd May an entry sheet will be displayed on coloured paper amongst the main competition sheets. Because it is essential to have an equal number of teams the first 24, 32 or 40 names will be assured of inclusion with extras in between (or in excess of 40) retained as reserves. Visitors and non players are welcomed at a cost of food only (anticipated £5). There is normally a choice of fish or sausage and chips.

Caution: These arrangements using our clubroom will only be possible if the Government's plan to remove all social restrictions remains in place.

### **Message from Chris Wood**

As you are all probably aware our shirt supplier is based in China, and we will not be purchasing any more shirts this season. I will be reordering for next season early next year. The cost for shirts next season will increase to approx £28 and Waterproofs to £41. We do have LIMITED stocks left for those looking ahead and wanting to replace or buy an additional shirt/ Waterproof. They will sell to clear at, Shirts £25 and Waterproofs £36. Listed below are the limited sizes I have left, so it's first come, first served. If you wish to purchase at the old price please contact me by email.

Men's Short Sleeve shirts. Lge, Med, Small.

Men's Long Sleeve shirt. Med.

Ladies Short Sleeve shirt. Lge, XL, XXL.

Ladies Long Sleeve shirt. Small, Med, Lge

Waterproof. Med, Lge.

## **Message from the Captain**

I will start by extending my best wishes to club members, both to those who have been around a while and to those who are new to the club.

We look forward to a full season of bowls albeit perhaps slightly changed to what we were used to up to 2019. Our fixtures secretary, Ray Page, has put together a full season of play. We have chosen not to have a printed fixture booklet given the possibility of continual change. The fixture list can be seen on the club website at 'goringmanorbco.uk'. Thanks to Ray for the work he has done on the fixture list.

Inevitably there will be changes to this fixture list as events unfold. For example, the fixture scheduled against the touring team Chippenham planned for 30 April will not now take place instead we shall have another friendly against Marine Gardens. There will be no Aussie Pairs matches until we get the all-clear to return to normal. Dave Crockett will be arranging the usual knock-out Championship matches and details of those will be notified in due course. In addition, I have asked Rod Smith to organise a Drawn Triples League to be played in the mornings or evenings in high summer. Details of that will be notified in due course.

This year we have a team in the first division of the West Sussex Bowls League, a team in the Stracey Shield and 2 teams in the Brodie Tray. On team selection, I want to make it clear that we shall be fielding the strongest teams possible for both the WSBL and Stracey Shield matches. Players who do not feature in those games will be given priority for the Brodie Tray matches and for friendly matches. I have devised a spreadsheet which will give me a clear picture who has put their names down for matches and who has been picked. It will also show me who subsequently couldn't play and who substituted for them.

Current guidance from Bowls England is that we should be restricted to no more than 24 players on the green at any one time. This permits 3 rinks, 4 triples or 6 pairs. The format of our matches will reflect this.

This also means that we shall have to control the use of the green quite carefully to ensure that too many people don't turn up to play on any given day. All rinks will be pre-booked for scheduled league and friendly matches. 'Requests to play' in those matches is covered below. However, like last year, members wishing to have a roll-up on other sessions will need to book those in advance. This year, I shall be in charge of those bookings, I only hope that I do the job as well as Frank did last year. Bookings can be made via WhatsApp, text or email. (07979603826)

We have good news on season ticket prices. This year they will be:-

Adult Season Ticket £128.50

Retired Season Ticket £112.50

New Season Ticket £86.50

Half Season Ticket £86.50

Junior Season Ticket £54.00

Casual Session Ticket £8.70

Taster Session £4.00

You will see that we have managed to negotiate a reduced adult season ticket price but more importantly, that South Downs Leisure have agreed to match the cost for retired bowlers to be in line with Worthing and Adur prices. £112.50 represents a considerable reduction on previous years. However, you will see that the cost per match for non-season ticket holders has increased to £8.70 per session. (Any player playing more than 13 matches or roll up sessions per year would be better off buying a season ticket from the outset.) The £8.70 fee would apply to any non-season ticket holder playing at another Worthing or Adur Council green.

The club will be responsible for gathering all playing fees including season tickets. Because we want to reduce the number of cheques or cash changing hands, we shall be asking members to pay for their season ticket by Bank Transfer as far as possible. Our treasurer, Laurie Millward will give details on how to make a bank transfer in a separate note.

For the time being, we shall not be able to use the club room, so we shall move the 'Request To Play' sheets to the back of the garage door. I shall hang the boards with 'Request to Play' on the door on Tuesday afternoon 6<sup>th</sup> April. Selected teams will be posted in the same place. Members should initial the sheet to acknowledge that they have been picked in the same way as it used to be in the corner of the club room. Please do not use electronic devices to request to play scheduled league or friendly matches. The combination for the lock on the garage door remains 2016.

Green maintenance will take place on Wednesday mornings as usual.

Although we cannot use the clubroom, we shall still have a tea and coffee break during matches (except WSBL matches). I shall erect a pergola in the corner of the adjacent old green, hot water shall be dispensed in said pergola and individually wrapped biscuits will be available. We shall supply disposable cups for our visitors but members should, as far as possible, bring their own cups.

There will also be a raffle on match days.

Members were previously notified of Invitation matches taking place at Storrington, Arundel and East Preston. Members should note that the date for the Storrington event has changed and will now be held on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July. This no longer clashes with a WSBL match. Those Members who put their name down for the previous date of 11<sup>th</sup> July have automatically had the request moved to the new date. (Please let me know if you are not available for the new Storrington date.)

However, a new Men's Invitation Triples event has been announced for the 11<sup>th</sup> July date. This will take place at Chichester Bowling Club. Entry will be £15 per head. Please let me know if you would like to put your name down for this event. (It does, of course, clash with our WSBL match against Southbourne.)

Let's hope that we all have an enjoyable and successful season.