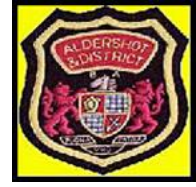


Aldershot & District B.A.



JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

The AGM was held in November and a new committee was elected. We are very pleased to announce that, since the AGM, Janet Guess of Hawley BC has volunteered to take on the secretaries' role and will shadow me this season, until the AGM in November when she may be properly elected to this position.

The meeting was asked if there were any objections to clubs using lady bowlers in their league teams when they could not field a full team. The committee agreed to survey the member clubs and ask for their views on this topic. It was noted during discussions that this was a requirement to compensate for lack of membership and recruitment might be a better solution.

A&D League – AGM question “may ladies play in the league”.

The twenty A&D clubs were surveyed and asked for their views. All said they had no objection to ladies playing in a league team, sixteen said they may include ladies in their team if there are not enough male players for a game to go ahead and four said they would not include ladies in their teams but had no objection to visiting teams which included lady bowlers. The committee have considered these results and agreed that as the constitution does not exclude lady bowlers they could play when needed.

A&D Competitions

Recently we have also been asked if ladies may play in the competitions. The committee have decided that there will be no change to the competitions for this season, as the member clubs have not been surveyed on this matter. During the coming season the committee will discuss with member clubs the possibility of organising A&D ladies' competitions in the same way that Bowls Hampshire, Surrey County BA and Bowls England do. If there is enough interest this will be considered for the 2024 season.

Membership Recruitment

Many clubs have suffered with falling memberships following Covid lockdown and the very slow recovery in the seasons that followed. The request to play ladies in the league team has been attributed to this problem. It is therefore important that clubs now make the effort to recruit new bowlers and increase their membership numbers.

To this effect, some indoor clubs in Surrey have initiated a scheme to pay £40.00 to local outdoor clubs who recruit new bowlers and then recommend them to the indoor club as members.

Camberley IBC has decided to follow suite and are offering to pay local clubs £40.00 when they recruit a new member who then joins Camberley.

The scheme will be managed and payment will only be made at the end of 2023, but if your club is interested in taking part in this initiative let me know and I will send you scheme details.

Best wishes

John Guerin

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