



ALDERSHOT & DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION



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WINTER NEWSLETTER 2019

2019 PRESENTATION NIGHT NOTES

The members at the presentation night were invited to discuss points that may be helpful in improving the A&D function in future. The following notes summarise a very useful response.

1. WATER RATES

A subject we had not expected! Fred Wastell, of Yateley BC, reported that they were having major problems with Thames Water who were charging their bowling green watering as "sewage". This significantly increases the water rates charged. Attempts to get this changed via the Ombudsman have failed and Yateley are going to write to their MP with a complaint in the hope of getting help. Chris Turner said he was involved with Odiham who negotiated a reduction in their sewage charges due to the same problem and he will advise. It occurred to Yateley to publicise this problem in case other clubs were also suffering excessive bills for their water. If your club has similar problems and you wish to join forces with Yateley, please e-mail your details to me (or Yateley) and I will pass them on.

2. FINALS DAYS FLEXIBILITY

Chris Cranham said that he would possibly not bowl in A&D comps because finals and semi-finals dates were so inflexible. Players, he noted, started the season leaving finals dates free. Part way through the season the possibility of playing in National and County finals could appear and a player then must decide whether to pursue the A&D comps or withdraw and concentrate on the Nationals and Counties. It was sometimes possible to put in a sub but flexibility – and moving dates - also involved moving opponents which may not be possible. After discussion it was decided that the committee will look at the problem and possibly find some easement in the rules.

3. FRIENDLIES

It was noted that we had only one friendly last season and that was cancelled by the opposition. Next season we should be able to organise a game with Bowls Hampshire as they play alternate years. The match secretary has said he will try and organise one or two others. It was suggested that clubs might be asked to provide one rink for a friendly which may result in more interest.

We have one indoor fixture booked against the London Scots on Sunday 15th March at Camberley IBC. John Steer will be looking for players for this fixture in the new year so if you are interested in playing, let John know.

4. E-MAIL DATABASE

Several comments were made around the problem of communication. Members have said that communicating through the club secretaries only works where clubs meet during the winter and also if the secretaries have their own e-mail database of their club members. John Guerin said he was still trying to build up an overall data base of all members and had around 100 so far. As there are potentially around 1,000 members there is still a long way to go. He hopes the news letters will also be a help in spreading information around the clubs.

5. LEAGUE FOR 2020

The new league fixtures for 2020 have been set up and are shown on the website. The 3rd Div. games start on Tuesday April 28th so we only have 20 weeks to wait before we start outdoors again. We are pleased to welcome a new team to the league. Fleet Social are putting in a "B" team who will start in the 3rd Division on the 28th.

6. FEEDBACK ?

Any comments, or ideas you would like us to consider, please let me know.