

STAINES BOWLING CLUB



We put out a full 5 rink triple against an old returning club **Richings Park**. The final result was a close win for Staines 96-91. Top rink going to Clive Stevens, Rita Woods and skip Peter Astle.

It was not a popular decision, but the Fordbridge fixture against **Isleworth** went ahead in very wet conditions, so we must first thank everyone who participated. The game stopped after the minimum 11 ends and although Isleworth dropped a rink relieving 3 of our players, it was a 4-6 win to them. The final score was 22-51.

It was a different story the next day on 28th June at **Sunbury Sports**, the rain held off and where we had a close match. It was a win for Staines 71-55 and a 7-3 points win. We had a top rink of John Geisha, Wendy Ridley and Roy Holdaway.

Pipped at the post, although **Hampton** ladies reduced down from 3-triples to 2-triples our ladies lost by 2 shots, 29-31.

We have had a couple of pleasant mornings when the children from **River Bridge** came to try Bowls. A thanks to all who came to assist, they all had a good time with some potential bowlers for the future.

It is Staines turn to host what was previously called the Triangular, now **The Spelthorne Trophy**. This is an invitation fixture between Stanwell, Bishop Duppas and Staines. Although not all members will be asked to play the club needs as many helpers and spectators as we can get. So please come to the club on **Sunday 30th July**.

It was most unfortunate that Staines had to *cancel* the 2nd Leg of the **Bishop Duppas Shield** fixture due to **lack** of Staines players. Duppas have kindly agreed a new date of **24th September**, so please **put this in your diary now**.

The ladies match against **Sunningdale** was reduced from 3-triples to 2-triples. A close fought match but Sunningdale won 27-31 on the last end. Tough luck ladies.

Another ladies match, this time against **Sunbury Sports**. Although reduced by Sunbury from 2-rinks to 2-triples it was a win for Staines 22-14. Because of the heat they stopped play after 12 ends to have a nice gentle tea.

On Saturday 1st July we held the **Tom McCarthy** trophy drive, we had 18 players (exactly the same numbers as for the 2 previous drives) and we used the repeating format of a long jack and then a short jack. From the comments received afterwards everybody appeared to have enjoyed the afternoon. The final score gave a tie between Sheila Tingham and Graeme Hinton but on count back the overall winner was Sheila. Well played Sheila. We also need to give a big thank you to Shirley Palmer following a late call to cover for the mid-afternoon tea break.

As we are in mid-season and all the external competitions are under way we must wish luck to Derek Keogh and John Smith who have reached the quarter finals of the **Middlesex Men's Pairs**. This is the furthest any Staines bowlers have progressed. Good luck and keep going.

It was a win for Staines by 63-62 against **Ottershaw**, top rink to Mike Jones, Wendy Ridley and Julian Bird. A close match, but Staines did win 3 out of the 4-rinks. A word of thanks to David Gray who stepped in as a reserve (at the last minute), just to be dropped at the last minute.

STAINES BOWLING CLUB



Our next Fordbridge league match was against **Stanwell** at home on a rare sunny day. It was a win for Staines 83-53 winning on 3-rinks. This gave us an 8-2 win.

It was a bump down from the top when we lost on all 4-rinks in the Fordbridge League against **Fordbridge Park**, away. We lost 57-75 giving all 10 points away. Still, we have the return leg to come.

It was the annual friendly against the **London Civil Service** and on a hot humid day with the final score of the 3-rink, was 63-64. Staines won 2-rinks but the winners were L.C.S. Top rink went to Ivor Meyrick, Dave Woodruff, Joyce Marshall and Eric Moore.

With it still early in the season we must give congratulations to **Dot Stanners**. Not only has Dot been selected for the prestigious ladies "Johns" team she also played, as skip, for Bowls England at Devises in a match that she and her team won, convincingly.

More **welcomes** to the club, this time Lynda and Ron Buck, and Gill Brazier, who have all joined to do roll-ups and also to Bob Blackett who has joined as a full member. Please make them welcome and educate them gently.

Another tough match on the normal bumpy green at **Osterley** which resulted in a loss of 56-64. This is a point loss of 2-8 but we had one winning rink of David Gray, John Geisha and skip Wend Ridley.

We face the annual problem of the disappearing Staines ladies, unable to find four of them we had, for the first time, field a rink of all men. A rule change we were initially against, but now find necessary. The rules of the Fordbridge league were changed this season but the result was unfortunately another loss this time against **Hounslow Cons**. 53-62 resulting in another 2-8 points' loss. We did again have one winning rink, this time John Geisha, Wendy Ridley and skip Roger Lintott.

Although Staines have disappearing ladies other teams have disappearing members as both Cambridge Park and Sunningdale have called **to cancel their fixtures**. The Sunningdale fixture was the second leg of the Cup fixture and they have requested if we can play later in the season as many of their best players are away on holiday. A problem we have never encountered before as this time we have a full complement available to play.

As the summer nights are now long and hot (at time of writing) don't forget that Monday evenings are **Club Night**. You do not have to be in any league or competitions, just turn up, have a casual roll-up or just have a drink and a chat. Cynthia is normally cooking burgers or sausages if you want any and the bar will be open, so get out while you can.

The men's TVL against **Cambridge Park** was close, but not close enough. Although we lost 3 rinks to 1 the games were mostly very close, both home and away. Our top rink of Ivor Meyrick, Graeme Hinton and Julian Bird had a good win 23-15, but on another rink we lost by just one shot on the last end. Final score a close 62 -65 win for Cambridge Park.

STAINES BOWLING CLUB



Our defence of the Fordbridge League had a shaky second match against **Bishop Duppas**. Staines lost 57-68 (4-6 on points), Duppas put out a strong team, but we had a top rink of Wendy Ridley, John Hay and skip Julian Bird. In the two friendly rinks again Duppas won 26-36.

We had a better result against **Woodlands** in the Fordbridge on Wednesday 31st, winning 84 – 42 giving us another 10-0 win. The problem we had was the abundance of names wanting to play in this match followed by the complete lack of names for the following friendlies.

For the first time in several years our ladies went to **The Royal Household** and came away with a good win 54-40. Top rink Joyce Woodward, Rita Woods and Skip Wendy Ridley. Thanks also to Captain of the day Dot Stanners. We also have a mixed match against them in August, so Passports at the ready.

We went to **Horsell** again short in numbers, so Horsell supplied four of their players to supplement our shortfall. The final result with a mixed team was a close 86-90 win for Horsell. We are always made very welcome at Horsell and we had a very nice tea to follow, so let's hope that next year we can field a full team. But, the frustrating part was, on the day we were only one player down. Unfortunately it is no help advising one or two days before a match that you are available, we need to know at least a week before so we can advise our opposition. They have players who need to know if they are playing and they have to cater for the correct number of players. We say again, if you are available, put your name down.

On Wednesday 7th it was a friendly against **Ashford** at home and was a win for Ashford 65-74. Top rink went to Jeanette Cosstick, Ivor Meyrick, and Clive Lintott. Once again thanks to Clive Lintott for being Captain for the Day.

We had 18 members play in the **Denman 2-wood triples** on Bank Holiday Monday and all had a very pleasant day, we had Cynthia Hay tempting everyone at lunch time with the griddle in full cook mode. After 25 ends the winning team, who did not lose one game, was Derek Clark, Pete Astle, and Wendy Ridley. Well done to all and a trophy awaits at presentation evening.

It was all going so well up to halfway then they got away, the **Sunningdale Cup** proved a difficult day. Our men lost on all rinks 49-87 but the ladies won on one rink, but still went down 34-45. Our top rink was Sheila Tinham, Gwen Whelan, Rita Moore and skip Sheila Everett. So we have set ourselves a challenge for the return.

It was a quick return for the ladies to **Sunningdale**, and following on from torrential rain the Sunningdale ladies won 39-47. A very pleasant ladies on a little heavy green, plus more rain. Top rink going to Rose Bartlett, Margaret George and Rita Moore.

It was Polling Day and our ladies walked into a Polling Station, but hidden away was **Cambridge Park** ladies. All was going well until the last few ends then Cambridge Park drew away, but we had a winning rink of Jill Walker, Rita Woods and Dot Stanners. Final score 42-50 but unfortunately finished with a tea left wanting.

STAINES BOWLING CLUB



Before the season gets too far ahead, a word of appreciation must go to **John Hay** who (you will all have noticed) has repainted all of our 2-metre sticks and the outside coat stand. Good job John.

With both teams unable to field a full 6-rinks, 4-rinks proved a close win for Staines 83-78, against **Windsor and Eton**. Top rink, by another end count back, went to Sheila Tinham, Moira Matthews, Anne Stanton, and skip Gary Taylor.

The weather claimed its first match on Wednesday 17th when the Men's friendly against **Windsor Great Park** was cancelled by them due to the torrential rain.

We call it character building, even stopping early due to rain we lost to **Iver Heath** 23-55 in a 3-rink triple. It was a very friendly afternoon but the forecast light showers turned into steady drizzle.

We played our friendly against **Heathervale**, a club that only has 15 playing members. It was a win for Staines 67-58 and top rink, after an end count back, was Terry Smith, John Geisha and Derek Keogh. As Heathervale were let down at the last minute by a player and having no extras, one rink was reduced to a men's pairs won by Nick Kirby and Mike Davies.

Big thank you to everyone who helped over the **Open Weekend** it proved to be one of our most successful. Despite the showers on Saturday, we were in and out, we still had 15 people turn up with several hopefuls amongst them. We also played **Walton** on the same day and held a 2-rink draw, but Walton won overall by 64-83, thanks to all who played and to Clive Lintott for being captain of the day.

Sunday turned out to be a sunny day and we had a further 11 people turn up who wanted to play bowls, on top that we have another 4 who want to come down and try. We look forward to converting these into new members over the following weeks. One of our problems is how to keep people who work as they cannot get to afternoon roll-ups, so we are thinking of running a Saturday morning roll-up session. However we would also require other members to participate and with an afternoon match to follow we do not know how it would work. If anyone has any thoughts please let us know.

Finally, we had several people say how friendly the club was and how nice out settings are. Congratulations to all.

Our ladies had a hot day out at **Bishop Duppas** and came home with a very nice 61-37 win. Congratulations to Pat Spearman, Gwen Whelan and skip Anne Stanton who were top rink with a 34-2 win.

An interesting afternoon at **Byfleet** on a fast but testing green, it proved to be a win for Byfleet 79-82. Byfleet fielded two young players who were 11 years old, and both played a good game. The loss could have been much higher if it were not for Pimp Derek Keogh and his harem of ladies, Moira Matthews, Rita Woods and Wendy Ridley who had a win of 32-15, but could have been even higher as they were 32-5 at one point.

STAINES BOWLING CLUB



As mentioned in our last issue the **Concorde** fixture has been removed from our fixtures, but Clive has managed to obtain a replacement with **Wraysbury** at Staines. Same time same place, but in Greys.

We would like to welcome two new full members to our club, namely, **Rose Bartlett and Julian Bird**. Rose has played in the past and looking forward to playing outdoor again, and Julian who moves over from Concorde. Please make them both welcome.

We began our year as usual at **Ottershaw**, always a friendly start to the season, even though we lost 51-78. Our best rink going down by just 1 shot, was Joyce Woodward, David Woodruff and Skip Mike Davies

Apart from a brief shower, or two, the eighteen members who played in the **Bill Godsell Trophy** all appeared to have a good afternoon. The eventual winner was Clive Stevens, congratulations and a trophy awaits you.

However it was a quick bounce back as we played **Oatlands Park** on Sunday 30th to a 78-44 win. Our top rink was Graeme Hinton, Rita Moore and Roger Lintott. Several rinks were close and we had a very nice afternoon.

The first leg of the shield against **Bishop Duppas** at Duppas ended with Staines losing 109 to 127. Close fought on several rinks with 3-rinks apiece, it leaves us down 18 on the 2nd leg. Top rink went to Nick Kirby, Alan Little, Joyce Marshall and skip Eric Moore.

Keeping up with modern marketing, Staines Bowling Club is now on **Facebook**. For those who know its "@stainesbowlingclub" Please make friends to spread the word. Thanks go to Nick Kirby for organising.

Staines started the defence of the Fordbridge trophy with a 9-1 win over **Meadhurst** on Sunday 7th. Final score 84-46 and top rink going to Margaret George, Alan Little and Gary Taylor.

We must also give a mention to Moira Matthews, John Smith and Roger Lintott who scored 8-shots on one end, just 1 away from the Hot Shot.

A good start for our ladies who beat **Windsor Great Park** 53-39. A tie for top rink, eventually going to Jeanette Cosstick, Cynthia Hay and Skip Wendy Ridley, by the number of ends won.

ALL PLEASE READ

With immediate effect the committee has agreed the following:- *To be trialed for 2017 all members may wear Casual clothing for INDIVIDUAL/CASUAL roll-ups.*

It is trusted that members will not abuse this relaxation of rules.

STAINES BOWLING CLUB



Welcome all to the 2017 season, as you can all see from your fixtures book we have plenty to keep us all active, especially when you factor in the internal and external competitions.

WE WILL NEED YOUR HELP, due to the cost of advertising the Open Day the committee have decided to make it an Open Weekend for 2017, but with a match on the Saturday we will need support from all members, we will need people to help on both Saturday and Sunday.

Please note the 20th and 21st May in you diary to assist at the club.

There is a list up split into 2hour sessions, so please add your name to the sessions you can help with.

DRESS CODE HAS BEEN RELAXED FOR THIS SO YOU CAN WEAR CASUAL CLOTHES (SMART PLEASE) OR YOU GREY ROLL-UP'S

Without new members the club will only go one way...so please do what you can

We start the new season with **less members then last year**, at the time of writing our lady membership has dropped from 31 to 20, and the men drop from 32 to 29. This has obvious repercussions in an immediate drop in funding, more pressure on existing members to play the fixtures, plus additional work in the food rotas.

Our recruitment weekend becomes even more important, because without members we have no bowls club. So please help by coming along at some time over the week end, don't leave it to everyone else.

We will also be reducing the food commitments by only supplying the full meals on certain occasions (please read you rota carefully) and not always stopping for tea and biscuits at half time.

Some members have asked if we would do a rota for members to set-up the green prior to the match's, as some other clubs do. However we feel we have enough rotas so we just ask members "when did you last put out the equipment"?

If this was some time ago, perhaps you could arrive earlier and set up the green, or arrange to do it with another member. It should not be left to the same people every time.

There are two notices up should member wish to take up the offer of Coaching sessions and a Marking session.

Don't be put off if you cannot make the dates listed because if we have sufficient names we can run extra courses.

If you have never done a marking course please put your name down as it will also help you understand some of the games rules.

Please note a change to your fixtures book as we have now been informed that Concorde bowls club has been disbanded. Please delete the two fixtures from you book.

It might be a little bit early, but as members have been asking for additional Indoor fixtures, Clive Lintott has arranged for 4-fixtures during next years "closed" season. Information later.

Finally, a thanks to all who helped on working party morning. Let's go.