



1. FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Well, it certainly makes a change to turn up in shirt sleeves instead of coats and hats and that relentless cold wind.

I am sure you will all join me in welcoming Billy back to the fold. We are really pleased to see him back at the club and enjoying his bowling again. As you may know, a lady by the name of Judy who is totally blind, is having some taster sessions with us. Hopefully we can help her with her wish to learn to bowl. Although Judy comes from South Petherton; it would certainly be nice to add her to our membership. She has expressed an interest in joining; however it might not be until the indoor season. It will certainly test us as a club to help her, as there hasn't been a B1 novice bowler at the club for many years. Also, the feedback from her fellow club members that came along recently was very complimentary, the session gave them an insight into VI bowling and the adaptations made for VI bowlers.

Luckily your committee know where to call upon (if needed) a large experienced skill set with regards to blind bowls and VI training.

2. RESTRICTIONS FOR YVIBC BOWLERS.

During these difficult times with COVID restrictions, it has been noticed that some clubs have allowed items of equipment to be used that we (even as a disabled club) are not allowed to use at Yeovil. The Yeovil Bowls Club committee make all decisions regarding the use of their bowls equipment. We at YVIBC do not have any say in how the Yeovil Bowls Club should allow bowlers to use any of their items of equipment. We are guests at YBSC and to date we have built up a very solid relationship, your committee officers are very respectful of the decisions made by the YBSC committee as we consider that we are fortunate in being able to bowl each week whilst COVID restrictions are still in place.

To clarify, our Tuesday mornings are classed as a “roll up session” and as such pushers and scoreboards are not to be used until the YBSC committee deem it safe for all to use.

If anybody has any questions, comments or is unsure about an item in this month’s newsletter, please contact me directly.

Mo.

3. T TO T MEASUREMENTS

There have also been a couple of recent incidents where the distance from “T” to “T” has been brought into question. To clarify the measurements, your committee have physically measured these distances and they are as follows:

The measurement from the “T” at the clubhouse to the “T” at the old pavilion/away teams changing rooms is 37 yards 2 feet.

The measurement from the “T” at the hospital car park end to the “T” at the indoor rink end is 36 yards 2 feet.

Your strings, when put out, will have the pins put at 25 yards, and 30 yards. There may be times when the pins do not look as though they are in line with the green’s markers, but our pins will be measured out on the day.

We will not be using metric measurements except for the 2 metres from the ditch to where the “T” pin will be positioned.

Until Bowls England make any permanent change to the rules, we will still call all distances in yards, feet and inches.

4. SUMMER FIXTURES

Somerton friendly, match report: Wednesday 2nd June 2021.

A great afternoon for the bowlers of YVIBC; with the game in jeopardy at the start because of scheduled rain, it proceeded on time and was played for the most part in warm sunshine. Two of our three triples really got to grips with the green and soon established firm leads. With two rinks winning convincingly, this was enough to win the game by eleven shots over the three triples. After refreshments kindly provided by Somerton, a raffle followed, one of the prizes was won by our Georgina Park. As the fixture was such a success the indications are that the fixture will go ahead again next year.



Mo
YVIBC Captain

Sherborne Town friendly, match report: Wednesday 9th June 2021.



Brilliant weather, great company and a well playing green made for a truly great afternoon at Sherborne. Some of the standards of play by our bowlers truly didn't reflect in the result. Frank Berry, playing skip in only his second full game coped well against experienced fully sighted players, but he was able to relax and enjoy his bowling as he was against fellow Londoners. As VIs we were made very welcome and shown great hospitality and help where we needed it. A great fixture which the committee will endeavour to repeat next year.



Mo
YVIBC Captain

Dates for your diary: We have three remaining fixtures for this summer:

South Petherton	Thursday 5 th August 2021
Queen Camel	Friday 13 th August 2021
Yeovil Bowls Club	Wednesday 1 st September 2021

The committee are very grateful to Geoff from Davis Minibuses who has looked after us so well for the first two fixtures. We already have transport booked through Geoff for the trips to Queen Camel and South Petherton.

If you are involved in any other groups who require transport, Geoff has a website <https://www.davisminibushire.com> or he can be contacted by telephone: 01460 240475

5. MEMBERSHIP FEES

Thank you to everyone who has paid their membership fees.

The committee is very grateful to those members who kindly donated their indoor rink fees from last winter to the VI club funds.

6. SIGHT CERTIFICATES

Please let Debbie know if you have had a recent eye test and renewed your sight certificate. Since the last newsletter, only one VI Bowler has so far advised that they have had a sight test. Remember that if your sight certificate has expired, you will not be able to enter any competitions, for example; the Weston-super-Mare tournament next year will require sight certificates to be in date.

7. AMAZON SMILE

In May we received another pay out of £12.18 from Amazon for purchases made through the Amazon Smile link; please continue to raise funds for our club by using the link when you make any purchases from Amazon. Although the pay-outs we are getting are relatively small amounts, everything helps, the money received from Amazon since the start of the year has more than covered the cost of new marker pins for the outdoor strings.

Amazon will donate ½ percent of all purchases made to our registered charity No.1068224 if you shop through smile.amazon.co.uk. This is a good source of funds for our club at no extra cost to yourself.

This is a direct link to YVIBC AmazonSmile page:

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1068224-0>

8. FUND RAISING

Christine Tomkins has been busy embroidering people's names from Yeovil Bowls Club onto their club shirts, she is happy to do this for everyone at a cost of £2.50 per shirt (this is much less than it would cost elsewhere). All the money that Christine receives for doing this, she is planning to kindly donate to the YVIBC funds. The YVIBC committee would like to thank Christine for her efforts in supporting the club in this way.

As you are already aware Debbie has been applying for funding from various organisations to support our club. This has been vital particularly as the Rotary Club Raffle and Bowlathon have not taken place due to COVID-19 restrictions. As well as the money already received from Abri/Yarlinton, we have now been awarded further funding from Tesco "Bags of Help". Your committee have been discussing the best way to support all the members and helpers from this grant and the following are the ideas so far;

- a) Club shirts and baseball caps for VI members and helpers to wear on both club mornings and matches.
- b) Towels with the YVIBC logo
- c) A new "away bag" for matches to include, strings, marker pins, outdoor jacks, spray chalk, measures, sanitiser, pens, scorecard holders, and a first-aid kit.
- d) Printer for YVIBC secretary

Your committee would welcome your opinions on the ideas so far and please let us know if there are other items which you feel would be of benefit to our club and members

9. WORTHING 2021 REPORT

With the threat of bad weather looming over the proceedings, our pairing of Ron and Mo set about the pairs competition determined to retain the winner's trophy they earned in 2019. Winning two games, drawing one and losing one, Ron and Mo only ended up with a shot difference of plus four. A greater shot difference is all that stopped our pair from retaining the trophy. It was a big trophy so lugging it all the way back again is the excuse that will stand with Ron and Mo.

Heavy rain stopped play on day one of the singles, with the umpires declaring the whole site too dangerous for VIs.

In the rain, Ron won one game and lost one whereas Mo didn't seem to turn up. Ron carried on in a positive vain and one by one he showed why he was a contender for the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

After the competition ended, Ron was runner up to the favourite for the commonwealth B2 bowler. Mo on the other hand only won two out of ten games, enough said!

