



PONTELAND BOWLING CLUB

AUTUMN 2017 NEWSLETTER



FINANCES

Final membership for the year stands at: -

138 fully members – 79 women and 59 men. There have been 16 resignations and 3 transfers to social/associate membership. There are 7 new members this year – 3 women and 4 men

The accounts for the financial year 2016/17 show a profit of £4,108 compared to a loss of £609 for the previous year. This is mainly due to less greens maintenance during the current year. During 2015/16 two sides of the green were built up and repaired.

Social functions continue to be very well supported and have made healthy profits this financial year

Main exceptional expenditure was £1,095 paid to the Memorial Hall as the club's share of the cost of recent (2016) repairs to the car park. Discussions have taken place with the Memorial Hall committee as to how such "one-off" costs could be alleviated in the future. Mainly because of this predicted future cost, an increase to the annual membership of £5 to £100 was agreed by the members present at the AGM.

REPORTS FROM SECRETARIES

MEN

The club was not able to host the County semifinals this year as the County insisted that they needed a Monday. As the Nan McLeod trophy (ladies) is played on a Monday afternoon and the Straughan Salver (men) on a Monday evening it was impossible to accommodate the County's request despite our club offering 3 other dates.

Concern was raised that there was a possibility that the men would not be able to enter BOTH the Knight and Nines leagues in future years. A strong letter on this matter had already been sent by the club to the Bowls Northumberland Men's Section to state our club's objection to this proposal.

WOMEN

A request had been received to host a Stella County Competition at our green on September 8th, 2018. This was agreed.

The ladies team won the NEL for the first time. It was agreed that the winnings (£50) would be used to purchase a replica trophy.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

GREENS

It was agreed that 2 sides of the green needed to be raised and the wood supports renewed. This is the side immediately in front of the pavilion and the one furthest away from the memorial hall – these were last repaired in 1997/98. Sports Turf Services have been chosen for this job and work will commence later this year (into 2018).

Bob confirmed that a seminar by SYMBIO would be held in the clubhouse on 14th November. Members from other clubs (mainly green rangers) were invited – the seminar will be free and SYMBIO will pay for refreshments.

The new arrangement for direction of play, introduced this year, was generally agreed to have been a success and would be continued next season. The new system had successfully prevented excess damage to the green and had eased the issues caused by games overrunning into a later time slot.

SOCIAL

The Ladies 50th anniversary “bash” was extremely successful and thanks were given to all who had helped and supported this event (see website for photographs).

The rota for the close season coffee mornings was now finalised as were the dates for the winter social events (see website for more details).