

The Falcon: September 2016

Achievements

Let's start on a high note by congratulating the following:

Linda Stringer on being invited to participate in the Masters tournament at the Wanderers Club later this year.

Taz Bright and Francois Trotskie for the silver medals achieved as members of the WP Newbie League Team in the Envar Buys Tournament.

Taz has also been invited to attend the BSA National Camp in Edenvale at the end of September. Great stuff Taz!

Moira Standley, Darryl Edwards, Cheryl Saunders, Laurie Keevy- Venter, Linda Stringer, Carol Barker, Linda Nurrish and Taz Bright on being invited to attend WP Open Practices

Flo George and Lynn Clark on being invited to attend the WP Senior Ladies Practices

Neels Kotze and Peter Harvey participating in the Open Mens Trials

Alan Lofthouse and Roy Clark participating in the Senior Mens Trials.

The Club is proud of you and wishes you all the best of luck.

Ladies Mini Meeting

Linda Elliott provided the following report.

The meeting was well attended, followed by lunch and a competitive, enjoyable afternoon of drawn 2 wood trips.

The 'minutes' will be circulated by email and posted on the notice board. We covered many topics including the calendar for the season ahead, the decision re selection or 'own entry' for the Fives, and we set up the organising committees for Muter Day and Ladies Day. I appealed to all to consider becoming accredited markers, umpires and/or coaches.

During Muter there are a number of our ladies who are not playing in a side but would still like to play tabs in or an arranged competition during these 8 weeks. Unfortunately during the past season/s tabs in has come to a grinding halt. There should be an alternative during Muter which will encourage our ladies to come up and play and plans are underway.

Mens Mini meeting

This is scheduled for Saturday 17 September when we will gather at 12:30 for a short meeting, enjoy some snacks and then play two games (12 ends each) of 2-wood trips starting at about 13:30. We're looking forward to a good turnout.

From the Lady Club Captain

Congratulations to all the ladies whose names appear in the list of achievements! I hope that whether you are new to this or an experienced campaigner, that you will enjoy every moment of the opportunity that you have earned.

We are looking forward to a busy start to the season. Make sure you have your Sully sides in as soon as possible! If you don't have a side but would like to play please let me know so that I can try and help.

I would like to appeal to our ladies to offer your help to Felicia Pillay as she takes on another year of managing our Catering. I am sure she would appreciate any assistance that you are able to provide. Thank you to all those who have offered to help with organising the events of the season ahead.

Greens

B Green has been renovated and is due to open in the last week of September.

C Green has suffered from a serious outbreak of algae along the margins. This has been treated but will take a few weeks to recover.

A Green is showing signs of wear. For this reason we have closed Rink 1 running N-S for two weeks.

This will also give us an opportunity to build up the bank in front of the Clubhouse. If the situation deteriorates, we may have to close other portions of the green.

Regarding care of our banks, please note that the bank referred to on A Green had a sharp edge to it at the beginning of the season. Now it is rounded as a result of months of feet and bags (and sometimes bums) on the edge!

Hire of Hall and Clubhouse facilities

This offers an excellent opportunity to raise funds for our Club. Occasionally our members will be mildly inconvenienced (ie taking our tea in the bar area). We would like to assure members that Exco will make every effort to keep disruptions down to a minimum.

Sharing facilities

It is rewarding to see that the facilities we possess are being utilised more and more by other organisations and groups.

For many years we have accommodated a Mens Fellowship group on a Wednesday morning. A few years back we were delighted to welcome VOB to our Club. Soon after, the Tuesday evening Walkers joined as Social Members. Recently, the Honorary Parks Rangers approached us to hold their monthly meetings at the Club.

And now, Gordon Hart, a VOB member, will be bringing his "Jogsquad", a group of "start-up" runners to the Club on Monday and Wednesday evenings. He runs a 16-week course which is designed to take you from a couch potato to a 5 – 10 km runner in that time. Any takers from the Bowls Club?

The Jogsquad becomes a feeder group to the VOB Running Club and hopefully to our Bowling Club as well.

Ian Rothbart is active in introducing four runners into bowls and is being ably assisted by Peter Cottrell. We look forward to welcoming them as new members shortly.

Warwick Wealth Spring Midweek

It is encouraging to see that the entries for this tournament have come in thick and fast. At last count 30 teams had entered, leaving space for only six more.

If you have not yet entered, move quickly!

Development

We are delighted that Linda Stringer and Peter Cottrell will be giving the development of bowlers their undivided attention this year. They are waiting for a pronouncement from Bowls South Africa, expected in early September, on the "Sport for Life" campaign. Thereafter, they will share some of their plans for the future with us.

Irrigation

I hope I don't have to refer to this again in future issues of The Falcon. Apparently all the tanks, pumps and electrics are in place, connections have been made to our existing irrigation line and all we need is to be told how to operate the system. Should happen in the next few days!

Injury List

Derek Mitchell has started the process of being fitted with a prosthesis. Peter Jerome has told him he better get up and running because he has included him in his team for next year's Leisure Isle tournament!

John Smuts is still in Frail Care at Evergreen Muizenberg but coming on well.

Rusty Gillett is out of hospital and back at home but will be on crutches for the next six weeks. The Tuesday Club is missing you, Rusty!

Welcome

Welcome back to John Perryman who flew in last Thursday, in time to enjoy the past weekend's magnificent weather.

Not sure when the next of the "swallows", David Hall, arrives.

Snowball

This event, well run by Alan Lofthouse and Nicky Parker, is still attracting good fields. There was a carry over from Saturday 3 September, so R1200 + in the pot.

Social events

Heather tells me that Linda and Peter are planning a Runners vs Bowlers get-together followed by a Barn Dance. Sounds good fun! We will keep you posted.

Christmas Hampers

When completing your Subscription Form, you will note provision has been made for participation in the Christmas Hamper draw. For R50 you can qualify to win one of 5 impressive equal value hampers.

The draw will take place on Jack Muller day (16 December).

Subscription forms

Members are kindly requested to return the completed forms as soon as possible regarding

- their intended participation in Club Competitions
- their availability for Flag, Muter or Friendly, and
- any changes in their personal details.

Would the men please pay their competition monies directly to Graeme Elliott

Peels

Geoff Perrow asked me last Saturday night whether I knew the derivation of the word "peels" as used in bowls. A search on the internet showed that this question has been asked a number of times with no apparent explanation. It also showed that the term is by no means universally used to indicate that the scores are even.

What I did find during my search is that ancient plaques show that the game of bowls was played 4000 years ago. And archaeologists have uncovered biased stone bowls dating back 7000 years !

There is also historical proof that Lawn Bowls is the real "Sport of Kings" as in the times of Edward 111, the game was restricted to noblemen. The "common people" were allowed to play on Christmas Day only!

Club Opening Day

This will take place at 2.15 pm on Saturday 1st October. We look forward to all members attending.

And almost finally ...

Life in South Africa

The Gauteng Police recently announced that they had discovered an arms cache containing 200 semi-automatic rifles, 250 000 rounds of ammunition, 10 anti-tank missiles, 4 grenade launchers, 2 tons of heroin and R80 million in forged bank notes, all in a block of flats behind the Hillbrow Library.

Local residents were stunned. A community spokesman said, " We're shocked. We never even knew we had a library!"

And finally

Translated from a letter in Afrikaans written to a local magazine by a lady in Secunda. This is dedicated to Neels Kotze.

"We South Africans are strange people. Whenever we feel depressed, we light the braai and have a few drinks. Whenever we celebrate something, we light the braai and have a few drinks. When we have nothing else to do, we light the braai and have a few drinks.

We have a big problem, folks.

So tomorrow, bring your meat and beers, I'll light the braai and we can discuss this problem!"
