

The Falcon: July 2016

Annual General Meeting

This meeting is scheduled for Sunday 31 July at 09h30. This is an opportunity for members to confirm that we have the right people involved in the management and administration of our Club. Management of a Club cannot be taken for granted, so we are grateful to those who have made themselves available for the new season.

Apart from voting opportunities and the adoption of the revised Club Constitution, members will again be able to raise issues under General. Regarding the simplified and streamlined Constitution, John Perryman should be thanked for his role in this exercise.

The AGM will be followed by the Club Prize giving after which snacks will be served

Club Competitions

Among our Men and Women members, there are a number of outstanding bowlers. Many of us, for one reason or another, seldom see them in action, displaying their competitive skills. Once upon a time, in the hazy past we arranged the finals of the Men's and Women's Singles to take place at a time when members could come out and watch top class bowling. These days the rush to complete outstanding matches results in semi-finals and finals being squeezed in anywhere.

It is sad that these finals are allowed to slip by almost unannounced and therefore unsupported.

In what has become a crowded calendar of events, a number of Clubs struggle to complete their competitions timeously. Some have dramatically reduced the number of competitions offered to their members. Others use draconian measures to scratch those whose reasons for not fulfilling a carded match are unacceptable. Whatever route our match secretaries follow in the future, it would be good to have a Finals Day where top players are able to share their expertise with the rest of us.

Results

The reporter who provided some of the Club and outside results in the June Falcon has been fired. We hope these results are slightly more accurate than the previous lot.

Firstly, the Women's Singles was won by Darryll Edwards, who beat Doreen Day in a close encounter. I arrived at the Club about an hour after conclusion of the match to be greeted effusively by Darryll, Doreen, Ciel (marker) and Colleen (lone supporter). I did try to get feedback on the match, but struggled to interpret the words. The full glasses and glowing faces might have had something to do with that.

Alan Lofthouse and Kevin Pattenden beat Erno Pick and J.C. Latter in the final of the Championship Pairs. Alan also won the 2 bowl Singles, beating Peter Killassy.

In the Champion of Champions, Roy Clark went out to Kevin Campbell in the 2nd round. Darryll Edwards went through to the 3rd round where she lost 21-18 to Trish Young.

Personal Trust Sixes

The final round of this tournament took place on Tuesday 7 June. It was run on an individual basis, with Ciel Brandt and Judith Ellmann sharing the 1st prize, Liz Maisel winning 3rd prize and Ian Barclay and Rusty Gillett sharing 4th.

Felicia Pillay, assisted by a number of ladies, produced an excellent 3-course luncheon at the conclusion of the event.

Personal Trust International are to be thanked for their very generous sponsorship as well as their commitment to supporting a Tabs-in event of this nature.

Greens

As is the case year after year, our winter greens are running at a good speed and drawing well.

Bowls SA payed a flying visit to our Club this past Friday with a view to determining the venues for next year's tournaments. Positive feedback was given on the speed of the greens, the levels, the absence of fungi and the lack of run-off. As anticipated, we were asked to improve the width of some of the ditches.

Physical Amenities

The contactors have completed the drilling of boreholes and moved off site. While we are slightly disappointed that we do not have a "gusher", the supply of water will apparently fill all four of our tanks over a period of two days. As we only irrigate the greens twice a week, and this only in summer, this should not be a problem.

We look forward to an irrigation system that does not involve leaking canvas hoses in the car park and neighbours reporting us to the Council for water abuse!

Snowball

Many Clubs use Fun Days, Business Leagues and Corporate Events to attract new bowlers to the game we enjoy so much.

Events such as our Snowball are designed to encourage non-bowlers to take part in a non-threatening, relaxed and cheerful environment. We would urge all our members to use the Snowball to invite other family members and friends or acquaintances to join in the fun. We have the green space, we have spare sets of woods and we have a hospitable reputation. So bring some new faces to the Club.

Bar

In discussion with Nicky Parker it has been decided to implement the following practices with immediate effect:

1. The bar shall be closed at all times other than when the Bar Manager or a Bar Committee member is present, or the duty barmen are on duty.
2. The Bar Manager will liaise with an Exco member so that alternate key arrangements can be made on those

occasions when he is not present at the Club (ie playing away).

3. Should the Bar Manager not be available, a spare set of keys to the bar, which will be kept in a safe place, shall be accessed by members of Exco or the Bar Committee.

Injury list

Just as we were hoping to see Dave Edwards back on the greens, he had to return to hospital for surgery. Cellphone pictures of his turbaned head and resilient smile have been circulating around the Club. He returned home a few days back to recuperate. Best wishes from all of us, Dave.

Abe Ephron is in Constantiaberg where he was treated for fluid on the lungs. With his sense of humour and indomitable spirit we are sure he will soon be up and about.

Derek Mitchell is still battling with circulation problems in his right leg. Attempts to insert stents have not been successful at this stage. We are all holding thumbs that the surgeons can come up with a satisfactory resolution.

Les Flynn, affectionately known as the Godfather to a number of members at the Club, has emerged from a long hibernation after a back operation, and visited the Club last week. Welcome back Les. Ample stocks of red wine are awaiting your consumption.

Corporate Days

We mentioned in the June Falcon that more of us should advertise the potential our Club possesses in catering for corporate and social days etc.

It is encouraging to report that on Saturday 30th July a non-bowler will be celebrating her 30th birthday at our Club. She will be joined by a number of friends who intend playing some bowls (they have asked for 4 rinks) and then joining us afterwards in the bar. We need more of this type of outing.

VOB

In the past, we have enjoyed a few combined outings with VOB members. It is understandable

that we have turned down a challenge from them to compete in a running event but a bowls and braai social might suit us better. It is hoped that those planning the new season's programme will pencil in something along these lines.

Pat Schluter

In 1978, Pat served as Captain of the Constantia Hockey Club. They would meet at CBC on occasions and it was that year he was persuaded to take up bowls. He is of the opinion that he is now the "longest serving" active member of our Club. Clive Sinclair pre-dates him, but is no longer a Playing Member. Alan Lofthouse is not convinced Pat joined before him. The matter will be settled in the Small Claims Court. Watch this space.

Packing up after bowls

Alan Lofthouse has organised racks in the Rest Room on which the water stands can conveniently be hung without mortally wounding the members. We would ask those who kindly pack up after bowls to hang up these "traditional weapons"! And thanks to John Dews and Trevor Cleghorn, small plastic holders have been attached to the side of the trolleys to accommodate the pens. We lose an incredible number of these (not inexpensive) pens each year. Please would you assist by placing the pens in the holders on completion of your game.

Personal Trust

Personal Trust have made the following available to us for inclusion in the Falcon.

Brexit,
The unexpected decision to leave the European Union has left the markets reeling. The political and economic consequences for the UK, Europe and the world will be profound.

We have already seen substantial volatility in currencies and world markets and we expect that this will continue as uncertainty remains about the future. Click on the article below to read Personal Trust's full article:

[http://www.pttrust.co.za/documents/Investment
Commentary/BREXIT DECISIONFINAL-All Funds.pdf](http://www.pttrust.co.za/documents/Investment%20Commentary/BREXIT%20DECISIONFINAL-All%20Funds.pdf)

For soccer lovers

In his footballing days, Bobby Charlton was one of the best players England ever produced and was a member of the England World Cup winning team of 1966.

When asked about how he thinks that England team would have fared against Iceland, he replied "I think we would have won 1 – 0"

The reporter then asked "Only 1 – 0?"

Bobby replied "Well, yes – you see we are all over 70 now!"

And finally ...

Finnegan phones the maternity ward at the hospital

"Quick" he says "Send an ambulance. My wife is going to have a baby."

"Tell me" says the nurse "is this her first baby?"

"No, this is her husband, Kevin, speaking."