



HUDDERSFIELD & DISTRICT VETERANS BOWLING ASSOCIATION

# NEWSLETTER

Number 43

July 2020

[www.hdvba.co.uk](http://www.hdvba.co.uk)

FREE



## **THE STOP START WORLD OF THE WINTER LEAGUE**

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**THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL HAS GONE OUT**

**Have you ever been to a County match?**

**'Are You Ready to Bowl?' Survey Results**

**NOSTAGIA: The HDVBA Financial Crisis of 1995 and lots more inside**

This is the monthly Newsletter of the HDVBA which provides friendly but competitive crown green bowling for the Over-60s in the Huddersfield area.

Thank you to DAVID UNION of Outlane B.C. for sponsoring this issue of the Newsletter

# 2020 SEASON: I THINK ITS ALL OVER

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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## JULY ISSUE SPONSOR



Outlane clubman David Union's mobility problem may prevent him from bowling nowadays but that doesn't mean that he doesn't retain a keen interest in the Veterans League. He has proven that once again by sponsoring the July issue of your newsletter. This isn't the first time he has done this and I am very grateful for his continuing interest and support.

We welcome commercial and individual sponsorships. So if you enjoy the newsletter and would like to mark that in some way then I would be delighted to hear from you. Sponsorship costs just £20 per issue.

Last month we reported on seeing a chink of light at the end of the coronavirus tunnel. Sad to say but I believe that light has finally been extinguished and the 2020 Golden Jubilee bowling season is over for the Veterans League.

The latest guidance from the BCGBA (Phase 2A) offers little change to the bowling world with numbers on and around the green limited to six people, no competitive bowling between clubs and no change to the guidance to the Over-70s which states that they should 'continue to take particular care to minimise contact with others outside their household'.

Your Management Committee meets on 13 July when it expects to make a formal decision on the fate of the 2020 season and also decide what the financial implications of that are and as a result what should happen to the club fees already collected.

The work to form a Winter League to start up this year continues and progress is good with lots of positives being accrued but some setbacks as well in the Stop-Start World that the Winter League is becoming. The League will definitely start up this year if the Government and BCGBA guidance allows. All the other hurdles in its way are surmountable and contingency plans are in place to counter any further incidents. A full report on progress to date is included in this newsletter.

Also in this issue we have a summary of the 106 responses to the online survey undertaken in June to determine bowler willingness to start bowling again. Even if the current restrictions were suddenly lifted it is clear that no assumption should be made that everything will return to normal immediately. That just isn't going to happen and the repercussions may go beyond this season. Inevitably some bowlers have been lost to clubs this year and with no recruitment possible bowler numbers will be threatened which in turn threatens the very existence of some of our clubs. I fear that the record number of 96 teams that we started with this year will be reduced and will not be bettered for many years to come, if ever.

There is also an article from Yorkshire County CEO Alan Stephenson who takes a look at County representative team bowling and promotes a view that watching a County match at any level is a very good way to spend a day. Lots more also inside this 10-page July edition including updates on club formation dates, which greens are open and closed as well as the usual Rules Quiz and a trip back to the HDVBA financial crisis of 1995 in our Nostalgia back page write-up. Enjoy.

# HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO A COUNTY MATCH?

**ALAN STEPHENSON TAKES A LOOK AT THE SPECTATOR SPORT OF WATCHING YORKSHIRE COUNTY MATCHES AND ENCOURAGES YOU TO DO THE SAME**

In normal times the BCGBA County Championships would be in full swing. The vast majority of our Veteran bowlers will, I believe, have never seen any County match at all and those of you in this category will have missed the finest and most exciting crown green bowling available.

Yorkshire, like all other 15 counties, field 5 County teams - Mens, Ladies, Mixed Junior (under 18), Veterans Men and Veterans Ladies. The first 2 are arranged on a round robin basis in 4 groups of 4 (changed each year in a 5 year rota), the Mens played on the first Sunday of each month, the Ladies on the third Sunday both starting in May. The winners of each group becoming semifinalists/finalists.

The Juniors play in a league with promotion/relegation, Yorkshire being in Division 1 with 4 other counties. The Veteran Mens play a 1 day regional qualifying round and if successful a final day of 4 teams, whilst the ladies play their competition all in one day in a particular county at various venues. This year it would have been in Yorkshire using Cleckheaton Sports, Moor End and Spen Victoria and all being well this will happen in 2021.

The teams in the Mens, Ladies and Juniors consist of 24 players, 12 playing at home, 12 away. The winners on total aggregate collect 2 points towards their group position. Each home/away team has a manager and a captain which, together with officials of YCCGBA, select the teams and home green generally 3 weeks before the next fixture and submit these in playing order to the BCGBA where teams are married up to their opponents and released to all counties 2 weeks before the match.

As you can imagine the selection of the home green is crucial to being successful overall as winning away is so difficult bearing in mind home teams know the green anyway and have up to 3 weeks intensive practice on it before the game.

On the day usually the away team travel together by coach with away supporters - a major expense for the county with coaches now costing in the

region of £550 (less supporters' contributions) per trip. Last year the total net travel costs exceeded £6000. The Men and Juniors are allowed 30 minutes practice time on the away green (15 minutes on the home green) but the Ladies rules do not allow any practice at all. I always think the 1.00pm practice start, with 12 jacks setting off at once, is like the start of the Grand National! Anyhow the practice sessions certainly wets my appetite for the start of the match at 2.00pm and is a part I never miss.

What about the other counties? Well Warwick and Worcester (W&W) - the Brummies- and ourselves have fought many serious battles over the years creating atmospheres both home and away which are not for the faint hearted. Bowling away with a baying crowd of 300+ around the green, most supporting the home bowlers, can certainly affect your game. Any weaknesses are quickly exposed and concentrated on by your opponents.



Shropshire can also be an intimidating place as can the N.Midlands. Apart from our Juniors, who have dominated their competition for many years (15 championships out of the last 19 years, and on a recent run of 5 out of 5), W&W have become the dominant county in the Mens and Ladies competitions. Of the Veterans our Ladies are the current champions and our men runners up last year.

Having mentioned the importance of the home green earlier, are we in Yorkshire blessed with good home greens. Overall the majority of County greens used have been in the Huddersfield area (this to an extent being influenced by the larger crowds/support from our own area). Crosland Moor, Lockwood Con., Golcar Lib. for the Juniors, and Cowcliffe Lib. and Lindley BC recently but now more of the selected players coming from outside Huddersfield so are the home greens Pudsey BC, Ossett Flying Horse and Whitkirk. But one club stands out as the "home banker" - Meltham BC (big green for the Men, small green for the Ladies). Mick Cox certainly has happy memories of the big green winning 21-0 some 10 years ago - his opponent never came to terms with the change in pace across the centre of the green.

Other counties have compatible home bankers (actually several in W&W), but to me the best home green of them all is the Merseyside green of the Wheatsheaf pub in St.Helens. I once watched

Yorkshire there when the match didn't finish until 6.30pm and during the afternoon I saw Robert Hitchen win with a wood nearer the mat than the jack and yet all 4 woods were still on the green.

Bowling is "an old mans game" is a complete fallacy at county level. Of course you have to be over 60 to bowl in the Veterans competition, but in the Mens/Ladies competitions players aged mid 20s to mid 40s make up most of the team. And the standard has to be seen to be believed. We can all play a toucher or thereabouts now and again, but as we know it is consistency that counts, and apart from the odd bad end, County bowlers are there/thereabout end after end. This of course comes from talent but also practice and more practice. And our Juniors are no exceptions - you certainly wouldn't want to meet them on a sunny day on the green. And don't be fooled if the conditions are heavy, some of the most petite young Ladies will have you in the corners at the first opportunity.

I don't intend picking a list of the best Yorkshire bowlers I have seen in my 25+ years involvement - as an administrator, not a bowler I hasten to add - with Yorkshire. I have the utmost respect for them all and am in awe of their ability. Their sporting attitude - not trying to pull a fast one as so happens on a Saturday by bowlers of much lesser ability - towards each other exemplifies their mutual respect.

What I will say is that we are blessed with some tremendous younger bowlers in Yorkshire, either still in the Junior sides or just left who are regular members of the Senior teams. And many of you Veterans will have played your part here as grandparents in ferrying your grandchildren around to practice and games. As to consistency the YCCGBA Yearbook lists 13 players from the Mens/Ladies teams who have played over 100 games for the County. Of these our own Suzanne Howarth tops the Ladies list with 148 appearances accumulated over 30+years, with Robert Hitchen having made 179 appearances over 40 years a record I don't expect being here to see beaten, although eventually G.I.Wilson may.

So instead of visiting family, decorating, shopping, day trip to the coast why not go to a County match in 2021. Take your choice - Mens, Ladies, Juniors Veterans home or away and enjoy an afternoon, with a suitable drink, watching the finest crown green bowling available.

Alan Stephenson  
Joint CEO  
Yorkshire CCGBA

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SNAG HALTS WINTER LEAGUE FORMATION**

The formation of the new Winter League has been a year in the making and has hit problems all along the way. From finding a club partner prepared to offer their green to stage the competition on to overcoming the cancelled Trial Days to test run the playing format and now two more hurdles face the 12 teams already signed up for the first season of competition.

One of those is the Government restrictions on club sports which currently prevents any competitive bowling between clubs as well as limits on the numbers allowed to congregate in any one place. The second hurdle is internal to the HDVBA and within its control to overcome.

The founder member teams decided at their virtual meeting on 17 June that lady bowlers would be welcome to play in the competition. This is not catered for in the current set of HDVBA Bye-Laws. The founder clubs submitted a proposal for a rule change to address this matter which has been accepted by the Management Committee. The problem being that any rule change has to be placed before a General Meeting of all clubs for discussion and a decision. Obviously these are difficult times and the Management Committee have discounted alternative ways of holding a virtual meeting to wait until a time when it is possible to congregate all the clubs.

The proposed rule change is:

### **CURRENT RULE 9**

All players in the Association shall be male and must be 60 years of age or over. If 60 years of age during the season, they may play from their 60th birthday.

### **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE**

All players in the Association must be 60 years of age or over. If 60 years of age during the season, they may play from their 60th birthday. The 10-Man League and the 6-Man League are male-only competitions. The Winter League is a mixed-gender competition.

The timescales are unlikely to allow this rule to be changed prior to the start of the Winter League season. That means the League will in the interim have to make all its own arrangements. That they are well equipped to do and it is seen as just one more problem to be overcome along the way until the League becomes full established. Now turn over for more positive Winter League news.

# WINTER LEAGUE IS READY TO BOWL

Over the past month considerable progress has been made in preparing for the opening season of the new Winter League. There have also been setbacks and there remains uncertainty about whether we will be permitted to have any competitive bowling within the timescales of the first season of the League. Regardless of all that it is right to concentrate on the positives and those things that are within our own control. If outside factors make that difficult then all we can do is plan around them where possible and not get upset about things that we cannot change.

So on the positive front there is much to report. Significantly the very welcome support that the League has received from the Family of our late President John Hoyle, as they have offered to provide a new trophy to be awarded annually to the winners of the Winter League. The John Hoyle Cup promises to be a much revered trophy and will remind everyone of the contribution that John made to the Veteran's League during his four years as General Secretary and his all too short tenure as our President earlier this year.

On top of this we can now confirm sponsorship of the League with Tony Lockwood donating £100 to the Winter League to aid the setup costs and the first year prize fund.

Still more positives with added interest in joining the League from more teams. Thorpe Green, Lindley BC and Lowerhouses B have all made expressions of interest in joining the League for its inaugural season. In the interim Almondbury Lib have withdrawn their interest in joining the League due to concerns from their bowlers about their personal safety. The threat of the coronavirus remains with us all and this action is fully understandable. That takes the number to 12 teams lining up to start the season although confirmation on numbers cannot be made at this time until there is some certainty about the opening up of competitive bowling.

The latest guidance from the Government and BCGBA dictates that no more than 6 people can be on or around the green at any one time. Competitive bowling between clubs is also barred at present and gatherings of more than 30 people are not allowed under a new law to be introduced. All this makes it impossible to progress plans for the first season until these rules are relaxed even more. The offer of the use of a second green from Milnsbridge will help to get around some of these restrictions and is very helpful but until the situation improves even further we cannot progress matters.

Another major step forward for the League is the decision of member clubs to invite lady bowlers to experience Winter bowling by joining teams in our League. This will not sit well with some but was readily welcomed by member clubs when they met for a telephone conference call meeting on Tuesday 17 June. At the same meeting they made considerable progress in pulling together how they want their League to be run and this has since fed input to a draft set of League Rules which is currently being progressed by the teams.

The Winter League teams and the HDVBA management Committee have both decided separately that they would prefer to see the new League come under the auspices of the HDVBA. A proposed rule change is required prior to that happening, as currently the HDVBA Constitution does not permit lady bowlers to bowl in any of our competitions. The proposed rule change is only aimed at opening that door to bowlers in the Winter League. The Management Committee has decided not to put the rule change before members until it is safe to hold a General Meeting of all clubs. They discounted options for a Conference Call meeting or to conduct the introduction of the rule change by email. That means that the amalgamation of the Winter League into the HDVBA is unlikely to happen in time for the start of the opening season.

Other matters considered and agreed by the Winter League teams when they met include the formation of teams and League matches. Teams will be of four-bowlers and in a reaction to the infection potential it was agreed that in Year 1 the format would be for four singles games to be played in each match. This is contrary to the earlier understanding that it would be two Singles and one Pairs matches. Six points will be available in each match. One point for each Singles winner and two points for the top aggregate score. All games will be 21-up. Starred Bowlers will be allowed to compete in the League and no in-season transfers will be permitted.

So considerable progress has already been made and although further progress is very dependent on changes in BCGBA guidelines we all remain positive and hopeful of that. It is possible that up to 16 teams could contest the first season if the guidelines allow. Teams are now invited to put forward expressions of interest in joining the 12 teams already lined up. There are no promises but we are all hopeful that we can make the final steps forward to get this new League off the ground in time for an October start.

# IS YOUR GREEN OPEN NOW?

Thank you to all the clubs that have shared with us the latest information about the availability of their greens to their members.

We have received regular updates from many clubs and not only those with teams in the Veteran's League.

The listing alongside represents the position as at Monday 29 June and regular updates are always available on the HDVBA website.

Our table alongside indicates that we have records for 43 local clubs and 37 of those are now open for members to visit and enjoy some practice or social bowling. Three of the six greens that remain closed are park greens under the control of Kirklees MC.

A number of clubs are operating booking systems so reducing the number of wasted journeys of members travelling to their green only to find it already having the maximum number of bowlers on the green.

You can enjoy some limited bowling as long as you follow the BCGBA guidance which is there to make it safe for you and members of your household. It is in your own interests to stick with that guidance at all times.

## LATEST BCGBA GUIDELINES

The Phase 2a BCGBA Guidelines were published on Sunday 28 June and these bring additional safeguards in to play around access to the green including extended record keeping of people on the green to feed the Track & Trace service should it be required.

Still a maximum of six people on or around the green at anyone time unless they are from no more than two households.

Social distancing must be maintained at all times and these are extended to four metres between groups on the green.

DATE	CLUB	STATUS	NOTES
18/08/2020	Golcar C&BC	OPEN	Open to members only
15/08/2020	Lockwood Con	OPEN	Open to members. Booking system in place.
09/08/2020	Dalton	OPEN	Members only and BCGBA guidelines apply
08/08/2020	Slaithwaite	OPEN	Members only by prior booking to Trevor Eckersley on 07895 353 966
09/08/2020	Lowerhouses	OPEN	Now open for members only. BCGBA guidelines being followed
08/08/2020	David Brown Sports	OPEN 15/6	Reopening on 15 June. Members only
08/08/2020	Crosland Moor	OPEN 15/6	Reopening on 15 June. Members only
07/08/2020	Holmfirth	OPEN	Members only, advance booking required
06/08/2020	Meltham	OPEN	No.2. green reopens 8 June members only
01/08/2020	Golcar Lib	OPEN	Open to members booking in advance only. Book through Mark Sykes on 07933 936 708
30/05/2020	Skel Windmill	OPEN	Members only. Booking system in place. Full details at <a href="http://www.windmillbowlingclub.co.uk">www.windmillbowlingclub.co.uk</a>
26/05/2020	Hemlow	OPEN	Open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only.
25/05/2020	Cowcliffe	OPEN	Now open to members. Following BCGBA guidelines. Booking system in place.
24/05/2020	Linthwaite Hall	OPEN	Open to members only from 11.00 am to 3.30 pm Wed, Thurs/ Friday and Saturdays pre booking 07568484773
22/05/2020	Jackson Bridge	OPEN	Pre-booked slots only which can be made via Robert Barlow on 07488291124 or by email to <a href="mailto:silverdale2@gmail.com">silverdale2@gmail.com</a>
21/05/2020	Almondbury Lib	OPEN	Following BCGBA guidelines
20/05/2020	Springwood	OPEN	Following BCGBA guidelines and members only
20/05/2020	Longwood	OPEN	Open to members only.
20/05/2020	Lindley Lib	OPEN	Member bookings for one-hour time slots only through Dawn 07856416582. Occupation Road gate access only. No access to club or toilets.
20/05/2020	Moldgreen Con	CLOSED	Cannot comply with BCGBA guidelines
20/05/2020	Kirkheaton Con	OPEN	Reopened for members only via pre-booked 45-minute slots through Dave Fox on 07545928994. Full details on club's Facebook page.
19/05/2020	Shepley	OPEN	Now open with 45 minute slots bookable through John Cowan on 07710563889. Own jacks and mats to be used, clubhouse and toilets closed. No booking no bowling.
19/05/2020	Marsh United	OPEN	For club members only and following the BCGBA guidance
17/05/2020	Bradley & Colne	OPEN	Following BCGBA guidelines and members only
17/05/2020	New Mill	OPEN	Open with 45minute slots from 10am-5pm. bookable through Eddie Brook 01484-685321
16/05/2020	Kirkheaton C&BC	OPEN	Bookings only through John Scott
16/05/2020	Almondbury BC	CLOSED	Until further notice
16/05/2020	Outlane	OPEN	Following BCGBA guidelines
16/05/2020	Denby Dale	OPEN	Following BCGBA guidelines
16/05/2020	Clayton West	OPEN	Following BCGBA guidelines
16/05/2020	Hudd. RUBC	OPEN	1-hour slots booked through Alan Dean on 07592 461205. New club guidance rules apply.
16/05/2020	Marsden Park	CLOSED	As per KMC
16/05/2020	Ravensknowle Pk	CLOSED	As per KMC
15/05/2020	Thongsbridge	OPEN	Open with 45minute slots from 2-8pm bookable through Richard Armitage 07876260028
14/05/2020	Thorpe Green	OPEN	Following BCGBA guidance
14/05/2020	Paddock I&C	OPEN	Monday-Friday 10am-7pm Bookings required
13/05/2020	Broad Oak	OPEN	45-minute booking sessions between 1-7pm on 07306 377369 or email <a href="mailto:broadoakbc@gmail.com">broadoakbc@gmail.com</a>
13/05/2020	Milnsbridge	OPEN	Only through prior booking with Stuart Gee on 07758122351 or at <a href="mailto:bowlergranda217@gmail.com">bowlergranda217@gmail.com</a>
13/05/2020	Paddock C&BC	CLOSED	Until further notice
13/05/2020	Brookholes	OPEN	Open 10am-5pm Book 1-hour slots through David Sykes 07780445336
13/05/2020	Greenhead Park	CLOSED	As per KMC
12/05/2020	Lindley B.C.	OPEN	Club's new guidance rules apply
12/05/2020	Rastrick B.C.	OPEN	Bookings only via Janet Holroyd

# 'ARE YOU READY TO BOWL?' SURVEY

At the beginning of June we conducted an online survey of bowlers as to their state of readiness to return to the bowling green and competitive bowling. That involved individuals responding to 7 questions with a choice of answers to pick from with the option to skip any questions and the survey was totally anonymous. An excellent response with 106 bowlers adding their views. A summary of those responses is laid out below.

**Q1: Do you think we should write this season off altogether and start again in 2021? (103 responses)**

50 votes (49%) Yes  
36 votes (35%) No  
17 votes (16%) Maybe

So that means that only just over a third of voters thought that we shouldn't write the 2020 season off at that time.

**Q2: At the moment do you believe that it will be safe to start the new Winter League in October? (103 responses)**

50 votes (49%) Not sure  
33 votes (32%) Yes  
20 votes (19%) No

Only a third of voters thought it was safe to start the Winter League this year but only a third thought it was unsafe to do so.

**Q3: Have you already been social bowling at your club? (103 responses)**

27 votes (26%) No not bowling at present  
23 votes (22%) Yes I have already social bowled  
22 votes (21%) Yes I already practice bowl  
17 votes (16%) My club isn't currently open  
14 votes (14%) I expect to bowl very soon

Although the opportunity to bowl socially is now available only 43% have already done so.

**Q4: If the ban was lifted in July would you be happy to go practising on your green with some of your team-mates? (104 responses)**

61 votes (59%) Yes I definitely would  
31 votes (30%) No not comfortable to do so  
12 votes (11%) Not sure

Largest vote of the survey (59%) said that they would be happy to practice bowl with their team-mates if the rules allowed.

**Q5: If the League organised some individual competitions would you be happy entering them? (105 responses)**

42 votes (41%) No I wouldn't be happy to do  
40 votes (39%) Yes I definitely would  
14 votes (14%) I never enter KO competitions  
8 votes (8%) Not sure

There is some hope here should circumstances allow for some individual KO bowling to be staged late in the season.

**Q6: If League matches were being played would you play for your team in July? (104 responses)**

47 votes (45%) Yes I definitely would  
40 votes (39%) No I couldn't do that yet  
17 votes (16%) Not sure

Less than half of the responders would definitely return to League bowling if the option was there in July.

**Q7: What concerns you most about resuming bowling? (75 responses).**

This was a huge response to a free text answer with 75 of the 106 total responders taking the time to add a message meaningful to them.

A selection of some of the shorter responses:

*Ensuring that the hygiene measures where applicable were still in place, eg hand sanitising, cleaning of woods and jack before and after and no handshakes etc*

*Social distancing*

*Facilities need to be available at all clubs and some sort of precautions should be in operation*

*Two people having a socially distant game i think is ok, but i would be very sceptical about team bowling.*

*still a high risk with someone you do not know*

*Taking any infection news home as my wife has underlying problems*

*Some members not adhering to safety guidelines*

*Nothing, as long as we keep social distancing we will be fine.*

*We are all in that vulnerable age group.*

*Would teams be able to have sufficient numbers to compete in the leagues*

*Coronavirus returning in later months, too early to bowl at the moment*

## HOW OLD IS YOUR GREEN?

There has been some progress in filling in the gaps of the listing of the opening dates of clubs currently in the Veteran's League. I am indebted to a number of people for their help in teasing out some of these dates especially Des Emsall of Meltham and David Pattern of The University of Huddersfield who continue to work on the missing clubs from the latest listing alongside. The red text indicates where updates have been provided on formation dates or where club details are not yet available.

One significant find this month has been the opening date for Dalton Bowling Club. At present this date of 1878 makes it the oldest club in the Veteran's League. This date has been gleaned from a Huddersfield Chronicle press report from that year on the Annual Dinner of the Dalton Cricket Club held at the Junction Hotel at Moldgreen. The report states that the bowling green pledged the previous year was now finished and had been constructed by Sam Wilson at a total cost of £45 18s 7d. Similar story regarding the green at Primrose Hill Liberal Club being the latest addition that Des has uncovered and dated 1882 and was constructed at a cost of £170.

In addition new opening dates for two more clubs have been uncovered by Des Emsall. Lockwood Con (1891) and Oakfield T&BC (1913) after extensive research. So that just leaves three of our clubs where the opening date is not accounted for. They being Marsh Liberal, Paddock I&C and Farnley Tyas. If you can help with any of these I would be really pleased to hear from you.

### ??? BOWLING LAWS ???

### ????? QUIZ TIME ?????

This month's questions relate to the humble bowling mat. Referred to in the laws of the game as the FOOTER.

- Q1. What diameter should the footer be?
- Q2. Where should the leader position the footer at the commencement of the game?
- Q3. After an end has been concluded, where may the leader position the footer before he attempts to set a new mark?

*Quiz set by Allan Dobson*  
Answers below

**BOWLING LAWS QUIZ ANSWERS**

Q1. Not less than 5 inches (128mm) and not more than 6 inches (154mm). Law 1.3

Q2. ....within three metres of the entrance to the green, on either the left or right side and one metre from the edge. Law 2.5

Q3. ....anywhere within a space of one metre from where the jack lay at the conclusion of the last end but at least one metre from the edge of the green. Law 5.15

CLUB	OPENED
Almondbury B.C.	1917
Almondbury Liberal	1894
Bradley & Colne WMC	1920
Broad Oak	1910
Brockholes	1914
Clayton West	1927
Cowcliffe Liberal	1916
Crosland Moor	1926
Dalton	1878
Denby Dale	1920
Farnley Tyas	
Golcar C&BC	1914
Golcar Liberal	1910
Greenhead Park (No.2)	1927
Hemphow	1993
Holmfirth	1901
Kirkheaton Cons	1891
Kirkheaton C&BC	1903
Lindley B.C.	1894
Lindley Liberal	1917
Lockwood Cons	1891
Longwood	1904
Lowerhouses	1920
Marsden Park	1910
Marsh Liberal	
Marsh United	1903
Meltham No.1	1947
Meltham No.2	1903
Milnsbridge B.C.	1900
Moldgreen Cons	1923
Netherton Cons	1927
New Mill WMC	1921
Oakfield T&BC	1911
Outlane	1913
Paddock Institute & Cons	
Primrose Hill Liberal	1882
Rastrick	1902
Ravensknowle Park No.2	1951
Shepley	1907
Skelmanthorpe Windmill	1952
Slaithwaite C&BC	1900
Springwood	1909
Thongsbridge	1920
Thorpe Green	1922
Waterloo	1893

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

The June Management Committee meeting was once again held by a Telephone Conference Call service with 11 members phoning in.

Members discussed the ongoing situation as regards the coronavirus and how clubs were reacting to it. Most clubs are now open for limited social bowling but reports were of little take-up of these opportunities. Some clubs have sounded out their team bowlers and reports were of around 50% of team bowlers not inclined to bowl in League matches this year. The results of the website survey on bowler's thoughts on bowling this year also indicated a growing reluctance to put families and households at risk of infection by returning to full bowling in the short-term.

All this coupled with the timescales now passing and little flexibility in the Government's approach to social distancing and clubs opening of their premises leads members to believe that there is very little chance of any competitive team bowling this season. It was agreed that the Management Committee should be in a position to make a decision about the current season at its next meeting on 13 July. That, in turn, will lead to a clearer picture around finances and to a decision being taken about club fees for 2020.

The one area where there may be a chance of some competitive bowling would be in individual competitions where it is the choice of an individual whether they take up the opportunity or not. In particular, the League would like to stage the 50th consecutive running of the Examiner Rose Bowl if at all possible.

The Treasurer reported on current financial activity which invited the question about the renewal or not of the bond currently held by HDVBA with £2,256 in it and a mature date in

September. Once the full financial picture is known then decisions about renewing this or not can be made.

The Treasurer also reported on grants provided to local clubs from the Sport England Emergency Fund. In total he informed members that 15 clubs had received over £36,000 in total to date. These details are available on the Sport England website if you dig deep enough. It was decided that this detailed information would not be posted on the HDVBA website but links could be provided to the Sport England details. Grants for local clubs ranged from £300 to £10,000.

It was agreed that the Rules Sub-Committee would meet on Monday 15 June to consider any rule changes for the 2021 season and then make any recommendations to the July meeting of the full Management Committee. With no League action this year there are not expected to be any major overhaul of the rules but following club reaction at the AGM the rules around Starred Bowlers will be reviewed.

Work has restarted on preparing for the start of the new Winter League and the 10 clubs that have expressed an interest in joining this League will be meeting shortly to progress this work. One major decision to be taken will be who will oversee the running of this League with four options on the table. It could be the HDVBA, the host club, the teams themselves or an individual. Each member was asked where they saw this responsibility laying and almost all thought that it should be the HDVBA.



The next meeting of the Management Committee is a Conference Call Virtual Meeting at 10am on Monday 13th July 202

**EVERY DAY (Except Christmas week) FOR THE LAST 4 YEARS THERE HAS BEEN AN ADDITION TO LEAGUE NEWS POSTED ON THE HDVBA WEBSITE. MAKE IT YOUR FIRST PORT OF CALL EVERY MORNING TO KEEP ON TOP OF ALL THE BOWLING NEWS, GOSSIP, PLANS, PHOTOGRAPHS, SURVEYS & POLLS & more.**

**WWW.HDVBA.CO.UK**

# Nostalgia

**25 YEARS AGO**  
**JULY 1995**

A Special General Meeting had been called by the Management Committee to look at League Finances and the lack of a Competition Secretary.

The records do not give any guidance as to the seriousness of the Association's financial situation but there was a proposal to introduce a one-off levy of £1 per registered bowler in the 1995 season proposed by J. Hulley (Broad Oak) and seconded by F. Hey (Marsh Utd). An amendment to this proposal was tabled by B.M. Armitage (Newsome) seconded by G. Martin (Springwood) which looked towards a £2 levy to be paid annually.

A second amendment of a £10 levy per 10-man team and £6 per 6-man team was proposed by F. Dyson (Paddock I&C) seconded by F. Crowther (Clayton West). A vote was taken and the original proposal of a £1 levy per registered bowler won the day by 12 votes to 7 votes to 6 votes.

The absence of a Competition Secretary was resolved when Tommy Dunford of Broad Oak offered to assume the position and this offer was unanimously accepted.

The meeting went on to discuss honorariums in the light of the new appointments with the postholders leaving the meeting. A proposal for a reduced honorarium of £250 for the Competition Secretary and £180 for the Secretary/Treasurer was agreed by the meeting.

Later that year it was reported that the £1 levy per registered bowler had realised a total of £750 with around 15% of registered bowlers not contributing for various reasons primarily those that did not bowl during the season. The meeting agreed that the levy would not be reinstated for the 1996 season unless the financial situation required it.

Also later that same year clubs voted for the first time to introduce Starred Bowlers in response to a concern of the high number of bowlers who were competing in both the 10-man and 6-man leagues. Members regarded this as being 'against the spirit of the game' and proposed a rule change to introduce Starred Bowlers for the 1996 season.

This rule change was drafted as follows:

Any bowler may only play in one league per week i.e. 10-man or 6-man. Each 10-man team to have 6 starred bowlers who can only bowl in that league. Any other bowler having played seven matches in the first team shall be tied to that team for the rest of the season.

*Alongside we produce the Final League Tables for the 10-Man League 2013 season for your interest.*

## 10-MAN LEAGUE 2013 FINAL TABLES

<b>SECTION 1</b>		Pld	Pts
1	Milnsbridge BC A	26	151
2	Lockwood Con	26	148
3	Netherton Con A	26	143
4	Marsh Utd A	26	133
5	Waterloo A	26	125
6	Crosland Moor	26	123
7	Golcar Lib A	26	119
8	Meltham A	26	116
9	Thongsbridge A	26	116
10	Clayton West	26	112
11	Elland C&BC A	26	107
12	Brockholes A	26	103
13	Almondbury Lib	26	79
14	Lindley Lib A	26	63
<b>SECTION 2</b>		Pld	Pts
1	Kirkheaton Con	26	150
2	Canalside A	26	138
3	Newsome WM	26	131
4	Thorpe Green	26	130
5	Shepley	26	127
6	Rastrick	26	126
7	Almondbury BC A	26	122
8	Lindley BC A	26	118
9	Skelmanthorpe W A	26	117
10	Broad Oak A	26	110
11	Hemphow	26	108
12	Springwood	26	94
13	Paddock I&C	26	89
14	Golcar Lib B	26	69
<b>SECTION 3</b>		Pld	Pts
1	Cowcliffe	26	164
2	New Mill	26	139
3	Kirkheaton C&BC A	26	137
4	Waterloo B	26	136
5	Ravensknowle P A	26	130
6	Netherton Con B	26	129
7	Linthwaite Hall	26	126
8	Meltham B	26	123
9	Skelmanthorpe W B	26	120
10	Thongsbridge B	26	102
11	Milnsbridge BC B	26	99
12	Lindley Lib B	26	93
13	Marsden Park	26	74
14	Bradley & Colne	26	57
<b>SECTION 4</b>		Pld	Pts
1	Almondbury BC B	26	153
2	Holmfirth A	26	143
3	Brockholes B	26	141
4	Hudd RFUC	26	141
5	Slaithwaite	26	141
6	Canalside B	26	125
7	Dalton	26	112
8	Marsh Utd B	26	107
9	Meltham C	26	103
10	D Brown Sports	26	101
11	Elland C&BC B	26	101
12	Lindley BC B	26	100
13	Primrose Hill Lib	26	94
14	Kirkheaton C&BC B	26	76
<b>SECTION 5</b>		Pld	Pts
1	Outlane	24	142
2	Denby Dale	24	120
3	Holmfirth B	24	119
4	Lowerhouses	24	115
5	Greenhead Park	24	106
6	Ravensknowle Pk B	24	78
7	Broad Oak B	24	76