

# NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER BY POSTING A COPY  
ON YOUR CLUB'S NOTICE BOARD  
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OTHER CLUB MEMBERS.

## What's this all about then?

Something new for the New Year, but why? Well we happen to believe that you can never have too much of a good thing (except at Christmas of course) and good communications are very important to our clubs and bowlers. We have our two websites, a Discussion Board and our very own Facebook page but want to be even more open than we already are.

The new monthly newsletter is aimed at anyone with an interest in Veterans League bowling in Huddersfield. Not everyone looks at the website every day especially during the close season months. We wanted a way of letting those people catch up with the news and events on a monthly basis as well as adding to the feed for the addicts who can't keep away.

If you received this newsletter direct from HDVBA via email then you are already on our circulation list. You can Unsubscribe from it at any time or add your name to the monthly circulation list via our website or by clicking on the link in the email that carried this Newsletter. Take a risk - give us a try.

## 2017 Fixtures

We can't be definite about the 2017 season start dates yet as they depend on how many teams we have in each competition and that will not be known until 16 January. Traditionally the 6-Man fixtures start a week after the 10-Man. I am no great respecter of tradition (or the 'We've always done it this way' brigade) unless there is a good reason for it. That being the case you can expect to see the 2017 fixtures for both competitions starting in the same week so allowing an extra Monday for KO games to be played

Everyone who subscribes to the Newsletter will receive an email the very moment that the 2017 Fixtures appear on the HDVBA and Bowlsnet websites.

during the season. The **probable** start dates are Monday 3 April and Tuesday 4 April but are still to be confirmed. The fixtures should be released by the first week in February. Watch the website for further details as they emerge. **Remember all games in 2017, that's all fixtures in the League and Knock-Out competitions, will start at 1.30pm.**

## Fantasy Bowls League

We are running our own unique Fantasy Bowls League competition once again in 2017 and Well Bowled of Luddendenfoot have agreed to extend their sponsorship for the coming year. We hope to have **some exciting news about that next month** but the format remains unchanged and entry is free for all League bowlers.

All you have to do is select one team in each of the League's seven sections before the season starts. Every point your selected teams win goes to your Fantasy League total. Most points at the end of the season wins the prize. We will also be running two Knock-Out competitions during the 2017 season so make sure you have entered before the season starts to be a part of this very unique competition right through the bowling season.

## Club Reps Corner

All club representatives have been provided with a list of their club's Registered Bowlers for the new season and asked to update these listings. Only 22 of the 47 clubs have returned their listings so far and the deadline is 9 January. C'mon guys.

The Management Committee are concerned about the number of missing BCGBA Registration numbers from our records (around 150 at the last count from a total of almost 1,500). This will be discussed at the Management Committee meeting on 16 January with a **move likely to ban all bowlers whose BCGBA registration numbers remain outstanding**. Avoid chaos at the start of the season by filling in the gaps in your listings or by updating your club records on the Bowlsnet website under Registrations.

We are aware of at least four new club representatives for the coming season covering Almondbury Lib, Kirkheaton C&BC, Netherton Cons and Slaithwaite. More may follow as clubs hold their own start of season meetings. All new reps are identified on the HDVBA website page Clubs / Representatives.

An induction session will be held for new club reps, or any rep wanting a refresher, following the AGM on 20 February. The three secretaries will be talking through the role and responsibilities of a club representative in a 20-minute welcome session.

The Association's Annual General Meeting will be held at 2:00pm on Monday 20 February at Paddock I&C. A full calling notice along with the agenda will be circulated to all club reps by 1 February.

Reps are reminded that the **last day for entries for new teams** in the League, or withdrawing teams, is **Monday 9 January**. These should be made in writing to the General Secretary.

## Inter-District Affairs

Inter-District fixtures for the 2017 Inter-District season have been released and are on our HDVBA website. The draw for this year's Hickson Trophy sees our team drawn against Leeds in the opening round with the one-day KO competition being played in Leeds on Friday 14 July. Details at [www.hdvba.co.uk/InterDistrictNews.htm](http://www.hdvba.co.uk/InterDistrictNews.htm)

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#### REMEMBER....

All League fixtures, Team and Individual Knock-Out matches in 2017 will start at

**1.30pm**

## LD Trophy Update

HDVBA Competition Secretary, David Sykes, worked very hard in his first season in the role and was rewarded with increased entries in all the Individual competitions except the Lower Division Trophy. So in an attempt to improve on this the rules about entries for 2017 have been relaxed a little. The LD Trophy competition is now open to all bowlers who have a handicap of 5 or more. This opens entry to **Non-Starred bowlers in Section 3** of the 10-Man League in addition to the current level of all bowlers in both the 6-Man League and Sections 4 and 5 of the 10-Man League. Entries for all our competitions will be opened next month and full details will be on the HDVBA website and in your February Newsletter.

## Newsome News

The battle to save the bowling green at Newsome appears to be lost for the immediate future at least as it has been dug up by the site developer. We really feel for all those club members who have been treated with total disrespect by someone only interested in personal gain.

That being the case Newsome have reached agreement for their teams to play at Primrose Hill Lib for the 2017 season. It is expected that the Newsome team in Section 2 of the 10-Man League will retain that status and be renamed Primrose Hill Lib A. The Primrose Hill Lib team currently in Section 5 will become the B team and the Newsome 6-Man team will continue to play in Section A but under the Primrose Hill Lib name. All this is to be ratified by your Management Committee at their January meeting.

## Management Committee Matters

The first Management Committee meeting of 2017 will be held on Monday 16 January when business to be discussed is expected to include the Newsome BC situation and name change; Starred Bowlers for the new season, the position of Treasurer following the resignation of David Armitage with effect from the AGM; the agenda for the AGM; Inter-District team captaincy and management; new team applications and format of the League sections for 2017.

**One new team application** to join the 10-Man League has already been received. **No team resignations** have been received to date.

The make-up of the Management Committee should be the Officers plus eight Committee members. Currently there are just four Committee members and expressions of interest in filling these vacancies are now invited. Anyone interested, or seeking further information, should contact any of the Officers listed in this newsletter, preferably before the 16 January meeting.

The changes to Rule 1C agreed at the Special General Meeting will result in some alterations to the list of Starred Bowlers. These will be finalised at the January meeting and released on the HDVBA website shortly after that.

### HDVBA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2:00pm Monday  
20 February 2017  
at Paddock I&C

Any club not represented will be fined as per League Rules

## Special General Meeting

A Special General Meeting was held on Monday 12 December to vote on four proposed changes to Rule 1C. The meeting agreed to change the rule regarding Starred Bowlers. From the new season Starred Bowlers will only be found in A teams so freeing up B and C team players to play in the 6-Man League. The restriction on only two non-Starred Bowlers being able to play for the B team or 6-Man team has also been lifted. It is hoped that this will support teams who have struggled to raise full teams on occasions.

The penalties for ignoring these rules have also been strengthened as now one point is deducted for each non-qualified bowler from each team, Previously there was a one-point penalty regardless of how many non-qualified bowlers were playing.

The opportunity was also taken at this meeting to close a loophole in the rules by introducing a new rule that no bowlers can bowl for more than one team on the same day.

## BowlsnetUpdate

We will again be relying heavily on Bowlsnet to provide an online Results Reporting service for all our teams. There have been a number of cosmetic changes to the system over the Winter months but the system is basically the same. You input your results and it immediately updates the league records, tables and player averages.

One important change is the address you type in to get access to the system - this has changed. There is a new domain name and this is [www.bowlsnet.uk](http://www.bowlsnet.uk). The old address [www.bowlsnet.org.uk](http://www.bowlsnet.org.uk) is still available for the present but is not being updated and is frozen as at 18 November 2016. Also you cannot log in to it. The links at the top of the HDVBA website home page will take you direct to the live service.

Bowlsnet really is excellent and **90% of our clubs now use the system** to forward their results each week. The other methods all remain available to clubs for 2017 including via the HDVBA website, by post, by email or by smartphone photographs. Any club looking to move to Bowlsnet will get full support and can always revert to other ways if they find that it doesn't suit them. We are not like most Leagues in the area who insist that Bowlsnet is the only means of submitting results - not yet, but that may be the next step.

## A free fixture list for every Club

New this year is a freebie one-page fixture list for your club. On request each team can receive an individual listing of their fixtures for the full season. It will be sent by email and you can then forward copies to your club members as well as printing a copy out for your club notice board. Full details will be provided on the HDVBA website once the fixtures lists become available. Finally, a Very Happy New Year to all our readers.

### BOWLSNET

Bowlsnet is the wonderful\_dynamic website we use to collect all team results, produce the league tables, player averages and more.

If your club doesn't use it yet then this introduces a delay in to your results being uploaded to the system. It is easy to use and provides immediate notification of receipt of your results.

Contact the League Secretary to get a Username and Password for your club ready for the new season. Full support provided for all users.

### FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

If you have registered to receive the monthly Newsletter then the February 2017 issue should be arriving in your email Inbox on

**MONDAY 30 JANUARY**