

NEWSLETTER

Number 23
November 2018

A review of the past month, a preview of the coming month and more www.hdvba.co.uk

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ Half-Year Meeting Report
 - Rule changes one-by-one
- ◆ New Canalside green drawings
- ◆ Presentation Photographs
- ◆ Club Rep's Corner
- ◆ Full Review of the 2018 season
 - Team-by-Team Review
 - Final League Tables
 - Top Averages by Section



to

David Union
for sponsoring this
issue of the newsletter

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QUALIFYING AGE DROPPED TO 60

Probably the most significant rule change of recent years was passed at the Half-Year Meeting last month when clubs voted 36-12 in favour of reducing the qualifying age of bowlers in both our leagues to sixty years of age.

The signs started to appear 12 months ago when the 2017 Half-Year Meeting actually supported the drop in age by 19 votes to 18 but failed to get the two-thirds majority required to introduce a change in our rules. That pushed the Management Committee to once again add the proposal to the meeting agenda this year but this time they actually spoke in favour of the change and Committee members voted individually to make the two-thirds target.

The crux of the case being that we, as a League, are out of step with all other Veterans' Leagues with a survey showing that 49 out of 52 Leagues surveyed had 60 as their bowler qualifying age. All our neighbouring Leagues carry the 60 landmark qualifying age and the argument was that this left our clubs at a disadvantage in recruiting new bowlers.

Although perpetually including the motion in the list of proposed rule changes the Management Committee's past preference had been to allow clubs to lead the debate on this issue in previous years but the feeling was that it was now do-able with some additional support. That additional support included Management Committee members using their individual votes to support the motion as well as leading the discussion on the proposal. That proved to be sufficient as the benefits of change were highlighted and the vote comfortably saw the motion home.

This was one of a number of rule changes made at this meeting and a full report on all those is included within this issue of your monthly newsletter. Read on.

HALF-YEAR MEETING



Upon reaching the age of 90 and still an active bowler in our league Bob Holmes of Slaithwaite BC gets his Long Service Award.



Fred Sheard of Meltham BC receives his Long Service award from President Alan Hirst.

Photographs of all the competition winners receiving their awards can be viewed and purchased on our Photobox account. Go to the HDVBA website for full details.

The Club's Half-Year Meeting looks back on the season just completed and prepares the groundwork for the next season by reviewing any changes to our rules. More of that later but first the Treasurer advised members that we are facing a reduced total income with the loss of two major sponsors and he proposed an increase in the club's annual subscriptions to help overcome this shortfall.

The Treasurer proposed an increase of 50p per bowler per season for each team. That is an extra £5 per year for each 10-man team and £3 per year for each 6-man team. This would provide a further £400 for League funds and would address the projected shortfall for next season. He reminded members that there had been no increase in subscriptions fees for 6 years and he received full support from the gathered representatives and this increase was approved.

Both the League and Competition Secretaries gave positive reports on 2018 with no significant problems reported during the course of the season. Members also noted the report on the outcome of the questionnaire sent to all clubs and completed by 34 of them regarding plans for the 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2020. This was for information only at this stage as the Management Committee will now be doing further work on the feasibility and costs of the preferred actions before reporting back to the AGM next February when plans are expected to be much further developed.

All the league winners and runners-up were presented with their trophies and cheques, with the individual and pairs competition winners also recognised. There were long service award presentations to two members upon reaching the age of 90 and still active bowlers. Fred Sheard of Meltham B.C. and Bob Holmes of Slaithwaite B.C. being the two recipients. Well done.

In addition to the qualifying age rule change a further three rules were altered following discussion and votes in favour, with a number of them to clarify existing rules or delete duplication or to tidy up poorly worded rules.

Three rule changes were more fundamental with one regarding guidance on what is and isn't allowed regarding teams and individuals practicing on a neutral green the week prior to a KO match. Another looked at the process for making and announcing the draws for our individual and pairs KO competitions and another change addressed a loophole in the rule about clubs withdrawing their 'A' team from a competition whilst retaining a stronger 'B' team in the same competition. Full coverage of the 'before' and 'after' wording of all the rule changes one-by-one is included at the back of this newsletter.

A NEW CANALSIDE GREEN

Drawings and plans for a new Canalside Sports & Social Club at Leeds Road Playing Fields have recently been put on public display. The new set up is due to be completed by 2020 and includes a new bowling green.



The artist's impression along with drawings of the plans are on display at the Leeds Road Playing Fields complex and the drawing alongside shows the proposed new bowling green.

This is exciting news for club bowlers who have felt least wanted in recent times following the closure of the back green on the present site and then difficulties in getting basic services, like a cup of tea, made available to them in their revised setup.

This is the first new green to be built in the Huddersfield area for over 60 years so is a real milestone achievement. Take a trip down to LRPF yourself and take a look at the exciting potential of this state-of-the-art development

CLUB REPS CORNER

Are you geared up to take full and early advantage of the new qualifying age rule? You can now sign up bowlers for the 2019 season who were born before 1 April 1959 and will therefore be 60 at the start of the season. Bowlers who reach that age during the season are allowed to bowl from their 60th birthday.

The transfer season is now upon us and any club wishing to transfer a bowler from another club needs to contact the League Secretary in the first instance. He will then contact that bowler's current club to check that there is no reason that the transfer cannot go ahead, such as any outstanding financial commitment, before finalising the transfer and updating the Bowsnet system accordingly.

COMPETITION ENTRIES 2015-2018						
	ROSE BOWL	LD TROPHY	PAIRS	OVER-70's	OVER-80's	TOTALS
2015	58	24	57	55	19	213
2016	76	24	64	64	24	252
2017	63	27	56	65	22	233
2018	67	28	59	61	20	235

I know that many of you cajole, encourage and bully (heaven forbid) your members in to signing up to compete in our KO competitions. The table alongside shows how effective your efforts have been, and continue to be, over the years. Thank you.

Any club proposing to enter or withdraw a team for the 2019 season needs to do so before the 14 January deadline.

The League's Annual General Meeting will be held at 2pm on Monday 18 February. Get that date in your new 2019 diary.

YOUR NEWSLETTER

I am very grateful to DAVID UNION of Outlane Bowling Club who has generously sponsored this issue of your Newsletter. If you would like to sponsor a future issue then it costs just £20. The December issue still awaits your sponsorship. Full details from the editor.

FULL REVIEW OF THE 2018 LEAGUE SEASON

Section by Section Review with all 87 teams covered

Top Averages for Singles & Pairs bowlers for each Section

All the Final League Tables for the 10-Man and 6-Man seasons

Another great season for Veterans League bowling in Huddersfield with a cracking Summer distorting the playing surfaces and introducing a prolonged period of very fast brown greens which tested the very best bowlers in our Leagues.

However the season didn't quite start like that, in fact the exact opposite as Spring Bank Holiday Monday (2 April) was the first day of the season and all the 6-Man League matches were called off because of snow. It didn't get much better the following day for the start of the 10-man season with 19 of the 32 scheduled fixtures being called off. After that we lost very few games to the weather as we all gloried in one of the warmest and driest summers for many years.

SECTION 1

	PI	W	L	For	Agst	Pts
Lockwood Con. A	26	23	3	3511	2806	174
Elland C&BC A	26	16	10	3320	2951	140
Marsh United A	26	15	11	3193	3137	126
Cowcliffe	26	15	11	3255	3174	123
Milnsbridge A	26	13	13	3183	3050	123
Almondbury B.C. A	26	15	11	3154	3139	123
Golcar Lib A	26	13	13	3109	3123	118
Clayton West	26	11	15	3157	3126	117
Lindley Lib. A	26	15	11	3101	3171	117
Meltham A	26	11	15	3120	3151	115
Waterloo	26	13	13	3163	3219	109
Netherton Con. A	26	10	16	3031	3278	95
Brockholes A	26	7	19	2911	3380	79
Thongsbridge A	26	5	21	2848	3351	79

Starting in the 10-man League where **Lockwood Con A** retained their title, extended their lead and made it five consecutive League titles. That equaled the record set by their predecessors Milnsbridge A but still short of Lindley Lib's record of eight titles in total. A 34-point advantage come the end of the season accurately reflects that dominance of this exceptional team over their opponents. Only three defeats in the League all season, all away from home. Two were surprise defeats against teams in the lower half of the table, Netherton Con A and Waterloo, with a 4-5 reversal at Cowcliffe to add to those. They also had the Section's top individual bowler in Mick Cox who only lost 3 out of 26 league games all season and two of those were to All-But.

Elland C&BC A also had a good year to finish Runners-Up quite a leg-up on their sixth placed finish of the previous season. This was an all-round team effort with only one Singles and one Pairs bowler in the Top 15 in the Section 1 Averages. A bit of a faltering finish to the season as they lost 4 of their final 8 fixtures but anything other than second place would have been an injustice after being lodged there all season.

Marsh Utd A collected one less league point than they did the previous season but still moved up two places from fifth to third. A hesitant start to the season with three defeats in their first six matches and then a crushing 0-9 defeat at Elland cost them dearly otherwise a stronger challenge for the money positions was definitely on the cards. Much to be pleased about especially with their Bistro success to add to the end of season feel good factor.

Three teams finished the season locked together on 123 points with Cowcliffe's better 'Aggregate For' total giving them the edge over Milnsbridge A and Almondbury BC A. Something happened to **Cowcliffe** mid-way through last season after suffering 9 defeats in their opening 10 games but ever since then they have been outstanding and continued that improved form to assume a fourth place finish this year.

Only the bottom two teams had a worse home record than **Milnsbridge A** and only the Champions picked up more away points than them this year. However that away form deserted them in their final match on the road when suffering a 0-9 defeat at Cowcliffe which did unrecoverable damage to their hopes of a higher finish and gave them their lowest points total for many years.

Almondbury BC A are the surprise team of the year after just avoiding relegation on the final day of last season they have emerged as a strong but inconsistent set up that lost 0-9 twice to Lockwood Con this year but were also one of only two teams to win at Marsh Utd, the other being Lockwood Con. A massive step up this term and an excellent season for them.

A poor start to the season for **Golcar Lib A** saw them lose 6 of their first 7 fixtures which would hold them back all season. However they finished strongly winning 7 of their last 8 matches to end up with 3 points more than last season and one place higher. A drop from third to eighth for **Clayton West** coming on the back of an unheard of four home defeats in the season, only the bottom two teams recorded less home wins. Last year they won all 13 home matches so some come-down as they rarely came to terms with their own sun-baked home green. **Lindley Lib A** in contrast had a wonderful home record losing just once and that was to Champions Lockwood Con. A bottom half finish with the second best home record in the Section is disappointing and shows where improvements are required.

No team in the top Section had a bigger drop in end-of-season placing than **Meltham A** who fell from fourth from top last season to fifth from bottom in 2018. It could have been worse with only 4 wins from their first 14 matches but then a 9-0 home win over Lindley Lib A prompted a recovery which saw them only lose

one home game the rest of the season and climb to relative safety.

Waterloo finished 2018 in exactly the same spot that they had finished 2017, fourth from the bottom albeit with an improved points total, 109 as against 103. The season end couldn't come quick enough for them as they lost 7 of their last 9 fixtures to hover dangerously above the drop zone. Almost an identical scenario to that played out in 2017 when they lost 8 of their last 10 league games. It was a similar story for **Netherton Con A** as they only picked up two victories in the second half of the season which included a 0-9 reversal away at bottom team Thongsbridge A. Add to that the lowest away points total in the Section sets out the dire position they have engineered for themselves this year. Both these teams cannot expect a continuation of their second half of the season form to preserve their top Section status for much longer.

Fortunately for them both the Section had two worse performers this season as the A teams from **Brockholes** and **Thongsbridge** took up almost permanent residence in the relegation places. They were finally locked together on 79 points with Brockholes only winning one of their last 12 fixtures to seal their destiny. So both teams return to Section 2 after one season in the top flight and a second relegation from Section 1 in three years for Thongsbridge.

SECTION 2

	PI	W	L	For	Agst	Pts
Rastrick	24	21	3	3289	2310	168
Longwood	24	19	5	3085	2611	146
Crosland Moor	24	19	5	3138	2623	143
New Mill A	24	12	12	2890	2759	117
Lindley B.C. A	24	13	11	2886	2786	116
Broad Oak A	24	13	11	2902	2892	107
Kirkheaton C&BC A	24	10	14	2822	2867	105
Shepley	24	10	14	2715	2924	97
Hemplow	24	10	14	2736	3013	93
Meltham B	24	8	16	2720	3044	87
Skel Windmill	24	10	14	2690	3011	86
Almondbury Lib.	24	7	17	2608	3027	81
Primrose Hill Lib A	24	4	20	2557	3171	58

An immediate return to the top Section for **Rastrick** as they finished runaway winners of the Section 2 title. The statistics are impressive. Only 3 defeats all season, won all their 12 home games, six 9-0 white-washes including three in succession, a further seven 8-1 scorelines and have four of the top five bowlers in the Singles Averages. Eleven straight wins started their dominance of the Section until surprisingly losing at bottom team Primrose Hill Lib A followed by the same 3-6 scoreline at Shepley. Never out of top place all season and the first team in the 10-Man League to gain promotion in 2018. Impressive stuff and they will be looking forward to renewing their membership of the top tier.

Longwood fully justified their placing as a new team in Section 2 by winning promotion at the first attempt. Eight straight wins opened their season with the double over **Crosland Moor** being pivotal to their promotion as they eventually held off their fast finishing rivals who won their last eight fixtures to take third place for a second successive season. Just 3 points separated the two teams at the end with identical 19-5 win records.

After winning the 2017 Section 3 title **New Mill A** announced their arrival into Section 2 in the most emphatic style with two 9-0 wins and two 8-1 wins in their first four home fixtures. They remained undefeated at home until August and that was key to them consolidating their status which sometimes bordered on the verge of a promotion push but their poor away record put paid to that. Still a fourth place finish was an excellent follow up to their promotion and moved them above some well established teams at this level.

Lindley BC A never really threatened to improve on their final position of fifth, one place and three points less than the previous season. Not so for **Broad Oak A** who flirted with higher expectations after winning their first seven home fixtures but they went off the boil in the latter stages only winning two of their final seven matches to finish sixth, three places higher but three points less than in 2017.

Opening their season with five straight defeats scuppered any hopes **Kirkheaton C&BC A** had of improving on their seventh place finish of the previous season and so it proved with an identical ending this year. At the half-way stage **Shepley** found themselves adrift in bottom spot with 2 wins from 12 matches and they appeared to be in free-fall after their relegation from the top flight the previous season. Then, for no obvious reason, the penny dropped and they won 5 games in a row including beating both the top two teams. A concluding 4 wins, 4 losses saw them end the season comfortably in mid-table safe in the knowledge that their second half of the season form had been of a promotion level.

Hemplow lost 7 of their final 9 fixtures to drop on to the edge of the relegation battle from mid-table security and a long way short of their fifth place finish of 2017. **Meltham B** and **Skel Windmill** were lower half teams all season without ever finding themselves in the drop zone as that was the preserve of three teams until Shepley found form and left Almondbury Lib and Primrose Hill Lib A in the bottom two positions and the two end of season casualties. For **Almondbury Lib** it was a direct return to Section 3 and their fifth consecutive season of either being promoted or relegated. Maybe **Primrose Hill Lib A** (previously Newsome) have a hangover from the loss of their home green but 4 wins from 24 games can only result in one outcome and so it proved.

SECTION 3

	PI	W	L	For	Agst	Pts
Thorpe Green	20	15	5	2579	2123	120
Kirkheaton Con.	20	13	7	2534	2224	108
Lockwood Con. B	20	12	8	2459	2234	103
Paddock I&C	20	10	10	2412	2439	91
Almondbury B.C. B	20	10	10	2323	2380	90
Golcar Lib B	20	10	10	2329	2391	88
Springwood	20	10	10	2352	2387	87
Lindley Lib. B	20	9	11	2392	2482	85
Holmfirth A	20	10	10	2357	2429	85
Canalside	20	5	15	2219	2506	69
Ravensknowle Park A	20	6	14	2158	2519	64

Thorpe Green and Kirkheaton Con were the two Section 2 casualties from last season's league reorganisation exercise so it was very fitting that both vaulted back to that level at the first attempt. **Thorpe Green** were very aggrieved at their relegation and set out like men possessed to rectify that situation. A 9-0 opening day win was followed by a further five straight victories and they were never headed all season to lift the title by 12 clear points.

In contrast **Kirkheaton Con** lost four of their first five games as they struggled to reconcile to their plight but eventually the penny dropped to go on a mid-season winning spree of 7 games, including two 9-0's, and then finishing with three wins on the bounce to pass **Lockwood Con B** on the final day of the season. That was no disgrace for the new Lockwood Con team in their first season in the 10-man league and they fully justified their placing at this level by sitting in the promotion places for almost the whole season. It was their early season away form that damaged their chances as they didn't gain a win on the road until the second half of the season.

Paddock often threatened to gate-crash the promotion party without ever really doing so to finish in a season high position of fourth, one higher than last year. Whereas **Lindley Lib B** did sit in the promotion places at the half-way point but a 7 game losing run mid-season put paid to their hopes and they eventually fell right away to finish eighth.

Ravensknowle Park A and **Canalside** were the two relegated teams after sitting in the bottom three almost the whole season along with Almondbury BC A who, by winning 6 of their last 8 fixtures, managed to pull away from trouble. It was a second consecutive relegation for Canalside with the unwelcome distraction of the future uncertainty over their green most unhelpful to them. The Park side started their campaign with a 0-9 defeat and two more white-washes were to follow later in the season followed by relegation which was a little surprising considering their mid-table finish in 2017.

Golcar Lib B can be pleased with their performances this season after promotion from Section 4 as they were always nearer the top than the bottom although only managing to beat the bottom team in their final five games clouded that a little.

Springwood and **Holmfirth A** were two of the five teams with Won 10 Lost 10 season long records but neither ventured into the top half of the table all season. Both finished lower than they had done the previous season, Holmfirth (4th to 9th) more so than Springwood (6th to 7th), but comfortably ahead of the bottom two.

SECTION 4

	PI	W	L	For	Agst	Pts
Brockholes B	22	17	5	2894	2383	135
Bradley & Colne	22	18	4	2863	2371	135
Marsden Park	22	14	8	2633	2611	110
Slaithwaite	22	13	9	2654	2553	107
Outlane	22	13	9	2652	2570	107
Marsh United B	22	10	12	2639	2668	98
Denby Dale	22	10	12	2592	2697	90
Netherton Con. B	22	8	14	2584	2648	90
Meltham C	22	8	14	2556	2739	87
Milnsbridge B	22	9	13	2515	2668	87
Broad Oak B	22	6	16	2442	2739	72
Lindley B.C. B	22	6	16	2422	2799	70

What a magnificent season-long tussle for honours we had in Section 4 before a wonderful last day performance from **Brockholes** (9-0 win) saw them draw level with **Bradley & Colne** (8-1 win) and take the title on a better 'Aggregate For' total. On occasions Marsden Park and Outlane threatened to gate-crash the duo's party but such aspirations were quickly dampened by the intense rivalry that developed as each took it in turn to lead the way. It looked likely that Bradley & Colne would claim the title going in to the last day and they could hardly have done more than gain an 8-1 home win yet Brockholes B surpassed their own achievements by white-washing third-placed Marsden Park 9-0 to inch past their rivals. Great stuff. Both teams had been relegated the previous year albeit Brockholes as a result of the league reorganisation and an influx of new bowlers for Bradley & Colne raised expectations which were to be fully realised.

Despite that final day hammering **Marsden Park** hung on to third place but the form of the top two meant that they took third place for a second consecutive season to be denied promotion once again. **Outlane** were always thereabouts without troubling the top two and can be well satisfied with their season after promotion the previous year. They were actually pipped for fourth spot on the last day of the season as **Slaithwaite** hit a season high position but not enough to regain their Section 3 status lost in 2017.

The bottom two were well adrift of the pack and **Lindley BC B** and **Broad Oak B** will both be playing in Section 5 next season as a result. Both were in the bottom three at the half-way point and then only collecting 33 and 31 points respectively in the remaining 11 matches sealed their fate. In contrast **Meltham C** were wedged between them at the half-way point but 43 second half season points allowed them to pull comfortably clear.

That still represented a disappointing outcome for the Meltham team after finishing fourth the previous year but being a C team carries its own burden of providing bowlers to cover higher team missing bowlers. They climbed to join a cluster of four teams separated by three points safe and well above the relegated pair. It could have been much worse for **Netherton Con B** with a six-game losing run to start the season before recovering and posting the best away record in the bottom half of the table.

Also in that cluster was **Denby Dale** who will be more satisfied with their season having consolidated their standing at this level having been promoted the previous season. **Milnsbridge B** made up that quartet and a better first half of the season gave way to a disappointing latter half having been a casualty of the league reorganisation and relegation from Section 3 last year. **Marsh Utd B** were in their own little world in a mid-table of one finishing 9 points behind 5th place yet 8 points ahead of 7th position and never really threatening to deviate from that solitary standing. Yet having guaranteed another season at this level they have some satisfaction when they look at the team they followed up from Section 5 two seasons previously, the now relegated Lindley BC B, and derive some satisfaction from their own durability.

SECTION 5

	PI	W	L	For	Agst	Pts
Lowerhouses	22	17	5	2838	2255	138
Thongsbridge B	22	16	6	2785	2477	119
New Mill B	22	15	7	2806	2488	118
Elland C&BC B	22	13	9	2657	2517	111
Huddersfield RUBC	22	12	10	2605	2556	109
David Brown Sports	22	10	12	2618	2581	101
Holmfirth B	22	10	12	2554	2563	94
Dalton	22	8	14	2589	2642	87
Greenhead Park	22	10	12	2541	2754	84
Primrose Hill Lib. B	22	8	14	2456	2775	84
Kirkheaton C&BC B	22	8	14	2463	2688	80
Ravensknowle Park B	22	5	17	2218	2834	62

Steady, reliable, consistent yet unspectacular all describe the Section 5 Champions from **Lowerhouses**. No eye-catching 9-0 scorelines until the last home game of the year, no drastic dips in form but a feeling that they were always in control of things especially at home where they finished with an unbeaten record. A 9 point lead at the half-way stage doubled in to a predictable 19 point advantage at season-end to comfortably take the season's honours and continue their improvement after finishing fifth the previous season.

A good season for **Thongsbridge B** with their runners-up status providing an immediate return to Section 4 and recovering from an opening day loss at the Rugby Club to post seven straight wins and throw down the gauntlet to the rest of the teams, a gauntlet only taken up by the eventual Champions. The Thongsbridge side also went undefeated at home all season but only hung

on to the second promotion slot when posting an identical final day 3-6 defeat as **New Mill B** to pip their rivals by one point. A Thongsbridge league double over their New Mill rivals proving decisive in determining this outcome. New Mill had started brightly winning 5 of their first 6 fixtures but stuttering then to only sit fifth at the half-way point. An improved second half of the season saw them collect 67 more league points, a total not bettered by any other team in that Section to finish one point off promotion and one place higher than last year.

Only the bottom team lost more home matches than **Elland C&BC B** including the first two and last two in the fixture programme and there lays the reason they finished no higher than fourth but still a mega upgrade on the previous year when they were third from the foot of this table. A strong 9-2 home record for **Huddersfield RUBC**, including the scalps of both the promoted pair. kept them in the upper regions all season which could have been expected as they played at a higher level the previous year but teams react differently to relegation and the early set of promising results failed to be maintained and they were always playing catch-up, a task that proved to be beyond them.

You can't fault **David Brown Sports** for lack of consistency. Sat comfortably in sixth place at the half-way point and still sat there at season end. They won 5 matches in each half of the season and scored 49 points in the first half and 52 in the second half to never threaten moving from the comfort of mid-table. They will be looking to improve on a solitary away win this year to add to their impressive home record and mount a serious promotion bid next time around.

Models of consistent mediocrity were **Holmfirth B** and **Dalton**. At the half-way stage they had 47 and 43 points respectively. Come season-end they had both doubled their tally to 94 and 87 and maintained their mid-table status. That was a huge improvement for the Holmfirth side after ending the previous season level on points with the bottom team and similar strides next year would mark a notable turnaround in fortunes. Things were just a little too comfortable for Dalton as they were close to be sucked in to the foot of the table battle which Greenhead Park hurtled towards by losing 5 of their final 7 matches and were saved by the season's closure.

However **Ravensknowle Park B** reserved bottom spot for a second year and will be disappointed, but not down-hearted, by their reduced points total of 62 some 18 points behind their nearest rival **Kirkheaton C&BC B**. The Yetton team claimed a unique 8-0 scoreline amongst their results after they and their opponents both failed to field full teams in one fixture and were therefore denied a white-wash 9-0 scoreline. **Primrose Hill Lib B** had a poor season to finish third from bottom after finishing a comfortable sixth the previous year being let down by a drop in their traditional decent away form this time to only collect one win on the road.

SIX-MAN LEAGUE

The 23-team strong 6-Man League has had an interesting season following the withdrawal of Longwood and Lockwood Con to join the 10-Man League. That opened up a real battle for supremacy amongst the perpetual also-rans with five real contenders emerging for the vacant Section A title.

SECTION A

	PI	W	L	For	Agst	Pts
Netherton Con.	22	16	6	1978	1757	99
Shepley A	22	13	9	1938	1711	85
Crosland Moor	22	12	10	1873	1808	84
Paddock I&C	22	13	9	1930	1914	83
Farnley Tyas	22	12	10	1875	1842	83
Milnsbridge BC	22	12	10	1936	1875	81
Brockholes A	22	11	11	1873	1871	79
Thongsbridge B	22	10	12	1911	1804	77
Clayton West	22	12	10	1792	1863	76
Skel Windmill A	22	10	12	1821	1877	69
Almondbury Lib.	22	8	14	1808	1948	68
Golcar Lib.	22	3	19	1621	2086	40

A Battle-Royale amongst five contenders for the Section A title and to lay claim to life after the Longwood and Lockwood Con dynasty. Well there certainly was life as the top teams set out their stalls to assume their own legacy in the 6-man history. It threatened to become a two-horse race for much of the season with Netherton Con and Crosland Moor alternating leadership on a weekly basis following both being promoted from Section B in 2017.

It isn't obvious why **Crosland Moor** suddenly went into reverse gear after the half-way point but they most certainly did. Only winning 3 of their 11 second half matches to claim less points than every team in the Section with the exception of the bottom team. Without doubt that was relegation form and it scuppered all their hopes of glory for the season. This left the way clear for **Netherton Con** to cruise to the title and they were able to take their foot off the pedal and free wheel to a 14 point lead at the top despite losing twice to Crosland Moor. So a second consecutive Section title after claiming the Section B crown the previous year and really announcing their arrival on the 6-man league scene.

Such was Crosland Moor's demise that they even lost the runners-up slot as well with **Shepley** coming from way back to pinch the glory. They were pre-season favourites for honours having finished third behind Longwood and Lockwood Con last year but those expectations weighed heavily on their shoulders only winning 4 of their first 11 fixtures. That left them sitting in 10th position at the half-way point so to finish as runners-up took a Herculean effort achieved by winning 9 of their last 11 matches.

Farnley Tyas and **Paddock** finished locked together on 83 points and they both had their moments when something better than 4th and 5th place finishes seemed possible to them. Farnley in particular

threatened to muscle in on the top of the table party but their up-and-down form, epitomised by beating Crosland Moor 6-1 one week and losing 0-7 to Netherton Con the following Monday, went against them in the final count. It finished very tight behind the Champions with just two points between the next four teams and that pack included Paddock but they were never nearer than in their final day position of fourth.

Only the title winners won more away points than **Milnsbridge** but only two teams won less points at home than them to quickly identify the weakness in their game. No team had more win doubles than Milnsbridge including the scalps of Shepley and Crosland Moor whilst losing twice to teams below them Brockholes and Clayton West. You could see the potential but the inconsistency undermined their hopes.

Thongsbridge B and **Clayton West** had good opening halves to the season and were comfortable in 4th and 5th places at the start of July. Both fell away alarmingly to end up 8th and 9th almost the same scenario as the previous year when 7th and 9th finishes were recorded. However their first half points collection ensured that they were never engaged in the relegation fight which focused on three teams. **Golcar Lib** lost their last 12 matches to ensure they went down with **Skel Windmill A** and **Almondbury Lib** left to decide the second relegation place between themselves. That resulted in a final day of the season winner-takes-all confrontation as the two teams met. Home advantage proving decisive as Skel won 5-2 and leapfrogged their opponents to safety and another season in the top flight.

SECTION B

	PI	W	L	For	Agst	Pts
Lindley Lib.	20	18	2	1866	1478	101
Oakfield T&BC	20	12	8	1815	1620	88
Skel Windmill B	20	12	8	1764	1611	80
Golcar C&BC	20	11	9	1725	1575	79
Primrose Hill Lib	20	11	9	1693	1652	73
Holmfirth	20	12	8	1707	1736	71
Thongsbridge A	20	9	11	1647	1749	61
Meltham	20	8	12	1577	1698	61
Hemplow	20	8	12	1608	1727	59
Marsh Lib	20	6	14	1539	1782	53
Brockholes B	20	3	17	1497	1810	44

Lindley Lib won 9 of their first 10 fixtures but that didn't shake off their main pursuers as they had just a two point lead at the half-way point. However they recorded an identical 9-1 win record in the second half to leave their challengers well behind them and a 13 point cushion when the season ended. They proved to be particularly effective against their nearest rivals with only two defeats all season and those were to the non-threats of Golcar C&BC and Meltham. A league and cup double was to be realised with the capture of the Julie Fuller Trophy as well and it was good to see club stalwart Arthur Tracey top of the Section's Pairs averages for the season as well.

Primrose Hill Lib were clearly the main threat to the Lindley team at the season's half-way mark but that threat quickly disappeared as they were to win only four more times to plummet down the table and finish fifth. **Oakfield T&BC** then assumed the main challenger role but again their later form was unreliable although they did end up in the second promotion spot to regain the Section A status lost to them last year.

Three new teams were in Section B and all equipped themselves commendably no more so than **Skel Windmill B** and **Golcar C&BC**. The Windmill team mainly comprised survivors from the 10-man team that had disbanded and they quickly settled in at this level by winning their opening three matches. However that was as good as it got as they failed to put another three winning game sequence together all season to finish third. The **Golcar C&BC** team of almost totally new bowlers improved as the season progressed to finish with a run of five straight wins and a highly promising fourth place finish. Captain Mike Chapman finishing top of the Section's Singles averages.

Holmfirth also finished strongly with six straight wins to finish comfortable in sixth place one ahead of a resurgent **Thongsbridge A** side that was in bottom place at the half-way turn. Seven wins in their last 11 games seeing them in a better final position than the previous year.

Meltham and **Hemplow** both struggled in the season's second half only collecting three wins each from their 10 games to drop to 8th and 9th respectively.

Marsh Lib were the third new team in the Section being comprised of new bowlers and predictably their start was difficult with just one win in their opening six games. However they continued to improve as portrayed by a final run of 3 wins in their last 4 fixtures including their first two away wins of the season.

Brockholes B retained bottom spot for a second season although collecting more league points from less matches than the previous year. However the season still failed to conjure up an away win for them as they went through a second season without winning away from their own lawn, a sequence that has now extended to 26 matches stretching back to June 2016.

6-MAN SECTION-BY-SECTION TOP BOWLER RECORDS

Bowlers must have played in 60% of their team's league matches to qualify for inclusion in these tables. Full records of the all the top Singles & Pairs Bowlers for each section along with individual club records are all on the Bowlsnet website.

Section A - SINGLES						
	PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg
1	J Yalden	Thongsbridge B	18	14	4	7.44
2	W Hartley	Shepley A	21	16	5	6.38
3	P Chomiak	Crosland Moor	15	10	5	5.67
4	Richard Auty	Skel Windmill A	15	10	5	5.13
5	Michael Hirst	Shepley A	18	10	8	3.39
6	Stuart Grey	Almondbury Lib.	19	11	8	3.11
7	Brian Taylor	Milnsbridge BC	19	11	8	3.00
8	R Clayton	Netherton Con.	21	13	8	2.62
9	D Moore	Paddock I&C	19	11	8	2.32
10	Nicholas Hirst	Farnley Tyas	18	11	7	2.00
Section A - PAIRS						
	PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg
1	Keith Churcher	Shepley A	15	9	6	5.73
2	C Gough	Paddock I&C	17	14	3	5.65
3	E Felton	Paddock I&C	18	14	4	4.61
4	B Cadwell	Netherton Con.	15	10	5	4.00
5	Dave Stones	Brockholes A	18	10	8	1.33
6	Antony Pollard	Milnsbridge BC	16	10	6	1.31
7	D Broadbent	Clayton West	15	8	7	1.00
8	M Jennings	Almondbury Lib.	21	12	9	0.05
9	Martin Dove	Brockholes A	15	8	7	0.00
10	W Wittrick	Clayton West	15	7	8	-1.00
Section B - SINGLES						
	PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg
1	Mike Chapman	Golcar C&BC	18	17	1	9.83
2	Barrie Morgan	Lindley Lib.	19	18	1	8.42
3	V Ash	Thongsbridge A	17	13	4	5.53
4	Paul Rothery	Golcar C&BC	19	15	4	4.79
5	David Parkin	Skel Windmill B	19	13	6	4.79
6	Robert Parish	Marsh Lib	19	12	7	4.58
7	R Rhodes	Oakfield T&BC	18	13	5	4.50
8	Alan Starkey	Meltham	19	13	6	4.26
9	A Coggin	Oakfield T&BC	19	14	5	4.05
10	George Cushing	Meltham	18	11	7	3.44
Section B - PAIRS						
	PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg
1	Arthur Tracey	Lindley Lib.	12	11	1	10.83
2	Ian Kinloch	Lindley Lib.	18	16	2	10.11
3	Stewart Swift	Holmfirth	15	13	2	6.53
4	B Cran	Oakfield T&BC	19	15	4	5.58
5	T Crawford	Holmfirth	20	16	4	5.45
6	D Morrison	Hemplow	17	10	7	3.88
7	P McNulty	Primrose Hill Lib	15	8	7	2.87
8	Eric Hoyle	Skel Windmill B	20	10	10	1.65
9	D Waterhouse	Hemplow	16	8	8	1.50
10	Jack Brookes	Skel Windmill B	18	8	10	0.83

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

If you have registered to receive the monthly HDVBA Newsletter then the December 2018 issue will be arriving in your email inbox by

FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER

Register at www.hdvba.co.uk

10-MAN SECTION-BY-SECTION 2018 TOP BOWLER RECORDS

Bowlers must have played in 60% of their team's league matches to qualify. Full records of the Top 10 Singles & Pairs Bowlers for each section along with individual club records are on our Bowlsnet website.

SINGLES							PAIRS						
Section 1							Section 1						
PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg		PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg	
1	Mick Cox	Lockwood Con. A	26	23	3	7.81	1	Brian Swift	Marsh United A	25	23	2	7.16
2	G Bradford	Elland C&BC A	25	21	4	6.48	2	Douglas Hamilton	Marsh United A	26	23	3	6.46
3	Peter Kain	Lockwood Con. A	25	20	5	6.20	3=	Terry Machen	Almondbury B.C. A	23	19	4	6.17
4	P Graham Illingworth	Milnsbridge A	26	19	7	6.00	3=	Dennis Machen	Almondbury B.C. A	23	19	4	6.17
5	Trevor Heley	Cowcliffe	26	19	7	4.96	5	K Beaumont	Lockwood Con. A	25	18	7	5.64
6	K Damms	Thongsbridge A	25	16	9	3.60	6	Derek Gibson	Lockwood Con. A	24	18	6	5.58
7	Colin Lloyd	Meltham A	22	16	6	3.36	7	Russell Clarkson	Clayton West	18	13	5	5.44
8	Frank Greenwood	Golcar Lib A	23	16	7	3.26	8	E Smith	Clayton West	22	16	6	5.09
9	Andy Carter	Marsh United A	26	17	9	2.92	9	Alan Singleton	Marsh United A	19	14	5	4.95
10	Eddie Haigh	Lockwood Con. A	22	15	7	2.73	10	B Nicholl	Elland C&BC A	20	15	5	4.85
Section 2							Section 2						
PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg		PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg	
1	Ken Flemming	Rastrick	22	21	1	9.23	1	Rodney Whitehead	Crosland Moor	21	16	5	7.48
2	Roger Crowther	Longwood	23	19	4	8.43	2	Derek Frost	Crosland Moor	20	15	5	7.30
3	David Wood	Rastrick	24	21	3	7.63	3	Mick Iredale	Broad Oak A	20	15	5	6.50
4	Roger Stopford	Rastrick	24	18	6	6.21	4	Geoff Normanton	Rastrick	16	12	4	5.88
5	Donald Booth	Rastrick	23	16	7	6.09	5	Peter Burgess	New Mill A	23	17	6	5.74
6	Graham Howe	Longwood	24	20	4	5.08	6	Kenneth Tiffany	Rastrick	21	15	6	5.62
7	Alan Crowther	Longwood	24	18	6	4.21	7	John Hunsley	Longwood	19	15	4	5.53
8	Tony Clegg	Crosland Moor	20	13	7	4.15	8	David Erving	Shepley	20	16	4	5.50
09=	Carl Taylor	Broad Oak A	21	15	6	4.05	9	Chris Washington	New Mill A	24	17	7	5.25
09=	Ron Swallow	Crosland Moor	20	15	5	4.05	10	Graham Hall	Rastrick	22	17	5	5.09
Section 3							Section 3						
PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg		PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg	
1	Charlie Landon	Thorpe Green	18	14	4	6.83	1	Alan Hawkins	Thorpe Green	14	11	3	6.64
2	B O'Prey	Lockwood Con. B	18	16	2	6.33	2	Barrie Fielding	Thorpe Green	12	10	2	6.50
3	Gordon Fisher	Almondbury B.C. B	18	15	3	6.28	3	Graham Stocks	Lockwood Con. B	13	10	3	6.31
4	Graham Morris	Thorpe Green	17	13	4	6.00	4	Ken Baxter	Kirkheaton Con.	15	12	3	5.60
5	Charlie Littlewood	Thorpe Green	15	12	3	5.87	5	John Halliwell	Almondbury B.C. B	17	14	3	5.47
6	David Price	Almondbury B.C. B	19	14	5	4.84	6	Mick Haynes	Almondbury B.C. B	16	13	3	5.19
7	Gordon Walker	Kirkheaton Con.	15	10	5	4.53	7	Dave McClean	Thorpe Green	12	9	3	4.42
8	Geoff Rollinson	Holmfirth A	20	12	8	4.35	8	Kenneth Brook	Kirkheaton Con.	12	9	3	4.17
9	Colin Hamshaw	Springwood	20	15	5	4.30	9	H Ellis	Lockwood Con. B	16	10	6	3.81
10	Granville Skilbeck	Canalside	16	11	5	2.75	10	Peter Paxman	Kirkheaton Con.	14	11	3	3.79
Section 4							Section 4						
PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg		PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg	
1	Graham Beevers	Bradley & Colne	19	16	3	8.53	1=	David Dunford	Brockholes B	16	15	1	9.06
2	Pete Haythornthwaite	Outlane	18	15	3	6.78	1=	David Hallos	Brockholes B	16	15	1	9.06
3	Peter Gledhill	Broad Oak B	21	17	4	6.67	3	Tony Stokes	Brockholes B	19	13	6	6.05
4	R Gartside	Slaithwaite	17	13	4	6.65	4	Brian Taylor	Milnsbridge B	19	13	6	5.37
5	James Unsworth	Bradley & Colne	20	14	6	4.50	5	Maurice Nicholson	Bradley & Colne	18	13	5	5.33
6	Roger Sharpe	Broad Oak B	19	11	8	3.95	6	Richard Chaffer	Brockholes B	20	14	6	5.05
7	Bob Slatford	Slaithwaite	15	10	5	3.80	7	Barrie Wright	Outlane	16	10	6	5.00
8	J Hague	Slaithwaite	17	9	8	3.59	8	David Barraclough	Denby Dale	15	10	5	4.20
9	Colin Wood	Bradley & Colne	22	16	6	3.00	9	David Catherine	Bradley & Colne	21	15	6	4.10
10	G Kewley	Marsden Park	22	13	9	3.00	10	Malcolm Wragg	Outlane	19	10	9	3.26
Section 5							Section 5						
PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg		PLAYER	CLUB	PI	W	L	Avg	
1	Phil Hunter	Lowerhouses	21	17	4	8.62	1	Stewart Swift	Holmfirth B	15	11	4	7.33
2	M Temple	Elland C&BC B	21	18	3	7.57	2	J A Crawford	Holmfirth B	17	12	5	7.06
3	Barry Betts	Huddersfield RUBC	17	13	4	7.47	3	Peter Brogan	New Mill B	19	14	5	7.00
4	Nick Hirst	Lowerhouses	18	15	3	7.33	4	Ian Wright	New Mill B	22	16	6	6.55
5	Ian Johnson	New Mill B	17	14	3	6.76	5	E Ingham	Thongsbridge B	15	11	4	6.07
6	Stewart Charlsworth	New Mill B	17	13	4	5.53	6	K Marsh	Thongsbridge B	19	13	6	5.58
7	J Wade	David Brown Sports	18	14	4	4.67	7	S Robinson	Primrose Hill Lib. B	16	12	4	4.88
8	J Mulligan	David Brown Sports	19	12	7	2.84	8	John Scott	Kirkheaton C&BC B	14	10	4	4.50
9	Richard Pearcey	Greenhead Park	21	13	7	2.65	9	Anthony Booth	Lowerhouses	15	10	5	4.47
10	Garry Firth	Huddersfield RUBC	19	12	7	2.63	10	A Sanders	Thongsbridge B	16	10	6	4.25

Huddersfield Veterans Bowling Association

Rule Change Proposals for 2019 Season

Existing Bye Law Rule 5:- The Association shall be governed overall by decisions of general meetings, which shall be attended by the following who shall constitute the Council, namely the President, Vice President, General Secretary, League Secretary, Competition Secretary, Treasurer, eight committee members and one representative from each club. Clubs not represented at Council shall be fined £5.

Amended Bye Law Rule 5:- The Association shall be governed overall by decisions of general meetings, which shall be attended by the following who shall constitute the Council, namely the President, Vice President, General Secretary, League Secretary, Competition Secretary, Treasurer, **up to** eight committee members and one representative from each club. Clubs not represented at Council shall be fined £5

APPROVED

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Existing By Law Rule 9:- All players in the Association shall be male and must be 62 years of age or over if 62 years of age during the season, they may play from their 62nd birthday.

Amended By Law Rule 9:- All players in the Association shall be male and must be **60** years or over **and if 60** years of age during the season, they may play from their **60th** birthday

APPROVED

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Existing By Law Rule 12 Last paragraph:- These proposals to be circulated to all clubs in membership. These to be circulated to all club's in membership, 14 clear days before the October meeting for consideration by the Council.

Amended Bye Law Rule Last paragraph:- These proposals to be circulated to all clubs in membership, 14 clear days before the October meeting for consideration by the Council.

Match Play Rules

Existing Match Play Rule 7:- Moved to General - Rule e) – see below

Amended Match Play Rule 7:- **Rule not in use**

APPROVED

Knock-Out Competitions. - General.

Existing Knockout Competition Rule a) Match Play rule 8 applies to teams, pairs and individual competitions

Amended Knockout Competition Rule a) Match Play rule **e)** applies to teams, pairs and individual competitions

APPROVED

Existing Knockout Competition Rule b) No player (excluding host players) will be allowed to practice on the selected green 7 days prior to the final being played, except when playing in a scheduled match/competition. Host players will not be allowed to practice on the day of the final

Amended Knockout Competition Rule b) No player (excluding host players) will be allowed to practice on the selected green 7 days **prior to any knockout competition** being played, except when playing in a scheduled match/competition. Host players will not be allowed to practice on the day of the final

APPROVED WITH AMENDMENT

Approved following further amendment as below

Knockout Competition Rule b) No player (excluding host players) will be allowed to practice on the selected green **from the date that the neutral venue is announced prior to any knockout competition** being played, except when playing in a scheduled match/competition. Host players will not be allowed to practice on the day of the final

Existing Knockout Competition Rule e) All games to be played on neutral greens. All clubs in membership shall allow the association to use their greens for competitions throughout the season. The host venue must make available toilet facilities, clubs failing to do so will be fined £5 at the discretion of the management committee. Light refreshments would be appreciated.

Host venue members, or competition players shall be responsible for undertaking competition draws from players present by the specified starting time using the draw and scratching guidelines detailed in the Yearbook.

Any club wishing to withdraw its green for a scheduled event may do so, by giving notice to the competition secretary no later than the closing date for all competitions.

Amended Knockout Competition Rule e) All games to be played on neutral greens. All clubs in membership shall allow the association to use their greens for competitions throughout the season. The host venue must make available toilet facilities, clubs failing to do so will be fined £5 at the discretion of the management committee. Light refreshments would be appreciated.

Predrawn competition drawsheets will be issued to the host venues in a sealed envelope . A list of bowlers who have been allocated to a venue will also be published on the HDVBA website and in the local press. Host venue members shall be responsible for undertaking the competition in accordance with the draw sheet and scratching guidelines detailed on the drawsheet.

Any club wishing to withdraw its green for a scheduled event may do so, by giving notice to the competition secretary no later than the closing date for all competitions.

Any Club withdrawing their A team from a competition will not be allowed to play their A team bowlers in their lower 10 man and 6 man teams in that same competition, if they have played 25% of A team games.

APPROVED

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Existing Knockout Competition Rule h) A member shall not be allowed to bowl for more than one team during the season except that a member of a club who has played in the 'B' and 'C' team may play in the same team clubs 'A' or 'B' team in later rounds, but having played in the 'A' /'B' team, he cannot revert to the 'B' or 'C' teams.

Amended Knockout Competition Rule h) A member shall not be allowed to bowl for more than one team **in any one competition** during the season except that a member of a club who has played in the 'B' and 'C' team may play in the same team clubs 'A' or 'B' team in later rounds, but having played in the 'A' /'B' team, he cannot revert to the 'B' or 'C' teams.

APPROVED

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New Knockout Competition Rule i) In any merit or handicap competition any player having a walkover or bye and being required to meet an opponent in the next round who has already played on that green in the preceding round shall be entitled to practice for not exceeding 10 minutes on completion of his opponents game.

APPROVED

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John Hoyle, General Secretary
