

NEWSLETTER

Number 35
November 2019

A review of the past month, a preview of the coming month and more

www.hdvba.co.uk



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- ... TEAM-BY-TEAM REVIEW: Full 64-team review of the 2019 10-Man League
- ... HALF-SEASON LEAGUE TABLES: April-June 2019 & July-September 2019

Thank you to TAYLOR FUNERAL SERVICES for sponsoring this issue of the Newsletter

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

FRANK'S LIFETIME AWARD

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeff Jacklin
info@hdvba.co.uk

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COVER PHOTOGRAPH

This shows Frank Greenwood collecting his Lifetime Achievement Award presented by HDVBA President, Alan Hirst, at the Half-Year Meeting.

NOVEMBER SPONSOR

Thankyou to Taylor Funeral Service for their generous support of the Newsletter. This month is the third of a six-month sponsorship commitment and we are very grateful for their support.



Taylor Funeral Service Ltd
Serving the community of Huddersfield since 1933

Taylor Funeral Service have been serving the community of Huddersfield for over 80 years. Founded in 1933 by Harry Taylor, the home moved to it's present location in 1954, becoming the first residential funeral home in Huddersfield.



Husband and Wife, Tony and Helen Dalton, now look after Taylor Funeral Service. With over 37 years of experience in the profession between them, they understand that bereavement can be an intense and distressing time and work tirelessly to deliver a first class service based on outstanding care, genuine kindness and a focus on attention to detail.

Frank Greenwood has deservedly been named as the first ever winner of the Association's Lifetime Achievement Award and received this accolade at the Clubs' October Half-Year Meeting with a short presentation by HDVBA President Alan Hirst. This was in recognition of Frank's significant contribution to Veterans' League bowling over the last 20 years both on and off the bowling green.

His achievements on the bowling green are formidable and include winning our most prestigious individual prize, the Rose Bowl, in consecutive years, 2003 and 2004. Three times a winner of the Pairs KO with two different partners in 2002, 2003 and 2005. The Over-70's KO being the one prize that alluded him although he was the runner-up on no less than three occasions in 2009, 2011 and 2017 and he added the Over-80's title to his envious collection in 2018. Frank was also the first winner of the Huddersfield Veterans' Champion of Champions title (now defunct).

On the team front he was captain of the Golcar Lib team that won the Section 1 Championship in 2005, the Bistro in 2002 and then added the Team KO in 2012. Frank enjoyed considerable success with the Huddersfield team in the Yorkshire Veterans' Inter-District competition team being a member of the winning team on 12 occasions in his 15-years service as Home Team Captain. In addition he skippered the winning Huddersfield team in the Hickson Trophy competition five times.

Frank was also captain of the Yorkshire Veterans team for 11-years during which time they took the national title twice (2011 & 2013) and were runners-up once (2003).

Frank was President of our Association in 2009 and 2010, is a Life Member and continues to serve as a member of the Management Committee.

Records show that this is the first ever awarding of this honour which is not to be confused (as I did) with the Outstanding Achievement Award which has been awarded only twice, to Tommy Dunford in 2004 for his services to the Association in many capacities and also in 2014 to Milnsbridge BC in recognition of them winning the Section 1 title for five consecutive years and no doubt Lockwood Con will follow them once they stop winning everything!

CLUB NAME CHANGE

Following the closure of the green at Canalside and the subsequent transfer of teams to be based at Moldgreen Con the club has undergone a name change. As Canalside Sports & Social Club no longer exists the club's eleven bowling teams will now operate under the title of Huddersfield Recreation Club which was the name of the previous umbrella organisation under which Canalside S&SC teams were governed.

There is still work to do on agreeing start times for Veterans League matches with an interim arrangement of morning matches for fixtures in the second half of the season for 2019 unlikely to receive the necessary support to be extended. There were special circumstances last season with the unexpected early withdrawal of access to the Canalside green and visiting clubs rallied around them to ensure that Canalside could complete their fixtures.

A previous application to introduce a new team a couple of years ago by an existing club with morning matches the norm was not allowed by the Management Committee. However there is congestion in the Tuesday afternoon fixture programme at Moldgreen Con with two ladies teams already committed to League matches at that time. It is hoped that a sensible resolution can be found to the satisfaction of all teams and Leagues.

FANTASY LEAGUE



Some changes are planned for the 2020 Fantasy League season with potentially more winners than ever collecting prizes from our unique season-long competition. More of that nearer the start of the new season but it will mean that every entrant will still have a chance of a prize right until the last day of the season regardless of where they are in the league table.

Congratulations to Tom Kelly of Thongsbridge on winning the 2019 competition and to John Earnshaw and Ken Baxter for taking the minor prizes. All have now received their Well Bowled Sales Voucher prizes along with the Mini-League winners and our two KO competition winners as below.

Well Bowled have confirmed their continuing sponsorship of the competition for our Anniversary Season of 2020 which is fantastic news so we look forward to another great season of Fantasy League action next year.

PRIZE MONEY				
NAME	OVERALL TABLE	MINI-LEAGUE	KO1 & KO2	TOTAL
Tom Kelly	£30	£20		£50
John Earnshaw	£15	£10		£25
Ken Baxter	£10		£10	£20
Colin Wood		£15	£10	£25
			TOTAL	£120

WINTER INDOOR LEAGUE

There has been a suggestion that the Association should establish a Winter League to be based at the indoor crown green at The Dome at Leeds Road Playing Fields. This has been investigated further and there does appear to be sufficient interest amongst Veterans League clubs and bowlers to justify further enquiries.

The main stumbling block seems to be acquiring committed playing time at The Dome which appears to have become increasingly popular during the Winter months. I've started talking to KMC about this but I'm not hopeful as I've asked about booking a year in advance and they tell me every weekday is fully booked in 2020.

The only time dedicated two-hour slots available appear to be between 4.30pm to 6.30pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays. Not sure that these timings would be suitable for us to attract enough teams. Maybe I am wrong about that.

Assuming that a suitable time slot does become available then I believe that we could support an eight-team League of four-man teams playing in two-pairs. That would provide for two one-hour long games to be played by each of the pairs. Each team would play each other twice over a 14-week Winter season with maybe a play-off involving the top four and/or a Knock-Out competition to cover an 18-week Winter season. If we can just get a more suitable time slot!

HALF-YEAR MEETING OF CLUBS

The member clubs meet twice a year to conduct the business of the Association. One of those dates is the February Annual General Meeting the other being the October gathering known as the Half-Year Meeting.

Business traditionally conducted each Autumn includes any proposed rule changes, presentation of all League and Competition winners and the Treasurer provides an update on the Association's finances along with an early indication as to the League fees to be recommended to members at the following AGM.

This year's Half-Year Meeting was held on 14 October and saw every one of the 47 member clubs represented to hear Treasurer Alan Stephenson provide a positive report on the financial status of the League. He reported that the first increase for many years in League fees agreed last February will ensure that he will not be reporting another loss when the full accounts are presented to the February AGM. In fact he fully expected to report a surplus at that time although no exact figures are available at present with some income and outgoing expenses still to be finalised.

A number of proposed rule changes had been circulated to members and these were discussed in turn. Marsh United had proposed a change to the rule regarding rearranged match fixtures. This extended the time period allowed to rearrange any match to include any free normal playing date (Monday for 6-man and Tuesday for 10-man) rather than being restricted to the current 28-day limit rule. With the full support of the Management Committee this change was approved and passed.

A revision to Match Play Rule 4 also received the approval of the meeting and this clarified the guidance about the format of Singles and Pairs games in any match. Teams can play matches in any combination of Singles and Pairs although the home team captain has the final say on any given day. This it is hoped will enable clubs to agree any mix of Singles and Pairs games to be played in any order depending on the circumstances of the match day. For example this allows matches to be played with three Singles and a Pairs game being played first followed by the remaining two Pairs and one Singles games.

Two proposed rule changes were withdrawn once it became clear that the new wording would not receive the full support of the clubs although in

both instances alternative wording was agreed in principle by the clubs and the Management Committee indicated that they would re-present these amended proposals at the Annual General Meeting in February.

The proposed alteration of Match Play Rule 3c to indicated the penalty to be imposed on any club playing an ineligible bowler in a League or KO match. Clubs agreed that teams infringing this rule in a KO match should be expelled from that year's competition but didn't support the proposal to award a 9-0 (10-man) or 7-0 (6-man) victory to their opponents in League matches. The feeling being that this would seriously penalise other teams in that competition by awarding a team 9 or 7 points for one bowler's transgression. The preference being to award a 0-21 scoreline in such instances. The Management Committee took this away to reword the proposed change and will re-present to clubs at the AGM.

Similarly a proposed change to General Rule 1h was withdrawn when clubs indicated that they could not support the wording of the change to the eligibility of bowlers for team KO competitions. However new wording was put forward which appeared to receive the support of the clubs and this will be reworded to once again be put before the clubs next February so that the changes can be in effect for the 2020 season.

The full wording of the rule change proposals and outcomes are included overpage.

The General Secretary provided clubs with an update on plans for the celebration of the Association's 50th Anniversary season in 2020. These include an extended AGM in February to launch the Anniversary season with three speakers talking about bowling in Huddersfield. Peter Muff the long-time Sports Reporter of the Huddersfield Examiner and Slaithwaite Veteran team bowler will be recalling his time competing in our League whilst the story of how the League was started in the first place will also be related.

A number of new Golden Jubilee awards will be presented including to each of the eleven original members clubs who are still members today. There will also be awards made to identified 'Clubs of the Decade' as we look back on the 50 years of HDVBA History. In addition some awards to the oldest bowlers in our Leagues are also planned. A buffet for all attendees is included in what promises to be an interesting opening to a very special season of Veterans League bowling.

HUDDERSFIELD & DISTRICT VETERANS' BOWLING LEAGUE

HALF-YEAR MEETING

14 October 2019

UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO LEAGUE BYE-LAWS

Proposed by Marsh United Seconded by Dalton, David Brown Sports & Holmfirth

1. CURRENT RULE: Match Play Rule 3a (Page 52)

.....Where a match has to be re-arranged the date must be agreed within 7 days of the original date and the match must be played within 28 days of the original date. In any event the League Secretary must be informed.

In re-arranged matches players having played in other teams on the original date, cannot play in the re-arranged game. In the case of a dispute, the matter is to be referred to the committee whose decision will be final. Failure to play the game within 28 days of the original date shall result in a £5 fine to both clubs.

1. PROPOSED CHANGE:

..... Where a match has to be re-arranged the date must be agreed within 7 days of the original date and the match must be played within 28 days of the original date **excepting if teams agree to play on a free normal match day outside that 28 day period. This applies to only 6 man teams on Mondays, and 10 man teams on Tuesdays respectively.** In any event the League Secretary must be informed.

In re-arranged matches players having played in other teams on the original date, cannot play in the re-arranged game. In the case of a dispute, the matter is to be referred to the committee whose decision will be final. Failure to play the game within 28 days of the original date **or the agreed free normal match day date outside the 28 days** shall result in a £5 fine to both clubs.

APPROVED

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All the following proposed rule changes are put forward by the Management Committee

2. CURRENT RULE: Match Play Rule 4 (Page 52)

Matches shall consist of three doubles and four singles played in any order, the home team captain having preference. All doubles matches shall consist of two bowlers per team.

2. PROPOSED CHANGE:

Matches shall consist of three doubles and four singles played in any **order combination**, the home team captain having preference. All doubles matches shall consist of two bowlers per team.

APPROVED

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3. PROPOSED NEW RULE: Match Play Rule 3c

Any team playing an ineligible bowler in a League match shall lose that match 0-9. Any team playing an ineligible bowler in a Knock-Out match shall be expelled from that competition for that season. In addition clubs and players transgressing this rule may be fined as determined by the Management Committee

WITHDRAWN

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4. CURRENT RULE: Knock-Out Competitions: General: Rule 1h (Page 54)

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

4. PROPOSED CHANGE:

A member shall not be allowed to bowl for more than one team in any one competition during the season. For the purposes of this rule the Team KO and Sub-Team KO shall be regarded as one competition.

WITHDRAWN

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In the event of Proposed Change 4 (above) being passed then Proposed Change 5 will be withdrawn

5. CURRENT RULE: Knock-Out Competitions: General: Rule 1h (Page 54)

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

5. PROPOSED CHANGE:

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. For the purposes of this rule the Team KO and Sub-Team KO shall be regarded as two competitions.

WITHDRAWN

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END OF SEASON REVIEW 2019

10-Man League

What a wonderful season of bowling we have had in the Veterans League with 5 of our 8 Sections only settling the destination of their titles on the very last day of the season. In fact, in the case of Section 1 it was two days after the end of season date as a number of last day fixtures were washed out and completed two days later. Time to look back on the 2019 fortunes of every one of our 94 teams and review how their season has been, starting with the 10-Man League with the 6-Man League Review to follow in the December issue of your newsletter.

SECTION 1

	PI	W	L	For	Pts
Lockwood Con. A	26	20	6	3401	156
Elland C & BC A	26	20	6	3443	154
Clayton West	26	15	11	3200	131
Cowcliffe	26	16	10	3245	128
Meltham A	26	14	12	3157	124
Rastrick	26	15	11	3165	122
Marsh United A	26	14	12	3154	122
Lindley Lib. A	26	12	14	3115	114
Longwood	26	13	13	3106	111
Golcar Lib A	26	11	15	3137	108
Netherton Con. A	26	9	17	3077	103
Waterloo	26	10	16	3034	103
Almondbury B.C. A	26	6	20	2995	84
Milnsbridge A	26	7	19	2828	78

The final league table shows that **Lockwood Con A** won the title for a record breaking sixth consecutive season but that doesn't tell half of the story as they had an epic season-long tussle with a resurgent **Elland C&BC A** side which was only settled two days after the official end of season date.

In fact it looked for long periods that they wouldn't successfully defend their title only going back into top spot after their final match of the season. Initially it looked like another procession to the title as they led the way until mid-June despite losses at **Meltham A** and **Netherton Con A**. A quick recovery but then a run of three defeats in five matches alerted the pack to a previously unseen fragility in the **Champions** form. Those defeats at **Golcar Lib A**, **Clayton West** and then at home to **Rastrick** pushed them down into third place with **Elland C&BC** and **Meltham A** overtaking them to claim the top two places.

A run of nine successive victories revived their hopes although they went into their penultimate fixture away at **Elland C&BC A** still four points behind their opponents but crucially a game in hand. Restricting **Elland** to a 5-4 win resulting in them requiring a minimum 6-3 final day win to retake the title which they duly did with a 7-2 home victory over **Clayton West**. So well done to our **Champions** showing resilience to come back from a bad spell and taking that sixth title which surely must be the most hard-earned of them all.

Commiserations to **Elland C&BC A** who lost out after a great season which was a model of consistency with a 10-3 win record in each half of the season and an identical points tally of 77 in both halves to finish just two points behind the **Champions**. That being the closest margin of any of the previous five titles that **Lockwood** have claimed. It is difficult to criticise a final run-in of only one defeat in their last eight matches but they will probably look back on that solitary reversal of 2-7 at **Lindley Lib A** as the day they lost the title. Nevertheless a good season for **Elland** and a second consecutive runner-up year but reducing the 24-point gap of 2018 down to just two difference this year.

The top two had a massive 23-point lead over the chasing pack led by **Clayton West** who may be throwing off that mantle of being unbeatable at home but fragile on the road. Five away wins is their best for some years but unfortunately it coincided with a downturn in their home form, although only three losses in 13 is hardly a disaster, which has been exemplary in recent years.

Cowcliffe promised much and a league double over **Clayton West** indicated their threat to the establishment but five defeats in their final eight fixtures put paid to higher aspirations and they had to settle for a second consecutive fourth-place finish. In **Trevor Heeley** they had the top singles bowler in the Section whilst no pairs bowler in the top 20 averages may point towards an area for improvement if they are to offer a threat to the leading trio in the future.

At the mid-season point **Meltham A** separated the final top two in the table and were four points ahead of the eventual title winners. An opening run of three straight defeats was forgotten as they won 9 of their next 10 matches including an 8-1 demolition of **Lockwood Con** and then it all went pear-shaped. Just five wins from their second-half 13 matches realised a 50-point total compared with 74 points accumulated in the first half of the season. It got worse as the season

progressed and one win in their last five games, which were void of top three opponents, is relegation form masked by a final table showing them finishing in fourth-place this year.

Six wins from their final seven fixtures for **Rastrick** epitomised their season with only the top two having a better second half of the season. In addition they were the only team to inflict a home defeat on the eventual Champions so a good first year back in the top flight for Rastrick.

Marsh Utd A had a better first half of the season and may have suffered later on from the distraction of playing in the later rounds of the KO competitions where they will have been disappointed not to successfully defend their Bistro title after going out in the semi-finals to Section 3 side Slaithwaite. A seventh place finish for many would be success but this is the first time that Marsh had finished outside the top six since 2015 so they will be keen to re-establish themselves as a major force again next year.

The half-season table showed **Lindley Lib A** hovering above the relegation places but a complete second-half transformation resulted in a surge up the table and comfortable mid-table security. What prompted that then?

Understandably **Longwood** struggled after the passing of stalwart clubman and top bowler Roger Crowther and they only won 3 of the 9 matches after Roger became ill. That shouldn't mar the progress that the team had made during their first season in the top-flight and a mid-table finish will suit then fine even if others thought that they might have been capable of more. Problems with their home green also affected them more than their visitors especially in the first half of the season when they could only win 2 of their first 6 home matches.

Golcar Lib A languished in the bottom half of the table all season with occasional fits of form where they promised more including a 7-2 home win over the Champions-to-be. Strange season for **Netherton Con A** flirting with relegation for most of the season despite beating the top three teams but then inexplicably losing twice to bottom side Milnsbridge A.

Waterloo won points from mid and upper table opponents but then lost to all four teams immediately around them but were never really in danger of relegation mainly due to the troubles of the bottom two. **Almondbury BC A** and **Milnsbridge A** shared the relegation places between them all season and were seriously adrift at the end of term reckoning. These teams finished fifth and sixth last season so a huge drop in results. The Section 1 Pairs Averages saw the Almondbury BC pairing of the Machin brothers dominating the top marks all season and the

competition will be all the less for their passing. Whilst it is a return to Section 2 for Almondbury BC A after three years at the top table but for Milnsbridge A it seems like the end of an era. First promoted to the top level for the 2003 season they have been title winners six times since then including a record five straight titles from 2009-2013. A record that saw them receive a special achievement award from the League in 2014. Ironically that record being surpassed this year by Lockwood Con A as Milnsbridge A turn the other way and look to reform away from the intensity of Section 1 competition next year.

SECTION 2

	PI	W	L	For	Pts
Crosland Moor	26	20	6	3406	152
Thongsbridge A	26	15	11	3238	136
Thorpe Green	26	13	13	3172	131
New Mill A	26	15	11	3234	129
Broad Oak A	26	15	11	3199	127
Hemplotw A	26	14	12	3229	124
Kirkheaton Con. A	26	13	13	3186	121
Brockholes A	26	13	13	3134	117
Lindley B.C. A	26	14	12	3101	116
Shepley	26	11	15	3075	108
Kirkheaton C & BC A	26	11	15	2954	105
Lockwood Con. B	26	13	13	3094	104
Meltham B	26	9	17	2907	97
Skel Windmill	26	6	20	2824	71

After finishing in third place for the previous two seasons **Crosland Moor** finally got themselves over the promotion line this year in emphatic style. Having failed to secure promotion on the final day of the seasons in 2018 and 2017 they were in no mood to repeat such last day heartache again this year. Leading all season and a comfortable 16-point lead over the pack at the climax secures them Section 1 bowling again next season after a two year sabbatical in Section 2.

Going up with them are **Thongsbridge A** who emerged from a group of five teams who rotated positions like Tour de France cyclists taking it in turn to set the pace in chasing the leader. A pace that was never managing to burn any one of the pack off and never likely to catch the runaway leader but close enough to retain aspirations of promotion for them all. So an immediate return to Section 1 for Thongsbridge A with a five-point cushion in the final tally up.

Thorpe Green were a consistent in that group of five but crucially a double defeat at the hands of the runners-up probably cost them that second promotion place. However a third-place finish back at this level following promotion the

previous year has to be a fine achievement. **New Mill A** finished fourth for the second successive season, maybe they have peaked or alternatively consolidated their position after promotion in 2017 before launching another bid to step up the ladder next year. Who knows?

Broad Oak A proved to be very unpredictable all season. For example they thrashed runners-up Thongsbridge A 8-1 at home but then lost to them 0-9 away from home. They were the only team to beat Lindley BC A on their own lawn all season but then were the only team to lose to Lockwood Con B when they were going through a run of nine defeats and in free-fall.

Hemplo A are the benchmark team of Section 2 always finishing mid-table. They have operated at this level for 'ever' and never seem to be involved in the important matters at either end of the table. Same again this year as they finished sixth but they did have the best points total after the Champions in the second half of the season so if they could continue that into next season they are going to be a real threat.

Me and the boys at **Kirkheaton Con A** have always been stronger finishers than starters and this year was no different. With an influx of four new bowlers the team took some time to gel but we won 7 of our final 9 fixtures including a final day 9-0 Kirkheaton derby win to creep into the top half of the table. We expect to be in the promotion mix next year (but then again we did this year!).

Only the Champions won more points on the road this year than **Brockholes A** but that wasn't enough to put them firmly in the promotion race so there will be no immediate turn to the top level for the Badgers. It was the final day of the season before **Lindley BC A** lost their unbeaten home record but their poor away record ensured that they were nearer the bottom than the top all year. No team had a better home record and only bottom side Skel Windmill won less away games.

Shepley beat all the top three teams in the table but couldn't maintain that level of performance against lesser teams and a second successive bottom half finish was the outcome. **Kirkheaton C&BC A** hovered just above the relegation places almost all season and by winning their final five home games ensured that they didn't drop into the dogfight for survival.

Lockwood Con B were just the opposite being in free-fall during the second half of the season with the lowest points total of any team over that period. Sat in fourth spot at the half-way point before eventually slipping to twelfth place by the end of term after losing 8 of their last 9 matches. Taking that level of performance forward can only end in one outcome next year.

Meltham B have finished in the bottom half of Section 2 every year since they won promotion in 2014 but this year they couldn't find one more team worse than them to stave off relegation. **Skel Windmill** were the first 10-man team to confirm relegation this year as they struggled from the outset with only one win in their first nine games. Inevitably distracted by the uncertainty regarding the future of their green they will be satisfied to still be in business although that uncertainty remains with the future of The Windmill pub a continuing matter for speculation.

SECTION 3

	PI	W	L	For	Pts
Paddock I & C	22	16	6	2785	125
Bradley & Colne	22	16	6	2766	125
Slaithwaite	22	15	7	2792	122
Brockholes B	22	13	9	2712	108
Lindley Lib. B	22	11	11	2738	107
Holmfirth A	22	12	10	2657	104
Springwood	22	11	11	2688	102
Almondbury Lib.	22	10	12	2646	101
Outlane	22	10	12	2579	86
Golcar Lib B	22	8	13	2421	82
Primrose Hill Lib A	22	4	18	2305	64
Almondbury B.C. B	22	5	16	2382	61

The Section 3 title race was a battle between **Paddock I&C** and **Bradley & Colne** all season with both taking turns at the top. With one game to go Bradley & Colne sat in top spot by five points but had to play away at their main challengers. Watching carefully in third place were **Slaithwaite** a further two points back. Any of the top three could take the title and any of the top three could miss out on promotion altogether. In a tense affair at Paddock the home won 7-2 to draw level on points with B&C but a better Aggregate For total (2785 v 2766) putting them in first place. This left B&C ruing the four points they had forfeited for playing an under-age bowler earlier in the campaign. Meanwhile Slaithwaite could compound that action as a 9-0 final day home win would put them top again with a better Aggregate For total. No team in any Section had more 9-0 wins (3) all season than Slaithwaite and boy did they need another one now. But it was not to be as they settled for a 6-3 victory and third place. Interestingly Slaithwaite had the top bowlers in the Section Averages for both the Singles and for the Pairs.

Brockholes B started the season like they really meant business winning their first six matches to go clear at the top but then promptly lost their next five games to drop out of contention and they never really recovered from that setback.

They did win 5 of their final 6 games but by then it was too late to get involved. It was similar for **Lindley Lib B** as they beat the teams they were expected to beat and lost to teams better placed than them with the exception of Slaithwaite, as they completed a league double over the promotion hopefuls. More notably on the Averages front Lindley Lib B had four of the top 10 Pairs bowlers but none of the top 20 Singles.

Holmfirth continued their unspectacular longevity in this Section with another season where they failed to create unrest at the top of the table or panic in the lower regions by resuming their habit of winning matches you expected them to win and not bothering when the going got tough against the big boys. That's a little unfair as they did complete a league double over the title winners, Paddock, but failed to build on that potential to muscle in on the promotion battle. mid-table speculation.

Springwood have been perpetual middle of the table performers since dropping to this level for the 2016 season. They know their place in the pecking order and that is unlikely to alter if they continue to suffer double defeats at the hands of the top four teams as they did this year.

Almondbury Lib were a season-long mid-table team which was a disappointment after their relegation of the previous year. This ended a unique yo-yo record that the Lib had of being either promoted or relegated every year since the 2014 season. Life must be boring for them now but no doubt they will soon hanker after the thrills of top or bottom positioning although it is difficult to forecast which end it will be with these boys.

Outlane and **Golcar Lib B** barely threatened to join in the relegation battle so well dominated by Primrose Hill Lib A and Almondbury BC B. Outlane's new found resilience from reveling in the admiration of their new excellent green enabled them to inflict home wins over the top two whilst their only away wins all year were at the two bottom teams. **Golcar Lib B** failed to build on last year's good effort of consolidating their Section 3 status after promotion at the end of the 2017 season. Their wavering home form was down on the 2018 level and although they beat leaders Paddock they also lost to bottom half teams including Springwood and Almondbury Lib.

The relegated pair nose-dived to the bottom places right from the start of the season and no amount of effort could raise any hopes of salvation. Primrose Hill Lib A only won one of their first 15 fixtures whilst Almondbury BC B lost their first six matches to ensure that both teams claimed the two relegation places from the outset and didn't shift out of there all season. Ironically

both these sides had bowlers in the top four of the Singles Averages. So a second successive relegation for the boys from Pip Hill and lets hope that they have now found the level where they can regroup and become competitive once again.

SECTION 4

	PI	W	L	For	Pts
Lowerhouses	22	18	4	2879	140
Marsh United B	22	15	7	2721	122
Canalside	22	14	8	2736	113
Denby Dale	22	13	8	2671	108
Ravensknowle Park A	22	12	10	2645	104
Netherton Con. B	22	12	10	2596	98
Thongsbridge B	22	10	12	2622	93
Milnsbridge B	22	9	13	2528	88
Elland C & BC B	22	9	13	2432	87
New Mill B	22	8	14	2500	83
Huddersfield RUBC	22	6	16	2496	81
Meltham C	22	5	16	2371	70

Lowerhouses proved to be remarkably consistent staying top of the table from the start and never being threatened although **Marsh Utd B** did complete a 5-4 double over them to raise their hopes at one stage. A second consecutive title and promotion for Lowerhouses then and they may not stop there as they are obviously a team on the up including the top two bowlers in the Section Singles Averages. The Marsh team completed the season unbeaten at home but only four away wins all season condemned them to the runner-up slot.

Third-placed **Canalside** suffered an early season 0-9 defeat at Ravensknowle Park but then went on a four-match winning away run which pushed them up to third where they stayed all season. The closure of their green mid-year was obviously worrying but they established a run of decent results at their new home of Moldgreen Con with morning start times. They also had a good away record being one of only two teams in the Section to win more games than they lost when playing away. Continuing uncertainty is going to lead to speculation about their future and hopefully reassuring plans will be further advanced before the start of the new season.

Section 4 was dominated by impressive winning home records with 10 of the 12 sides having positive home records and only the bottom two losing more home games than they won. The next three in the table, **Denby Dale**, **Ravensknowle Park A** and **Netherton Con B**, all had 9-2 home records as the basis for their success but all lost more away games than they won to ensure that they never mounted a serious threat to the top three. Denby Dale and Netherton both beating the title winners to show their potential but that was

a level they failed to maintain. Ravensknowle Park lays claim to the best Park green in the League and they backed up that claim with three 9-0 home wins over the season, no team in the League scored more white-wash wins than them.

A strong second-half of the season for **Milnsbridge B** eased them away from the relegation places which at one time appeared very threatening and they finished mid-table alongside **Thongsbridge B** who were consistently average throughout the campaign.

Huddersfield RUBC had a good second half of the season but their earlier poor set of results proved terminal and finally unsuccessful in retaining their Section 4 status and they went through the relegation trapdoor. The B teams from **Elland** and **New Mill** were always in the relegation mix but accumulated sufficient points to see off that threat and it was **Meltham C** who paid the ultimate price that only 5 wins all season brings you.

SECTION 5

	PI	W	L	For	Pts
Kirkheaton Con. B	22	20	2	2874	141
Lindley B.C. B	22	18	4	2894	138
Marsh Lib	22	15	7	2694	117
Hemplow B	22	15	7	2640	109
Holmfirth B	22	11	10	2567	98
David Brown Sports	22	9	13	2584	96
Kirkheaton C & BC B	22	8	13	2574	91
Broad Oak B	22	10	12	2510	86
Ravensknowle Park B	22	7	15	2411	81
Greenhead Park	22	7	15	2447	80
Primrose Hill Lib. B	22	6	16	2326	75
Dalton	22	5	17	2293	74

Section 5 was dominated by new teams to the League with the first four all joining for the first time this season. A season long battle between the top two went to the very last day when long time leaders **Lindley BC B** surprisingly went down 2-7 at lowly Primrose Hill Lib B and gifted the title to **Kirkheaton Con B**. Both teams had 11-0 home win records but the Daisy Lea Lane club lost four away matches, including a 1-8 reversal on the postage stamp green of their main rivals, which proved pivotal in the long term.

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NEXT MONTH IN YOUR NEWSLETTER

Six-Man League Team-by-Team
Review of the 2019 season

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 17 February 2020

2-30pm at Meltham S&SC

All clubs should be represented

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Best of the rest was **Marsh Lib** in third place but some 21 points behind the leaders but they will take heart from their first season performances of their mainly new bowlers. With the two top bowlers in the Singles Averages the future looks rosey. A good first season for another new team with **Hemplow B** finishing fourth and having a strong second half of the season which augers well for the future.

Holmfirth B continued the upward trend of the previous two years when claiming fifth spot. In addition they had the top bowler in the Section's Pairs Averages. **David Brown Sports** promised a serious attempt on honours in the first half of the season but then ran out of steam with only one win in their final eight matches pushing them down to mid-table obscurity. The opposite was true of **Kirkheaton C&BC B** who were one point above the relegation zone at the half-way point but then hit form to recover to a safe mid-table finish.

Even more remarkable was the turn-around of **Broad Oak B**. Firmly entrenched in bottom place at the half-way point but then they won 7 of their final 11 matches to sprint up the table to finish in 8th place. They swapped places with **Dalton** who nose-dived to finish at the foot of the table after holding 8th place at the half-way point. **Greenhead Park** finished lower than they did the previous season for the fourth consecutive year but did collect their first 9-0 win since May 2016 when overwhelming Dalton.

Primrose Hill Lib B won as many games (3) in the second half of the season as they did in the first half but still dropped from 9th to 11th although a final day 7-2 home win over promoted Lindley BC B showed their potential. A strong second half campaign for **Ravensknowle Park B** moved them up and out of the bottom two and way above the bottom spot that has been their own for the previous two years.

That's the end of the 10-Man League Review but turnover now for the breakdown of league positions at the half-way point in the season and full second half season tables to gloss over and work out if your team is a half-season wonder or a team that ran out of steam.

FIRST HALF OF THE SEASON TABLE					END OF SEASON TABLE					SECOND HALF OF THE SEASON TABLE				
Section 1	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 1	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 1	Pl	W	L	Pts
1 Elland C & BC A	13	10	3	77	1 Lockwood Con. A	26	20	6	156	1 Lockwood Con. A	13	11	2	86
2 Meltham A	13	9	4	74	2 Elland C & BC A	26	20	6	154	2 Elland C & BC A	13	10	3	77
3 Lockwood Con. A	13	9	4	70	3 Clayton West	26	15	11	131	3 Rastrick	13	10	3	70
4 Clayton West	13	8	5	69	4 Cowcliffe	26	16	10	128	4 Lindley Lib. A	13	8	5	67
5 Marsh United A	13	8	5	66	5 Meltham A	26	14	12	124	5 Cowcliffe	13	7	6	63
6 Cowcliffe	13	9	4	65	6 Rastrick	26	15	11	122	6 Clayton West	13	7	6	62
7 Longwood	13	7	6	62	7 Marsh United A	26	14	12	122	7 Marsh United A	13	6	7	56
8 Golcar Lib A	13	7	6	59	8 Lindley Lib. A	26	12	14	114	8 Netherton Con. A	13	5	8	56
9 Rastrick	13	5	8	52	9 Longwood	26	13	13	111	9 Waterloo	13	5	8	55
10 Waterloo	13	5	8	48	10 Golcar Lib A	26	11	15	108	10 Meltham A	13	5	8	50
11 Netherton Con. A	13	4	9	47	11 Netherton Con. A	26	9	17	103	11 Golcar Lib A	13	4	9	49
12 Lindley Lib. A	13	4	9	47	12 Waterloo	26	10	16	103	12 Longwood	13	6	7	49
13 Milnsbridge A	13	4	9	42	13 Almondbury B.C. A	26	6	20	84	13 Almondbury B.C. A	13	4	9	43
14 Almondbury B.C. A	13	2	11	41	14 Milnsbridge A	26	7	19	78	14 Milnsbridge A	13	3	10	36
Section 2	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 2	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 2	Pl	W	L	Pts
1 Crosland Moor	13	10	3	72	1 Crosland Moor	26	20	6	152	1 Crosland Moor	13	10	3	80
2 Thongsbridge A	13	8	5	69	2 Thongsbridge A	26	15	11	136	2 Hemplow A	13	8	5	67
3 New Mill A	13	7	6	67	3 Thorpe Green	26	13	13	131	3 Thongsbridge A	13	7	6	67
4 Lockwood Con. B	13	10	3	66	4 New Mill A	26	15	11	129	4 Thorpe Green	13	6	7	65
5 Broad Oak A	13	8	5	66	5 Broad Oak A	26	15	11	127	5 Kirkheaton Con. A	13	8	5	63
6 Thorpe Green	13	7	6	66	6 Hemplow A	26	14	12	124	6 Brockholes A	13	7	6	62
7 Shepley	13	6	7	58	7 Kirkheaton Con. A	26	13	13	121	7 Lindley B.C. A	13	8	5	62
8 Kirkheaton Con. A	13	5	8	58	8 Brockholes A	26	13	13	117	8 New Mill A	13	8	5	62
9 Hemplow A	13	6	7	57	9 Lindley B.C. A	26	14	12	116	9 Broad Oak A	13	7	6	61
10 Brockholes A	13	6	7	55	10 Shepley	26	11	15	108	10 Kirkheaton C & BC A	13	6	7	51
11 Lindley B.C. A	13	6	7	54	11 Kirkheaton C & BC A	26	11	15	105	11 Shepley	13	5	8	50
12 Kirkheaton C & BC A	13	5	8	54	12 Lockwood Con. B	26	13	13	104	12 Meltham B	13	4	9	47
13 Meltham B	13	5	8	50	13 Meltham B	26	9	17	97	13 Skel Windmill	13	4	9	44
14 Skel Windmill	13	2	11	27	14 Skel Windmill	26	6	20	71	14 Lockwood Con. B	13	3	10	38
Section 3	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 3	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 3	Pl	W	L	Pts
1 Paddock I & C	11	9	2	69	1 Paddock I & C	22	16	6	125	1 Bradley & Colne	11	8	3	62
2 Bradley & Colne	11	8	3	63	2 Bradley & Colne	22	16	6	125	2 Slaithwaite	11	7	4	61
3 Slaithwaite	11	8	3	61	3 Slaithwaite	22	15	7	122	3 Brockholes B	11	7	4	56
4 Lindley Lib. B	11	6	5	56	4 Brockholes B	22	13	9	108	4 Paddock I & C	11	7	4	56
5 Brockholes B	11	6	5	52	5 Lindley Lib. B	22	11	11	107	5 Holmfirth A	11	5	6	54
6 Almondbury Lib.	11	4	7	51	6 Holmfirth A	22	12	10	104	6 Springwood	11	6	5	52
7 Springwood	11	5	6	50	7 Springwood	22	11	11	102	7 Lindley Lib. B	11	5	6	51
8 Holmfirth A	11	7	4	50	8 Almondbury Lib.	22	10	12	101	8 Almondbury Lib.	11	6	5	50
9 Golcar Lib B	11	5	6	45	9 Outlane	22	10	12	86	9 Outlane	11	6	5	48
10 Outlane	11	4	7	38	10 Golcar Lib B	22	8	13	82	10 Golcar Lib B	11	3	7	37
11 Almondbury B.C. B	11	3	8	32	11 Primrose Hill Lib A	22	4	18	64	11 Primrose Hill Lib A	11	3	8	37
12 Primrose Hill Lib A	11	1	10	27	12 Almondbury B.C. B	22	5	16	61	12 Almondbury B.C. B	11	2	8	29
Section 4	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 4	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 4	Pl	W	L	Pts
1 Lowerhouses	11	9	2	71	1 Lowerhouses	22	18	4	140	1 Lowerhouses	11	9	2	69
2 Marsh United B	11	9	2	63	2 Marsh United B	22	15	7	122	2 Marsh United B	11	6	5	59
3 Canalside	11	8	3	59	3 Canalside	22	14	8	113	3 Canalside	11	6	5	54
4 Ravensknowle Park A	11	8	3	58	4 Denby Dale	22	13	8	108	4 Netherton Con. B	11	7	4	54
5 Denby Dale	11	7	4	55	5 Ravensknowle Park A	22	12	10	104	5 Denby Dale	11	6	4	53
6 Thongsbridge B	11	5	6	47	6 Netherton Con. B	22	12	10	98	6 Milnsbridge B	11	6	5	48
7 Netherton Con. B	11	5	6	44	7 Thongsbridge B	22	10	12	93	7 Huddersfield RUBC	11	4	7	46
8 New Mill B	11	4	7	43	8 Milnsbridge B	22	9	13	88	8 Ravensknowle Park A	11	4	7	46
9 Elland C & BC B	11	3	8	42	9 Elland C & BC B	22	9	13	87	9 Thongsbridge B	11	5	6	46
10 Milnsbridge B	11	3	8	40	10 New Mill B	22	8	14	83	10 Elland C & BC B	11	6	5	45
11 Meltham C	11	3	8	37	11 Huddersfield RUBC	22	6	16	81	11 New Mill B	11	4	7	40
12 Huddersfield RUBC	11	2	9	35	12 Meltham C	22	5	16	70	12 Meltham C	11	2	8	33
Section 5	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 5	Pl	W	L	Pts	Section 5	Pl	W	L	Pts
1 Lindley B.C. B	11	10	1	75	1 Kirkheaton Con. B	22	20	2	141	1 Kirkheaton Con. B	11	10	1	71
2 Kirkheaton Con. B	11	10	1	70	2 Lindley B.C. B	22	18	4	138	2 Lindley B.C. B	11	8	3	63
3 Marsh Lib	11	9	2	62	3 Marsh Lib	22	15	7	117	3 Hemplow B	11	9	2	60
4 David Brown Sports	11	6	5	52	4 Hemplow B	22	15	7	109	4 Marsh Lib	11	6	5	55
5 Hemplow B	11	6	5	49	5 Holmfirth B	22	11	10	98	5 Holmfirth B	11	6	4	52
6 Holmfirth B	11	5	6	46	6 David Brown Sports	22	9	13	96	6 Broad Oak B	11	7	4	51
7 Greenhead Park	11	4	7	43	7 Kirkheaton C & BC B	22	8	13	91	7 Kirkheaton C & BC B	11	5	5	51
8 Dalton	11	4	7	42	8 Broad Oak B	22	10	12	86	8 David Brown Sports	11	3	8	44
9 Primrose Hill Lib. B	11	3	8	41	9 Ravensknowle Park B	22	7	15	81	9 Ravensknowle Park B	11	4	7	42
10 Kirkheaton C & BC B	11	3	8	40	10 Greenhead Park	22	7	15	80	10 Greenhead Park	11	3	8	37
11 Ravensknowle Park B	11	3	8	39	11 Primrose Hill Lib. B	22	6	16	75	11 Primrose Hill Lib. B	11	3	8	34
12 Broad Oak B	11	3	8	35	12 Dalton	22	5	17	74	12 Dalton	11	1	10	32

FREE ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

We are now offering all members **FREE** Classified Advertisements in the monthly newsletter. This service is for members of our League only and applies to individuals and clubs.

A free Classified Ad can be no more than 20 words excluding contact details. Just go to the 'Contact Us' page on the HDVBA website to forward your advertisement. It can be used to promote a social function, sell your woods or your house or home-made jam. Or maybe you just want to say thank you to somebody or everybody about anything.

If you need more than 16 words then consider the options for a bigger advertisement as below with rates starting from around £3.85 per month for a quarter-page advertisement.

Having been approached about providing some advertising space in the monthly newsletter we are now making available quarter-page adverts for just £5 per issue. It gets even cheaper for longer term commitments (6 months £25, 12 months £45). Whether you want to advertise your business, bowls or house for sale, birthday celebrations or just to say thank you for anything then get in touch we will be delighted to hear from you.

ADVERTISING RATES

SIZE	MONTHS	COST
Quarter-Page	1	£5
	6	£25
	12	£45
Half-Page	1	£10
	6	£45
	12	£75
Full-Page	1	£20
	6	£90
	12	£150

Closing date to get your free or paid for advertisement in the next issue of the newsletter is **Wednesday 27 November**

NEXT MONTH

The December issue will include a team-by-team review of the 2019 6-Man League season along with the two Half-Season set of League Tables which indicate if your team had a better opening than closing three-months of the 2019 season.

50th ANNIVERSARY PATRONS

We are very grateful to the growing list of Golden Jubilee Anniversary Patrons for their support of this scheme with Malcolm Wragg (Outlane) and Graham Howe (Netherton Con) being the latest contributors to join the list, thank you. All funds raised go directly towards commemorating the Anniversary milestone. Further contributions are most welcome with a minimum donation of £10 getting your name on the list which will be widely shared over the next 18 months. The scheme has already raised over £400 which will be spent on celebrating our Anniversary season.

The current list of 27 Patrons is below and you can add your name to this list and show your support by contacting the League Secretary.

2020 ANNIVERSARY PATRONS:

Peter & Judith Muff, David Sykes (Brockholes), Jeff Jacklin (Kirkheaton Con), Allan Dobson (Kirkheaton C&BC), Philip Walker (Lindley BC), Bob Swan (Cowcliffe), David Union (Outlane), Jeff & Ann Smith (Meltham), Paul Rushworth (Broad Oak), Ian Crawford (Longwood), David Blackburn (Thorpe Green), Brian Faichney (Canalside), Bill Blackburn (Lindley BC), Dougie Mellor (Lockwood Con), Tony Lockwood (Golcar C&BC), Derek Sykes (Marsden Park), Ray Tunnacliffe (Netherton Con), Graham Hall (Rastrick), John Townend (Paddock I&C), Colin Wood (Bradley & Colne), Tony Clegg (Crosland Moor), Malcolm Wragg (Outlane), Graham Howe (Netherton Con) as well as two who prefer to remain anonymous but wish to be known as a Life Member and a Milnsbridge Veteran. Thank you to you all.

50th ANNIVERSARY BOOK

Meanwhile work continues on compiling the 50th Anniversary book and any articles or photographs of veterans teams from our clubs are still very welcome. There will be at least a page devoted to each member club and it would be great if each club contributed to that with current team photographs especially welcome. I am very grateful for the many items and photos received but there are still a number of gaps that it would be good to fill. How will you feel if your club has a only small section in the final book when you know that it has a rich history that has never been shared?

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www.hdvba.co.uk