



# CONSTANTIA BOWLING CLUB

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## FALCON OCTOBER 2015

I have recently returned from a couple of months in the UK to visit family and friends but now back in Cape Town.

A big thanks must go to Alan Lofthouse and Nicky Parker for a very successful and enjoyable Snowball season.

Also a big thanks to our Greenkeepers for the high standard of our greens at this time of the year.

Can I please ask those members who have yet to do so, to return their forms to Tim Ross Thompson indicating if they intend to participate in Flag, Muter or Friendly League. As of writing this edition of the Falcon only about half of the Men eligible to play in Flag have returned their forms. We will soon have to advise Western Province as to the number of teams we wish to enter into Flag & Muter so we do need these forms returned ASAP.

May I also remind members that 11<sup>th</sup> October is the deadline for entering Men's Club Competitions and the forms plus your entry fees need to be with Kevin Pattenden before that date.

Last but certainly not least all members who have yet to do so, are asked to pay their Club Membership fees as soon as possible. They need to be given either to Jet Clark or Chris Nurrish who will also deal with any queries members have in respect of their subscriptions.

This is of course a quiet period in the bowling calendar but your Exco & Selection Committee's have been hard at work. I have a message from Tim, the new Men's Selection Committee convenor:

"Your Selection Committee has met twice since being elected and is busy planning a number of team practice sessions before Flag season opens in January next year.

The first of these is planned for Saturday 7th November, the selectors have arranged practice matches for four teams against Plumstead and Meadowridge that afternoon. Teams will be chosen roughly along the lines of first, second, third and fourth Flag sides, with our first and

third sides playing Plumstead's top two sides, one away and one at home, and the second and fourth sides taking on Meadowridge A and B, both at Constantia.

Matches will be played according to the new Flag & Muter & Mixed League format which for those who do not know is as follows:

All Flag and Muter games will be played over two skins with each skin consisting of ten ends. All Mixed League games will be played over two skins with each skin consisting of nine ends. The winner of a skin will be the team with the most shots scored during the ten ends (Mixed League nine ends) and will score one point. If the shots are equal in a skin, the skin point will be shared. The team with a higher aggregate of shots for than shots against at the completion of the game also scores two aggregate points. If the aggregate shots for and against are equal, the aggregate points are shared. Sides consisting of more than one team with a higher aggregate of shots for than shots against also scores three aggregate points. If the aggregate shots for and against are equal, the aggregate points are shared. Order of Play - First Skin: Captains shall toss a coin to determine possession of the mat -. Second skin the winner of the last scoring end will place the mat. A maximum of four points can be scored by a team in a game.

These will be the first practice matches we have had against other clubs, aside from Flag Day, for some time, so it's hoped everyone who can, will make themselves available. It should be a fun day with some good bowls.

The second will be in the form of an in-house practice on Saturday November 21, when we will select teams on a pairs basis and play three two-bowl 10-end matches in the afternoon using the 4-3-2-1 format (closest bowl to the jack scores four points, second closest three points, etc.) We'll use two greens to accommodate 24 pairs, giving as many people as possible a game. The format has been chosen specifically to give drawing practice, and there'll be a prize for the top pair from each green to give a little spice to the afternoon.

The third practice is Flag Day itself the next day, Sunday 22nd November. The club's Premier and Second teams will play at Constantia, all day, while a morning match for the Third and Fourth teams will be hosted by WP Cricket Club at their Rondebosch headquarters.

Details of teams will be posted as soon as we have a clear idea of who is available for Flag.

We would urge everyone to note the dates in their diaries and make a real effort to take part in all three practices. They should be fun days and full of good bowls, and we hope they'll help get us into the right competitive spirit that will lead to the success of the four Flag teams which we hope to enter”.

Your Exco Committee are involved in a number of critical problems relating to issues with our Landlord, the City of Cape Town (COCT). Our Lease expires in 2019, and COCT have asked all sports clubs operating on municipal property to submit proposals for consideration in preparation for new Lease/Management Agreement to come into effect when the current Lease runs out. COCT have informed us that in future they will deal only with individual

clubs which will make the Gildale Facilities Management Committee (covers cricket, tennis, rugby, Virgin Active and ourselves) redundant. Our proposals have been submitted with a letter of support from K-Way VOB Running Club and we all owe a big vote of thanks to Peter Brown for his efforts in preparing this document on our behalf. We are hopeful that our irrigation problem will be solved by running a branch pipe off the mains line that runs outside our premises next to A green, but we have been told that there are no funds in this financial year's budget to repair/replace our leaking roof. We have a number of internal improvement projects on hold waiting for the roof to be fixed so we are going to get an independent inspection of the roof and quotes to see if we can do something ourselves.

It might very well be that future funding to sports clubs by COCT will be cut back but currently we do not have a level playing field and support from COCT appears to be a bit of a post code lottery.

I have been asked by Exco to review our Constitution & Bye-Laws with a view to bringing forward proposals for consideration at next years' AGM. If any member has suggestions they would like me to look at please send your ideas to [jperryman2@btinternet.com](mailto:jperryman2@btinternet.com)

The full calendar from now until August 2016 has been uploaded onto our web-site and in future a monthly calendar will be on display just inside the main entrance.

## **GREENS REPORT OCTOBER 2015**

A decision has been taken this year to carry out the minimum renovation programme on each of our three greens. A recent levels profile carried out by the City Council shows very few high or low spots. This translates into our needing to apply a very thin layer of sand/compost mix on our greens after scarifying and spiking. Should the weather co-operate, the greens should be available for play within three weeks of renovation.

**C Green:** Renovation was completed on Tuesday 22 September. It has to come into play on Friday 9 October when the first round of our Spring Midweek begins. With only 16 days to settle, this could be a tight call. For the first round or two of the Midweek, C Green is likely to be slow.

**B Green:** Renovation of B Green will commence on Monday 23 November, the day after Flag Day.

**A Green:** Renovation of A Green is scheduled for Monday 07 December and should re-open late December.

Availability of our greens over the next few months looks something like this.

Date	A Green	B Green	C Green
28 Sep – 8 Oct	Open	Open	Closed
9 Oct – 4 Nov	Open	Open	Open but slow
5 Nov – 21 Nov	Open	Open	Open, speeding up
22 November	Open	Open	Open
23 Nov – 06 Dec	Open	Closed	Open
07 Dec – 15 Dec	Closed	Open but slow	Open
16 Dec – 27 Dec	Closed	Open	Open
28 Dec onwards	Open	Open	Open

A and B Greens have sufficient grass cover to last until the scheduled renovation takes place. However, we would ask our members to continue to assist by

- moving the mat up and down the rink
- avoiding standing or placing their bags on banks which have been recently top-dressed
- not using the same rink, on the same green, in the same direction when practising.

We would ask the Club Captains, Competition Secretaries and Selection Conveners to take note of the renovation programme when scheduling competitions and/or practice games.

We also need to take note of Bye Law 5(d) which requires us to leave 2 rinks open for 'Tabs-In play.

About 70 of our members attended the Opening Ceremony at the Club last Saturday, and Peter Brown reminded those present of our members achievements in outside competitions during the previous season and those members chosen to represent our Province. He spoke of the pride the Club had in the success of our players and hoped for a much improved performance from our Premier sides in the Flag & Muter leagues that start in 2016. The Exco unanimously voted for Nicky Parker to receive the Brian Ellwood award for his services to the Club. Nicky is at the Club most days and in addition to his duties as Bar Manager fills in to help with any tasks that crop up. Without his contribution the Club would not function as well as it does. Peter highlighted Nicky contribution to making the members of K-Way VOB Running Club feel welcome and his efforts have made a major contribution to the success of our relationship with them.

Best wishes for the 2015/16 season to you all.

**John Perryman**

**Editor**

