

The Falcon: August 2016

Annual General Meeting

The AGM has come and gone and the Club is now in the hands of a new committee. The Executive represents a healthy blend of experience and new blood.

In the absence of nominations for President, Peter Brown made himself available for a third year. We are delighted! Jet Clark has also been persuaded to carry on with the role of Financial Controller. However he is still firmly of the opinion that he needs to be replaced sooner rather than later. To this end, he is more than willing to mentor someone until that person feels comfortable to assume the role. Remember, the support team in the form of Jenny Catt, John Dews, Moira Standley and John Smuts are all in place.

To avoid strike action, Felicia Pillay agreed to continue to supervise culinary matters, Chris Nurrish, Constantia's "man for all seasons", remains willing to continue as Honorary Secretary, and Linda Elliott continues to bring diplomacy and encouragement to the role of Ladies' Club Captain.

Bringing fresh ideas to the committee, and therefore to the Club are Linda Stringer, as additional Exco member and Kevin Pattenden as Mens' Club Captain. Thanks to Alan Lofthouse and John Perryman who both chose to stand down after putting in so much effort over the past few years.

Selection Committees

We congratulate (commiserate?) with those who have been selected to serve on these committees.

Ladies: Dawn Bastick, Doreen Day, Darryl Edwards, Maureen Mcleod and Linda Stringer

Men: Graham Barker, Roy Clark, Eddie Curtis, Peter Harvey and Tim Ross-Thompson.

As they say in bridge parlance, "may all your finesses go right!"

Club Competitions

Since the last Falcon, the following competitions have been concluded.

Ladies Pairs: Dawn Bastick and Irene Nielsen beat Doreen Day and Liz Maisel

Mixed Pairs: Neels Kotze and Ronel Pietersen beat Ian Saunders and Linda Elliott.

Greens

Despite showing signs of wear and tear, all the greens are running well. Later this month, B Green will be taken out of action for renovation. We need to give it time to recover prior to the commencement of the Warwick Spring Midweek.

During the recent visit from Bowls SA, A and B Greens scored exceptionally highly regarding levels. For us this means two things ; the levelling work carried out over past years has borne fruit and secondly, we need very little topdressing during renovation. That should speed up the renovation process.

Warwick Wealth Spring Midweek

After running our midweek competitions for so many years in the past, Geoff Perrow returns to take over the running of our Spring Midweek from Mickey Sadd, Mike Patton and the rest of their team. It is good to have Geoff back again. He will be ably assisted by John Perryman,

Our gratitude is extended to Mickey for his excellent organisational skills over the years.

Geoff has confirmed the dates of this competition as follows:

Friday 7 October, Wednesdays 12, 19, and 26 October, with the final round on Wednesday 2 November.

Teams may be Men, Women or Mixed. The Entry List is on the board and members are asked to

enter promptly as invitations have been extended to neighbouring Clubs.

From the Lady Club Captain

“Facebook required us to change the structure of our News Page, and we are up and running again. There has been a good response to the posts and pictures over the last month. The Prizegiving Photo Album was viewed by 3,538 people!

You are welcome to post your own updates or photographs of club events. Please keep posts relevant to the club and the game of bowls. Any posts which aren't appropriate will be removed.

To find the page on Facebook you would search for 'Constantia Bowling Club'. Please 'like' the **Page** so that you receive notification of any future posts. If you need help with this please contact Linda Elliott who will try and assist. “

“We will be holding a **Ladies Drawn Trips** competition on the 27th August 2016, and will hold a mini meeting on the same day. Full details will be emailed to all the Ladies as soon as possible.”

Injury List

Derek Mitchell will move back home from the Step-down facility on Friday 11 August. We're sure it will be a great relief for him to be back home again.

John Smuts is also recovering from a shoulder replacement operation and a fractured leg sustained post operation when he slipped and fell. He is in Frail Care at Evergreen Muizenberg.

I heard today (Wednesday 10 August) that Rusty Gillett tripped while walking his dog down the road recently and shattered his leg. He went in to hospital today for what would be complicated surgery as he has numerous orthopaedic procedures in the past. We wish him well.

Snowball

The Snowball was won last Saturday with the jackpot sitting at R2840.00. The pot was shared by 2 teams, one skipped by Jenny Wade with Geoff Perrow at 2nd and Des Stanton leading, the

other side was skipped by Clem Douglas with Guy Orsmond at 2nd and Alfie Frier leading.

We seem to average about 18 teams each Saturday but we still draw more bowlers down than tabs would. Alan will keep Snowball going as long as there is green space.

Alan would once again ask members who are not in a team to call him at the club around 5 pm on a Friday when he does the draw. This gives him enough time to find a spot for them as we don't want anyone to miss out on a game.

And if you want to challenge someone, let Alan know. It will make his life easier in organising the draw. New jackpot this Saturday should be about R500.00

WP Trials

Alan went to Edgemead on Sunday to watch the WP Open trials involving 16 selected players. With WP having won the Provincials last season the Selectors are going to have a tough but pleasant task on their hands. This Province now has a wealth of talent and if the current crop of players stick around we could dominate the National scene for years to come. Our two representatives, Neels and Peter are shining, both skipping teams with Neels and Theo v d Walt making a formidable back rank. Peter is playing out of his skin at Skip but Alan feels if he is to make the "A" side he might have to be given a chance of playing 2nd. Former SA International and Commonwealth Gold Medal winner Johan du Plessis is back playing bowls and he too will make the selectors job difficult.

The million dollar question is, do you change any of the 8 players from last year's winning team? Alan believes with the wealth of talent around it's going to be difficult not to. “Man I'm glad I retired” says Alan.

Quiz evening

Once again, HeatherCawood put together a fun quiz evening that was enjoyed by all participants. Members brought their families along as well as their gourmet suppers. It is amazing how much effort Heather puts in to the preparation of her Q

and A slide presentation – and all accompanied by music. This time the questions were a bit more challenging, especially in the category “Elvis” where most of us fell short. Thanks Heather. We look forward to another evening in the Spring.

National Women’s Day

This day was celebrated at the Club in the form of a morning of fun bowls planned and presented by Ladies Captain Linda Elliott and her willing team of lady helpers. Peter Brown reckoned that we had as many guest non-bowlers on the greens as members. Our guests didn’t realise that bowls could be so much fun. Linda had organised a variation of “Jack Attack” bowls where everyone is a front end bowler with no Skips at all. Mike Weir, a regular Tuesday morning bowler, said he has not had as much fun as he had on Women’s Day. Thank you Linda.

Welcome

The Club welcomes Butch (Peter) and Lyn Liebenberg from Hout Bay and Chris Skaife, from the Constantia area, as Full Bowling members. We wish them many happy hours of fun both on and off the green.

Atlantic Bowling Club

It is with much sadness that the bowling fraternity has learned of the immediate closure of this Club. For many years their greens were among the best in the District and used for numerous prestigious events and for the finals of provincial competitions.

An unconfirmed report suggests that Glen Bowling Club have offered to maintain the two front greens for the next two years.

RIP

One of life’s true gentlemen, Derek Metcalfe, passed away recently. He was a regular, and very popular member of the Tuesday morning fraternity until a few years back when illness sidelined him and he had to pack up bowls.

And finally ...

Mary Clancy goes up to Father O'Grady after his Sunday morning service, and she's in tears.

He says, "So what's bothering you, Mary, my dear?"

She says, "Oh, Father, I've got terrible news. My husband passed away last night."

The priest says, "Oh, Mary, that's terrible. Tell me, Mary, did he have any last requests?"

She says, "That he did, Father."

The priest says, "What did he ask, Mary?"

She says, "He said, 'Please Mary, put down that darn gun!'"
