

# The Falcon: January 2019

## Off with a bang!

We had barely finished singing Auld Lang Syne and putting away the Christmas Tree for another year, when the competitive season was upon us. Preparations on the part of our Selectors and our players appear to have been thorough, as most of our Muter, Flag and Friendly sides have enjoyed satisfactory starts to their campaigns. The challenge now is to maintain this momentum through a combination of commitment to improve one's bowls and an even bigger commitment to building on the existing team spirit.

## From the President

Welcome back to those members who enjoyed overseas holidays and are now back with us, enjoying the bowls and the socialising. We've missed you Butch and Lynn, Syd and Paddy, Bobby, Graham and Maureen, and John Perryman.

## WP Events

Six of our teams won their sections to advance to the play-offs of the WP Mixed Pairs. Three of these teams advanced to the next round (Linda Stringer and Peter Cottrell, Alan Lofthouse and Colleen Marshall, and Peter Harvey and Cheryl Saunders) but their progress unfortunately stopped there.

## The back-room boys and girls

None of these competitions can take place without the selfless service of those who collect the monies, do the draw for rinks, collect the scorecards, collate the scores and post the results. Therefore we are delighted that we received a positive response to the request for help in this area.

Grateful thanks to Doreen Day and Wilma Prade for assuming the role of CTOs on Flag and Muter days. Also to Tim Ross Thompson and Keith Ingram for officiating during the hosting of the W P Mixed Pairs at our Club recently.

## Ladies Day

Our Annual Ladies Day, sponsored by Personal Trust, takes place this Friday and is dedicated to Jenny Williams, one of our very popular ex-members who passed away a while back. 30 teams have entered, representing a wide spread of Clubs. With the arrangements in good hands, it should turn out to be a most successful day.

## Mens Selection

Graham writes as follows: "As Convenor of Selectors I am pleased to report that at this stage the Club has achieved more than we expected, although a few of the sides seem to be battling. There is still time for the latter to improve. The spirit and camaraderie has been excellent among the players. Well done, and thanks to everyone."

## Events

Jack Muller Day: Before this disappears into the mists of time, we should record the huge success of last year's Jack Muller Day. Whatever the formula was, it worked really well with compliments pouring in from all directions. We were delighted to welcome teams from Pollsmoor, Police, Parow, Plumstead and WPC. The weather was good, the food was excellent and the prevailing spirit was outstanding. We chose to seed the teams last year which resulted in an even distribution of the skills levels! The popular winners of the day were Philip Meredith, Guy Orsmond and George Rickson. The preliminary planning was done by John Perryman prior to his departure overseas, after which Heather Cawood, Jenny Nel and Geoff Perrow took over.

To spread the largesse so kindly provided by Warwick, there were 6 prizes in total, in addition to session prizes and individual prizes. Thanks to all who supported this event which is really designed to give something back to the members rather than to raise funds.

The Mike McCully show : A really wonderful evening of fun and music was enjoyed by around 170 guests at the Club this past Sunday. Thanks

for organising this great event must go to Heather Cawood and Hayden Mosely. Other members who stepped up to help were ;  
Food stall: Hayden, Craig, Stephen and Mandy  
Stage: Bevan and Carl  
Bar: Peter Cawood, Roy, Brett and Keith Ingram  
Ticket sales: Barbara and Eddie  
A show of hands at the end of the evening indicated quite conclusively that we would like to get the band back again. This time it will be the Mama Mia Show. Watch this space!

Potjiekos Competition: And further good news is that we will definitely be staging the Potjiekos Competition later in the year. If it is anything like last year's event, we have something really special to anticipate.

### **Forthcoming events**

With Ladies Day at the end of the week, Army Day on 1 March and the Constantia Classic over Easter, we needed our crockery stocks to be replenished. For their efforts in shopping around to get the best buys, we would like to thank Lynn and Roy Clark and Graham McCleod for their efforts. We are most grateful.

### **The kitchen**

In the absence of Lyn Liebenberg overseas, we had to rely on other members to assist in the purchasing of supplies to keep us all well fed. Grateful thanks to Jenny Nel, Maureen and Graham, Colleen Marshall and Harvey Havenga.

### **Greens**

Thanks to the efforts of Henri and Elvis, our A and C Greens are running well, the lines are not bad and the speeds, in the vicinity of 12.5, acceptable. B Green is also speeding up and levelling out, with the occasional bump.

Around the District, there appears to be a common complaint about the running lines on certain greens. While this is due to a number of factors, it can be remedied by directional grooming and mowing. If you experience this on any of our rinks, please let me know and we'll try to do something about it.

### **Gardens**

Harvey, with the support of Elvis and a casual gardener, is working hard to develop a "park-like" appearance in our grounds. This involves the planting of additional small trees and shrubs. So

thanks to those members who continue to provide us with plants (the latest contribution of a hedge plant from an Saunders).  
We also need to take a good look at improving our spectator facilities. This might include purchasing new benches and, perhaps, the erection of shaded areas. Any suggestions, please let Harvey or me know.

### **Practice opportunities**

A reminder that Mondays continues to be our watering day and therefore does not provide good practice opportunities as the greens will not have been cut since the previous Saturday. On other days, the whiteboard at the front entrance should give an indication of what is available.

Now that all our greens are "up and running", there should not be a shortage of practice space.

### **Sick Bay**

While overseas visiting her family in Australia, Lynn Liebenberg seriously damaged her wrist. For various Medical Aid reasons, she had to wait for her return to SA before having the required operation. This took place last week, we are all looking forward to her speedy recovery and Butch says he'll have her out on the green fairly soon!

### **Club Competitions**

The two respective Competition Secretaries are using every free Sunday to work their way through the various competition draws. There is a matter of urgency as pretty soon (Sunday 24 February) the Sundays will be taken up by WP Singles and then the WP Fours.

Always a thankless task, they need our cooperation to ensure that the competitions proceed smoothly.

It is hoped that we won't have to resort to scratchings to keep things progressing smoothly.

### **Saturday Tabs**

For those members not involved in Flag, Muter or Friendly on a Saturday afternoon, there will ALWAYS be rink space available for you. If you don't wish to take a chance on others being present, why not arrange a bounce game.

### **England President's Bowls Tour**

On Sunday afternoon, the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019, Constantia Bowling Club will have the privilege of

once again hosting the England President's Bowls Tour of South Africa.

In England a new President is elected each year and during their term of office the President chooses where he/she would like to take their tour. Their last tour of South Africa was in 2012 with previous tours in 2007 and 2004, while in between they have toured Australia, New Zealand and Florida U.S.A. and other bowling countries. The England President for 2019 is a lady who has been to S.A. on a previous tour and who has requested a return to Constantia B. C. As their tour includes other provinces, only two or three clubs will be hosting the tourists in Cape Town. Constantia has hosted the England President's Tour on all their visits.

The tourists have requested 12 games of mixed three-wood triples, 18 ends, commencing at 14.00. To enter refer to the notice board next to the kitchen.

The tourists are due to arrive at 12.30.

The bowls will be preceded at 13.00 by a two course lunch, the traditional South African "Babotie" made by our Past Lady President Felicia Pillay, and a dessert afterwards. The "Babotie" was requested by David Bryant Bowls, the tour organisers, who have had lunch here in the past. There will be a tea break at 15.30 with traditional "melk tert".

Total cost to members playing R 85.00 (lunch R 60.00 + tea R25.00).

I trust members will ensure that we will have a full quota of entries for this important occasion.

### **Clearing up**

A cheerful reminder to the members of our teams playing at home on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Please continue to clear your tables of all the tea items.

### **Can she move?**

Those who watched her moves during the McCully show on Sunday were convinced that, at one stage or other of her career, Ciel Brandt had been a pole dancer. Or put it this way, if she wasn't, she should have been!

### **And finally**

Here is a short collection of facetious comments heard at various times on and around our greens.

What's the green running at?  
It's not. It's just limping along.

How did you find the green?  
Quite easy. Out the main entrance and to the left!

How short am I?  
Taking a guess, I'd say about 5 ft 9!

What's the grass like?  
Probably only good enough for smoking!

How short am I?  
About two days by camel (Trevor's favourite)

Which green did you play on?  
I played on the brown one!

Perhaps you can add to this collection to allow us to be even more abusive to one another during Tabs!