



**MSBL**  
Mid-Shropshire Bowling League



## Monthly Newsletter June 2023

### Secretary's Report by Malcolm Fletcher

The season is fast approaching the halfway stage, blessed with glorious sunny weather in recent weeks. And it was another super sunshine day when the Mid Shropshire team, captained for the first time by Ian Evans, won the 2023 Shropshire veterans inter-league championship at Old Shrewsbury.

Watching League President Mike Potter was elated and, on a personal note, I would like to place on record my congratulations and sincere thanks to Ian and his squad of nine for taking the pressure off me with regards to this year's event, given my difficult circumstances since mid May.



The triumph, coming after last year's over-60s final heartache at Wrockwardine Wood, put the icing on a good week for the League's officers. They met face to face for the first time since April, reviewing the campaign to date and covering a whole range of topics over a period of nearly 2 hours. And that means club delegates can expect a packed agenda for the July executive meeting at the Sir John Bayley Club on Tuesday the 4th starting at 7.30pm.

And on that agenda your officers want to plant seeds for clubs to think about and discuss with their members before the playing season ends, with proposals including:

- The top divisions on Fridays and Mondays become the biggest with the most fixtures, achieved by tweaking the number relegated and / or promoted.
- All divisions to start on the same night, rather than staggered as this year.
- Division 1 to be increased to 11-a-side in 2024 and then up to 12 as in pre-Covid days the following year.

A number of potential rule changes were discussed too and there could well be a brand new singles competition come September - a Thursday Division Merit - with a potential sponsor to be approached!

So it's going to be good to see everyone again early next month and with so much to mull over.

I have to admit it's been strange not having to prepare for regular monthly meetings but, via the website, Facebook posts and this Newsletter, I hope member clubs and their bowlers feel the League is doing its best to communicate.

Recent posts on the website include good news on the thorny issue of parking for Trench as they countdown to their Centenary Celebrations on the Sunday of the August Bank Holiday weekend.

I hope to be involved in some way with that special day - and it won't be too long before the League gets to 100 not out!

Malcolm

---

## Fixture Secretary's Report by John Palmer



All divisions have continued to run smoothly and fortunately the weather has improved to such an extent that there have been no matches postponed and Chelmarsh are now able to play on their own green again. There have been no further transfers.

Two £5 fines have been imposed, both for fielding an unregistered player: Maddocks in division 6 & Castlefields in the Thursday division.

John

---

## Competition Secretary's Report by Rob Burroughs

We have had three competitions since the last newsletter. The Over 60s Merit had 20 entries at Donnington Wood and was won by Ian Gaut who beat Pete Spragg 13 in the final. The Mixed Doubles had 11 entries at Edgmond, and was retained by Ange & Martin Gaut, defeating Beth & Steve Reeves 15 in the final. We recently had the Under 25 Merit at Sir John Bayley, but only had 4 entries, Tom Killen coming out on top beating Lucy Hireson 9 in the final. Thank you to Donnington Wood, Edgmond and Sir John Bayley for hosting the three competitions. Well done to all three winners!



Pictured above are the four Semi Finalists in the Over 60's Merit with Competitions Secretary Rob Burroughs. From left: Pete Spragg (Sinclair), Louise Cotton (Wrockwardine Wood), Steve Faulkner (Wrockwardine Wood) & Ian Gaut (St Georges).





Pictured above are the finalists in the Mixed Doubles held at Edgmond. From left: Steve & Beth Reeves, Rob Burroughs and Ange & Martin Gaut.



Pictured above are the four competitors in the Under 25 Merit with organiser Rob Burroughs. From left: Logan Church (Sinclair), Tom Killen (Shifnal), Lucy Hireson & Georgia Rawlins (both Bowring).

The next competition is the Junior Day at St Georges on Saturday 24th June at 11am. This will see the running of the Under 15, Under 18 and Junior Doubles. You can enter on the day or enter with Rob Burroughs before on 07901 229623. It would be great to see as many juniors there as possible!

The Ashton Cup prelims took place last week, with Newport D and Sinclair C victorious. The next round is on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June, with any first round losers being placed in the Ashton Shield along with Shifnal C and Allscott Heath C.

The Harris Cup Prelims take place on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

All draws are on the website and results system

Rob

---

## **Treasurer's Report by Celia Miles**



Nothing to report since the last newsletter.  
The balance in the league's TSB account is £10271.96.

Celia

---

## **Dates for your Diary**

Wednesday 21st June - Preliminary round of the Harris Cup.

Saturday 24th June - Junior day at St Georges (11am).

Wednesday 28th June - Last 16 of the Ashton Cup.

Wednesday 19th July - Last 16 of the Ashton Shield.

Date of next meeting – July executive on Tuesday the 4th at SJBC (7.30pm).

[More details and contact information are on our website midshrop.co.uk](http://midshrop.co.uk)

The league is sponsored by:

