



NEWS LETTER NO. 2.

APRIL 2014.

A Message from our President

It has been some time since the last news letter with a lot of water passing under the bridge since then and I believe that your club has gone from strength to strength.

The quality of our greens, catering and general hospitality over the last few seasons has not gone unnoticed and has resulted in an upsurge in the number of Western Province fixtures being held at our club.

On occasions this might have inconvenienced members when playing tabs-in but every effort was made to ensure that there was always room available for tabs. It should also be recognised that these events are a feather in our cap and also enhance our coffers.

These additional fixtures have of course put a serious strain on the ladies in the kitchen and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lilian and all the ladies for their sterling efforts in this regard. We have had nothing but praise for the quality of the food that was always made available.

Spine, Andrew and Abu are also to be commended as it is through their efforts that our greens are without question, among the best in the Western Cape. This has given rise to the privilege of us hosting two days of men's fours and a day of singles in the Nationals being held in May.

As can be seen from the results reported by the convenors of selectors, our club has been put on the map in no uncertain terms this season. Being on selection is a very difficult task as there will always be challenges and criticism and it is impossible to please everyone. However, the results speak for themselves and all of the selectors need to be congratulated on a job well done.

Individual results have also surpassed expectations. The most notable being the selection of Nina Painter, Theuna Grobler and Brendan Ferns to represent Western Province. Nina, Theuna, Cynthia and Mare Gruenbaum have also been invited to play in the Western Province Masters being played at Durbanville on 26 and 27 April. Our heartiest congratulations go to them all.

The Friday night suppers are still well supported and I thank Joan and Mare for co-ordinating this initiative and all the ladies who so willingly give of their time and efforts in providing these delicious meals.

Membership is fluctuating with some leaving due to ill health and the sad loss of Paul Collins, Mike van der Merwe, Gerrie Taljaard and Gerald Thompson who all passed away within the last six months.

On a brighter note I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new members to the club:-

Ken Nell, Stompie Kloppers, Harriet Arrow, Klaas Louw, Wim van Staveren and Marthinus Pool.

Tab-in, as always, still attracts a fair amount of grumbling and I would like to make it clear that, other than during the league season, tabs is done strictly on the basis of a blind draw. This was implemented at the insistence of the majority of members and it therefore needs to be accepted that there will be times when the draw does not suit you.

In conclusion, and on a very serious note, I need to remind members that the AGM will be taking place within the next four weeks on a date still to be confirmed. Members are urged to start seriously considering stepping up to the plate themselves or encouraging others to take up all of the positions on the committee this year.

In the words of a past President “Paying ones subs creates a feeling of entitlement, but nothing can be further from the truth; entitled people generally don’t feel purposeful and don’t contribute value to the club. Membership involves obligations – A good member gets involved with all club activities and also contributes towards the functioning of the club.”

Should the members wish me to consider taking up the position of President again for the ensuing year then I need to make it abundantly clear that I will only do so, if all of the positions on the incoming committee are filled. In

particular, the positions of Treasurer, Bar manager and Kitchen convenor need to be filled by those competent to do so.

Thank you for your support and good bowling to you all!

Clive.

Brian's Barks

Looking back over the past season I find myself smiling not only in satisfaction but with tremendous pride in "My" club.

We have had a wonderful season and it has just proved to me that if a job is tackled with enthusiasm and dedication the end results will be satisfying.

When I first joined Somerset West just over three years ago I predicted that 2014 would be the year we would all see changes. My satisfaction has been to see the prediction come true and the competitiveness of both our ladies and men increase in leaps and bounds. This change has not been the result of one person's effort but is in fact a combination of the efforts of all the members.

The first accolade must go to the selectors both ladies and men. You have all contributed to the success achieved. I am well aware that you have all been subjected to a lot of flak and even personal attacks. Please bear in mind that the job you do carries no accolades from members. Some of your selections even surprised me. The proof of the pudding is however in the eating and what we have eaten this year MUST make it all worthwhile and prove to you all that your decisions in most instances, were the correct ones.

The record this year reads as follows:-

1. Ladies Provan winners.
2. Ladies Muter retains position in the Premier division.
3. Ladies B side narrowly misses promotion.
4. Mens A team gains promotion to First Division.
5. Mens B side not only gains promotion to the second division but the 3rd Division Trophy.

This list does not include the personal achievements of individual members.

To my fellow coaches who have spent so many hours in the past year not only working with individual players but running the clinics on a Saturday. Your dedication which is normally totally unsung deserves mention in this

year's success story. Gerald my dear friend and fellow coach, enjoy bowling and coaching at that Bowls Club in heaven

Finally, to ALL the members of the club congratulations on a wonderful year. Even if you did not make it into the competitive sides you have been a part of the success story. The club consists of competitive and social bowlers and together you make up the Somerset West Bowling Club, which could not exist without us all.

Men's Selection

What a magnificent achievement. This club can be justly proud of the men and women who play bowls under it's flag. Last year the ladies held the spotlight, this year it was the turn of the men to draw the wattage. Both their Flag sides gained promotion with the additional cherry being the winners cup brought home by the B side; their 3rd Division winners play off against Edgemoad will forever be a day to remember, as it was proudly played, witnessed and perfected.

Congratulations are due to all at the club for it certainly was a collective effortthere are those who played (salutations to all!) and then there were those who.... supported.....encouraged..... compromised.....worked backstage..... yes, even those who shook their heads and arched their eyebrowsfor sometimes we did listen to good effect!
The selection committee wishes to thank everyone for accepting the challenge to make good the disappointing relegation of the previous year. The club now has a true measure of its competitive playing ability and with sides now in the 1st and 2nd Divisions our hope is that this achievement will be cherished, maintained and enjoyed in the years ahead.
From the selection committee

FROM THE LADIES SELECTION:

It is hard to believe that the league season has come and gone!! A huge thanks to all the ladies for their commitment this season! It also became necessary to play certain ladies out of their positions, to strengthen teams. This was accepted willingly! What a great attitude to have..... putting the club first!

LADIES PROVAN TEAMS:

Taking the accolade here in first and second place!! What an achievement! Congratulations to all who participated.

PREMIER DIVISION:

To the “New Kids on the Block,” very proud of the ladies in maintaining their position in this division!! Well done!

MUTER DIVISION 2B:

Confirming their position in this division!! Well done!

ACHIEVEMENTS BY THE LADIES:

- Theuna Grobler - Selected to the BSA Women’s Gold Squad.
- Nina Painter, Theuna Grobler, Tina Gray & Thea Blatt - Semi finals of WP Women’s Midweek league.
- Nina Painter, Tina Gray, Theuna Grobler & Thea Blatt - Quarter finals of WP Women’s Sully Cup.
- Nina Painter, Tina Gray, Theuna Grobler & Thea Blatt - Last 16 of WP Women’s Fours.
- Cynthia Mc Duling - Semi finals of WP Women’s Senior Singles.
- Theuna Grobler - Quarter finals of WP Women’s Open Singles.
- Mare Gruenbaum and Nina Painter - Quarter finals of WP Women’s Senior Singles.
- Nina Painter - being invited to participate in WP Masters (Senior Ladies) and Theuna Grobler to participate in the WP Masters. (Ladies Invitation)
- Nina Painter - Selected to represent WP in the Senior Ladies Inter District side and Theuna Grobler on being selected to represent WP in the Ladies B Inter District side.
- Theuna Grobler, Mare Gruenbaum, Nina Painter and Cynthia Mc Duling - invited to play in the WP Masters.

Congratulations!!! What a great season!

Coaches Corner

Now that the league season is over the Saturday morning clinic will resume – regrettably without the senior and most experienced Coach. Please remember that the clinic is not only for new bowlers but also for those who perceive they have a problem. Correction is normally easy as just a small fault has crept in – it happens to the Coaches also.

The Coaches all read from the same page and we cannot emphasise enough that the “set-up” is 70% of a good bowl. How many of you jump on, bowl and jump off the mat with only minimal thought? The other particular fault

is failing to watch your bowl until it stops. You can learn from a not so good bowl – but only if you watch it!

All Coaches will help where and when they can (and they are approachable) and if one cannot help another may have the solution.

Good Bowling everybody – we're there to help.

Please do remember to notify Elaine of any change of address, telephone number or email address!

Leaving you with a little verse to ponder over:

*When delivering the goods,
We know you've only two woods
Skip please don't get carried away
Your remarks should be guarded
Your team's not retarded
They can hear every word you say!*

You Must Be Up!

*“You must be up” this to a player who is heaving at her bowl
The green is very heavy and she is struggling for control
To “be up” her dearest wish, you must believe that this is true
With everybody glaring, she wants this more than you
Half the game is over, and not once has she been there
To “be up,” oh how she's trying 'cos she's really feeling spare
So instead of putting pressure on this poor unhappy soul
She's the one who's battling just to hold the blasted bowl
She's really so upset she'd like to vanish from the scene
She has to cope with pressure from the bank and from her team
Tell her you know she's trying - to relax - give all she's got*

If you treat her kindly, you will see her draw the shot!

Your scribe Joan