COBPC NEWSLETTER MARCH 2025 NO. 103

CLUB SUBS

Club Subscriptions - That's another year flashed by, and the end of March is membership renewal time.

Membership fees for this year are:
CoBPC Club - £30.00
Full PE Membership - £25.00
Club PE Membership - £10.00. This is only available to new members and those who have already joined under this category. There is currently no option to downgrade your existing PE membership.
This mean that with the exception of those new members who have opted for Club PE Membership, the annual fee will be £55.00.

Members who have set up an auto renewal will be debited at the end of the month and no action is required. Those who have opted to pay by debit/credit card can start renewing now. This link will take you to PE Membership page where you need to log on to their Sport:80 system https://www.petanque-england.uk/member/

If you don't want to incur the wrath of our erstwhile treasurer, please make sure you pay your fees by the end of the month!
Please speak to a committee member if you've any questions about membership renewal.

PLAYING MATTERS

RESULTS FROM INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MARCH 9TH

Results as follows:
1st Mary Elliot and Claire Pope – Royal Wotton Bassett
2nd Christine Cox and Pat Haines – City of Bath
3rd Gay Evans and Lesley Eastlake – Mixed
4th Karon McDonald and Helen Wright – Cricklade

All 4 teams will be eligible to compete at the IWD finals on June 7th at Whitnash.

DON GRIMES MEMORIAL CUP

This is played against The Northey Arms on Easter Monday, 21 April 2025, at LSC. Registration 10:30 – 10:45, start: 11:00. The games will consist of singles; doubles and triples.

All members are invited to play. It's a competitive, social competition, for all abilities. Please come and give it a go.

A poll will be put on the COBPC noticeboard after the newsletter comes out, for members to show their interest either way.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The aim is to spread these over the summer months and, where possible, to ensure these do not overlap with other local, regional or national competitions which will be of interest to club members. Our club championships will precede the equivalent regional event, as follows:
Sunday 18 May – Club Singles
Sunday 8 June – Club Doubles
Sunday 13 July – Club Mixed Doubles
Sunday 31 August – Club Triples

BRUNEL LEAGUE

Following an encouraging response from club members showing an interest in playing in the Brunel League the club has been given approval to enter **two teams** for the league and the knockout cup. The league will kick off around the end of April so look out nearer that time for more information and a chance to sign up to join the squad.

THURSDAY LEAGUE

Last year's captains have been invited to submit entries for this year's league, the closing date is 4th April and the league will recommence in mid May. If members are interested in playing or forming a team or just want more information on the league then please speak to Mike or email mike@bathboules.co.uk

MONTHLY MELEE

Our next monthly melee is Saturday 5 April, 2025, registration 9:15 – 9:45 am for a 10.00 start. £3 p.p. to enter. Games are 4 x 25 minutes. This is open to all members and non-members. All abilities welcome.

WESTERN CHALLENGE CUP

Starts in March 2025. It's a knockout competition with matches being played home and away. Those not chosen to play in the main team will form development teams. This will give members a chance to gain competitive experience. ***(see attached information sheet accompanying last month's newsletter)***

FRIENDSHIP GAMES – AUGUST 16 & 17

Organisation is well underway for this competition held in Villingen, Germany this year. Thank you to Cary for keeping those who are attending, informed about travel, and accommodation choices.

City of Bath hosted the games in 2024 with great success and many of you were around to witness not only the standard of play, but also the friendship between the nations.

This year's tournament is the finale of a six year cycle. The tournament will be played over the weekend of August 16 and 17. The tournament is open to all club members although there will be a limited number of playing places, (14 maximum). However, you don't have to be playing to enjoy the atmosphere and meet up with old friends as well as establishing new ones.

There are a number of options to reaching Villingen, e.g. going solo, driving, taking a train or flying. Several adventurers will be taking advantage of the weekend to spend more time exploring parts of Germany.

We have already been in touch with the organisers, and they advise that hotel accommodation is already being booked up in August and advising that rooms are booked well in advance.

If you are interested in coming to Villingen only, please let me know and plan to make your own travel arrangements outside the 3 days in Villingen.

For those of you interested in spending more time on a semi organised trip please let me know.

The current plan is probably to visit Munich making day trips to the Eagles Nest and the Fairy tale castles, amongst other day trips. Ultimately taking the train across Germany to Villingen.

Contact Cary, either at the club or by email cary@carybush.co.uk if you are interested in joining the trip or purely visiting Villingen with perhaps your own itinerary around Europe.

BOULES BLITZ TOURNAMENT

The Boules Blitz – Frankfield, Cork, Southern Ireland.

Planning a holiday to Southern Ireland? Why not combine the trip with a couple of days petanque at the Boules Blitz open. The Frankfield Open will be held over the weekend of August 23 & 24. It is a doubles tournament played over the 2 days. The main tournament has even been won by 2 players from the COBPC in the past. So, while the standard is reasonable you will not be out of your depth. If you are interested or would like further details please talk to Cary cary@carybush.co.uk or Mary who can provide you with further details as well as places to visit should you wish to stay for a few days.

SANTA SUSANNA – 28 SEPT TO 3 OCT

Due to the success of the Santa Susanna Competition in Spain 2024, we are returning this year. It is a 5-day trip. We fly out on Sunday 28th September and return on Friday 3rd October.

There is a promotional video for the Santa Susann Competition, *(see Youtube link below)*. It looks an exciting event for those taking part. There may still be places available for anyone who is thinking about joining. Speak to Steve if you want more information stevecharman171@gmail.com

https://youtu.be/J4RMql3qz6k?si=yJTd5DLchmCks60I

GWR WINTER DOUBLES

Check out the GWR web site for any GWR competition results. https://www.gwrpetanque.com/

COACHING – LARKHALL

Coaching will begin again soon.

If you'd like advice on purchasing boules then please speak to one of the coaches who will be happy to give you advice on size and weight. https://www.dcpetanque.net

WHATSAPP GROUP

We have a 'COBPC Message Board' on WhatsApp. Its purpose is to be an instant avenue for communication to all members of CoBPC.

Its use will be to inform members of competitions, club events, updates and such like. It is not a platform for general chit chat. If you are not already in the group and wish to be included, please inform Steve Charman stevecharman171@gmail.com
also, if you wish to be removed from the group let Steve know.

100 CLUB

There are 3 cash prize winners every month now! So, if you've not already bought your tickets…. you've got to be in it to win it!

Winners for the February draw were:
1st prize Maxine & Alan Bartlett
2nd prize Chris McGinn
3rd prize Amelia Edward

There is a video of the draw on the City of Bath Pétanque Club Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/bathboules/

There are still tickets available and as ticket numbers increase, then the prize pot increases, and the funds raised for the club increase – it's win win all round! Please see Annette, or email her on annetteh40@yahoo.co.uk if you wish to buy tickets, increase your holdings or ask for a form from the clubhouse.

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT?

As a club we rely on volunteers, and the EC are grateful for the help and support we get from you to run our weekly club sessions, competitions, coaching and general club maintenance tasks. If you can help with any of these activities, then we'd love to hear from you.

1. Website administration - as you will have read in previous Newsletters, we are planning to redesign and update our website. As part of this process, we are looking for someone with an interest in this area to become our Club website administrator, this could be a shared role. The role involves overseeing content and keeping the information current.

2. Publicity – anyone who is a regular user of social media could support the transformation of our current presence online.
Don't be shy, step forwards and see how you can help our club.

Please contact Jenny Newman jennymnewman2@gmail.com if you would like to be involved . All suggestions, no matter how big or small, will be considered by the improvements group, and working parties arranged to implement chosen projects.

CLUB HABERDASHERY

We have a wide range of club specific clothing, bags, and ancillary items for purchase via the 'Club Shop'.
https://www.michaelhope.co.uk/products/club-shops/city-of-bath-petanque-club/city-of-bath-petanque-club

Orders are generally turned around in 5 – 7 days and can be collected from the Box premises or delivered for a small fee.

GWR & PE

Please check the GWR and PE websites for playing calendars and updates on competitions and events:

https://www.gwrpetanque.com/

and https://petanqueengland.sport80.com/public/events.

COBPC COMMITTEE

Just a reminder, these are your Club committee members:

- Bryan Huish, Chair
- Chris Garcia, Vice Chair
- Cary Bush, Treasurer
- Jenny Newman, Secretary
- Pam McKeown
- Peter Mills
- John Stanfield
- Mike Woodward
- Barry Smith

YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Please make sure your membership and contact details are up to date so that you receive all club news and newsletters.

MANY THANKS

Many thanks to all who contributed articles to this month's newsletter.

FACEBOOK

Thank you to Chris Garcia for doing the Facebook site and for the contributions received for posting. Visit https://www.facebook.com/bathboules/

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Western Challenge Cup, March
- Club Melee, Saturday, 5 April, 9.15 – 9.45 registration. £3 pp to enter.
- Don Grimes Memorial Cup, 21 April, LSC
- Club Singles, Larkhall, 18 May
- Club Doubles, Larkhall, 8 June
- Club Mixed Doubles, Larkhall, 13 July
- Friendship Games, Germany, 16 & 17 August
- Boules Blitz Tournament, Ireland, 23 & 24 August
- Club Triples, Larkhall, 31 August
- Santa Susanna Trip, Spain – 28 Sept to 3 Oct
- Cancer Charity Match, 12 October. If interested give your team's name to Gary gryhaskins@yahoo.co.uk

WEEKLY TIMES OF PLAY

Larkhall Club - Sat 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Tues 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Queen Sq - Wed 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., £1.50p to play

GWR PETANQUE

GWR is the Great Western Region of Pétanque England who organise and promote the game of Pétanque or Boules (French bowls) in the West of England counties of Gloucestershire, North Somerset & Wiltshire.
https://www.gwrpetanque.com/

PETANQUE ENGLAND

Check out their website https://www.petanque-england.uk/

Editor

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