COBPC NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2026 ISSUE 112

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COBPC CLUB AGM 2026

Will be held at LSC on Friday, 15 May, at 7 pm. Papers should be coming out shortly. All members welcome to attend.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEES

I asked your committee for a piece about the membership fees which I thought might be informative, e.g. what your fees cover/don't cover, especially regarding the Queen Square only playing members. Unfortunately I have received nothing to publish to date, apart from a piece, which I now include. It was drawn to my attention that I should have published it in the March edition.

"It was proposed at the AGM that players who only play on Queen Square as part of the Wednesday Club Activity be entitled to a lower club membership fee. It was agreed that for these players only, the fee would be reduced from £55 to £35 per annum. Any member who wishes to participate in any other activity organised by the club will be required to pay the full membership fee. Member claiming the lower membership fee should initially pay the full membership fee and request a £20 rebate via the Queen square organiser. Cary"

If you only intend to play at Queen Square, you will need to fill in a 'Concession Form', return it to the Committee, who will then decide if you are eligible, (or not), to receive the concessionary sub.

If you haven't already received a form then contact either Cary cary@carybush.co.uk or Bryan bryan.huish@gmail.com

If you are struggling to pay your Club subs via the payment website: petanque-england.sport80.com , then contact Cary for support.

DON GRIMES – ADRIAN DOMAN MEMORIAL COMPETITION

This competition is run every year and takes place on Easter Monday, 6 April, this year at the Northy Arms, Box.

Members have already been informed if they are playing. Arrival time: 10:00 am, start time: 10:30 am, finish time: between 1.30 pm – 2.00 pm.

This year's format is slightly different from previous years. It will be as other years, three rounds of games but this year all the games will be triples. We want to maximise the number of people players taking part. The Northy has a slightly smaller playing area, triples allow us to maximise the number of participants. The games will be timed to a maximum of a hour.

Everyone will get a minimum of two games, others will get 3. If you only want to play two games please let Steve know. The teams for each round will be drawn by pulling names out of a hat.

Text Steve: 07533610226 you want to play and there are spaces. Alternatively, if you can't play now, text Steve on the above number. *(taken from the Club's message board on WhatsApp)*

Check out the facebook site for photographs and an article from Terry Basson regarding the background of the competition.
https://www.facebook.com/bathboules/?locale=en_GB

GORILLA 26 TRIPLES & DOUBLES BIDDESTONE BOULES CLUB

COBPC members have been invited to enter the above competition to be held on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st May, (***see attached poster with contact details for more information and/ or a registration form***).

INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY
8 March, Sunday, LSC.

The winners of International Women's Day qualifiers winning all 5 games were Lesley Eastlake & Flavia Baxter with Anita White & Izzy Parsons in 2nd, Mary Elliott & Claire Pope in 3rd and Sam Ramplin & Fe Lye in 4th all with 4 wins.. We wish all those that qualify good luck for the 6th June. We raised £100 on coffee and cake which will be donated to Breast Cancer which was the chosen charity by the day's winners. ***(details taken from the Club's facebook site where you can view photographs)***

PRESENTATION TO CHRIS MCGINN, QUEEN SQUARE 18 MARCH

A presentation was made to Chris McGinn by the members playing at Queen Square in recognition and thanks for the organising of play at Queen Square, for many years. He was presented with some wine, a restaurant voucher and Bath Box Office vouchers.

Chris asked me to publish his thanks:
"To Fellow Members of Boules at Queen Square,

Dear All, I have been staggered at the response from you all, for the most generous contributions you have made to me following my completion at looking after the weekly boules in Queen Square over many years.

I can say quite categorically that I have enjoyed the experience throughout my period of office, and the always positive responses from you all in dealing with issues.

It has been a period of my life which I will never forget, and I look forward to hearing that weekly playing continues for the future, and in doing so, helps continue the growth of the Club as a whole.

Yours most sincerely,
Chris McGinn"

EUROCUP

(No update to report)

THURSDAY LEAGUE

(No update to report)

MONTHLY MELEE

Our next monthly melee is Saturday, 4 April 2026, 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 Club players and non-club players. All abilities and experience welcome.

The invitation to play has also been extended to Queen Square players as per the WhatsApp message board, from Steve Charman.

Sponsor: Tiger Trophies.

For the March Melee results and photos check out the Club's Facebook page.

FRIENDSHIP GAMES – AUGUST 21 – 24 2026 – NEUSIEDL AM SEE in AUSTRIA

(No update to report)

COACHING

Due to a lack of general interest and the poor weather conditions, coaching has been suspended until the middle of March. *(No update to report)*

However, for those who are interested in continuing with the coaching it is proposed that those who volunteer will be teamed up with a coach on a Tuesday and / or a Saturday to help with their play as well as hopefully appreciating the importance of game management.

QUEEN SQUARE PETANQUE

If you haven't played at Queen Square on our popular weekly Wednesday morning sessions, why not give it a try. It's developed into a bit of a tradition where some players go for lunch or coffee after play in central Bath.

CARD PAYMENTS AT THE CLUB

We now have a 'sum up' machine for taking card (or phone/watch) payments. It is plugged in and located to the right of the opening hatch in the shed (on the shelf). There is a written sheet of instructions with the device. If anyone wants a quick lesson on how to use it please see Annette - it really is very easy, and the more people that can use it the better.

It has been used to charge non-members who come to the shed for a drink and who invariably do not have any cash on them. They are charged £1.50 for a drink only, which brings us into line with what the football club charge.

Some weeks it has been quite busy, so we need everyone to be able to take a payment to facilitate this. If you're playing close to the shed, it is very quick and easy to take payment and let people help themselves.

When it's been busy we have taken the opportunity to top up the water in the urn in between games.

So far it's worked well as people have been appreciative of the opportunity to buy a hot drink, it raises funds for the club and people visiting for the football are taking an interest in the Petanque club.

WHATSAPP GROUPS

We have a numerous groups on WhatsApp you can request to join, e.g. Queen Square; Message Board; Coaching; Brunel; Maintenance; etc. 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 one of the groups and wish to be included, please inform Steve Charman stevecharman171@gmail.com and/or speak to one of the volunteers who run the Queen Square sessions

If you wish to be removed from the groups let Steve, and/or one of the Queen Square volunteers, 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 March '26 draw:
1st prize winner: Colin Wyatt
2nd prize winner: Flavia Baxter
3rd prize winner: John Puckett

Check out the Club Facebook page for the videos.
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.

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/full-calendar
and https://petanqueengland.sport80.com/public/events.

COBPC COMMITTEE

- Bryan Huish, Chair
- Cary Bush, Treasurer
- Jenny Newman, Secretary

- John Stanfield
- Eileen Anderton
- Wade Edwards

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.

CLUB WEBSITE

Check out our wonderful, revamped website. https://bathboules.co.uk/

COBPC FACEBOOK SITE

Check out the Club's Facebook site which has uptodate postings of melees, competitions, events, photographs, etc. and encourage your friends to visit it too. Don't forget to press "follow" on the facebook page.

You can send articles etc. to either Facebook@bathboules.co.uk or to the editor Emma.pople@btinternet.com

Any articles received are posted at the discretion of the editor.

Visit https://www.facebook.com/bathboules/

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 4 April Club Melee, open to all members and non members
- 6 April, Don Grimes-Adrian Doman memorial competition, Northy Arms, Box
- 2 May, Club Melee, open to all members and non-members
- 7 – 11 May Ireland
- 15 May, COBPC AGM, 7 pm, LSC
- 24 May Mens & Ladies Singles
- 30 & 31 May, Gorilla26 Triples & Doubles Competition, Biddestone Boules Club (*see above for information)*
- 6 June, Club Melee, open to all members and non-members
- 14 June, Mens & Ladies Doubles
- 4 July, Club Melee, open to all members and non-members
- 12 July, Mixed Doubles
- 1 August, Club Melee, open to all members and non-members
- 21 – 24 August Friendship Games
- 30 August, Triples
- 5 September, Club Melee, open to all members and non-members
- 27 Sept – 2 Oct Santa Suzanna trip
- 3 October, Club Melee, open to all members and non-members
- 7 November, Club Melee, open to all members and non-members

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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