



## PETER STEPS UP TO PRESIDENT



Peter Kelly (right) receives the Presidential Chain from retiring President, Barry Jennings

**PETER KELLY** (Cheshire) was elected as the new President of the British Crown Green Bowling Association at the Annual General Meeting. He will be supported in his role by Mervyn Edwards (Warwick & Worcester) who was elected Deputy President.

Peter has been playing bowls for over 53 years and became involved with his local league when he was approached to join the committee. Peter says "that was at the time when more people put their name forward than required. How different it is today." He feels he has been in the right place at the right time when positions became available and the jobs he wanted to do in bowls have come about with little effort on his behalf.

A Past President of Cheshire CBA, a former winner of their Individual Merit and finalist in last season's Mid-Cheshire Veterans competition, Peter has been married to his wife, Edna, for 45 years. His wife has been his greatest supporter, and, on occasions, his only supporter (Peter's words). It didn't take her long to discover Peter's passion for bowls as they returned half-way through their honeymoon in Blackpool as Peter was playing in a major competition.

Former BCGBA and Cheshire President, Gerald Merry, was proud to nominate Peter as the 2012 President on behalf of Cheshire CBA. He said Peter has a hard act to follow but was sure he would prove to be a good ambassador for our sport during the season.

## GIRLS CAN PLAY IN JUNIOR MERIT

The 2012 Rules Revision Meeting was another long drawn out affair with the meeting lasting 15 minutes shy of four hours.

89 members present were entitled to vote but the two-thirds majority required to see a proposal 'carried' only applied to those voting. Abstentions were not included in the vote.

Of the 32 proposals, 13 were carried, 12 were defeated, 6 were withdrawn and one failed to get a seconder. There were 3 amendments received - one was accepted and two were ruled 'not valid' by the Chairman, Gerald Merry.

In the **BYE LAWS**, a complainant wishing to make an appeal must now include a £100 deposit (previously £50). Non appearance by any Club or County at BCGBA team competitions will now incur a fine of £50 with no refund of entry fees. A proposal to increase the cost of Life Membership from £6 to £8 was defeated as was the proposal to make members apply for a new card if theirs is lost or damaged. A proposal by Merseyside that only County Associations would be entitled to vote on Notices of Motions had more in favour than against as did a proposition from Cheshire that all open competitions must adhere to the recommended dress code. Both though were defeated as they failed to get the two-thirds majority required.

In **COMPETITION RULES**, one of the major changes is that junior females can now play in the BCGBA Junior Individual Merit. There is some confusion about the 2012 Veterans County Championship which will either be played as a one day event at one venue or there will be four zoned qualifying rounds, the winners of which will progress to a finals day played on neutral greens and all games will be 21up, off 3. The number of competitors for finals day of the Centenary Mixed Pairs will now be determined by the number of entries from each County Association the previous season. The World Club Championship, introduced last year, now has a set of rules to cover the competition.

In the **LAWS OF THE GAME**, the weight of a bowl will now be shown in both imperial and metric measurements. A proposal to give the leader the opportunity to reset a mark after an objection was raised was defeated as well as the proposal to re-introduce the one metre rule. A new rule was introduced that amendments to Laws of the Game can only be proposed every third year except at a Special General Meeting.

So, from the 10am start the gavel was finally brought down on the excitement at 1.45pm. Roll on next year!

You can view all the voting by visiting [www.crowngreenbowls.org](http://www.crowngreenbowls.org).

## OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION 2012

### PRESIDENT

Mr Peter Kelly

### DEPUTY PRESIDENT

Mr Mervyn Edwards

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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### FINANCIAL OFFICER

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### NATIONAL REGISTRAR

Mr Ron Holt

### COMPETITIONS OFFICER

Mr Mac Farlow

### DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Pat Crowther

### NATIONAL COACHING ADMINISTRATOR

Mr Alan Tizard

### REFEREES SOCIETY SECRETARY

Mr Barrie Cotterell

### WELFARE OFFICER

Mr David Collier

## HANDBOOK AVAILABLE MID MARCH

The 2012 BCGBA Handbook will be available following the County Secretaries Meeting on Saturday 10th March.

The cost of the handbook has increased to £2.50 this year but remains packed with information which includes the Association Rules, competition results and all the individual scores from last season's senior and junior County Championships amongst others.

The British Crown Green Ladies also have a section containing all their information and details for the coming season.

If you would like to have your own personal copy please contact the CEO - John Crowther, 94 Fishers Lane, Pensby, Wirral, CH61 8SB. You will need to add a further £1 to your cheque (**total amount £3.50 – cheques payable to BCGBA**) to cover the ever increasing postage & packaging.

## CEO REVIEWS THE 2011 SEASON

The first competition in the BCGBA calendar of events in 2011 was the completion of the 2010 Club Championship at Centre Vale Park in Todmorden in March. The worthy winners were Tonge (Greater Manchester) who defeated Bradfield (South Yorkshire) in the final.

A week later the inaugural World Club Championship began at Irlam Steel and continued on five Sundays until St Josephs (North Lanes & Fylde) defeated Garswood Hall (Lancashire) in an absorbing final. I would like to thank everyone at Irlam Steel for their help and support in running this event which proved a great success.

On the first Wednesday in July the ever popular Jack & Jean Isherwood Individual Veterans Championship, generously sponsored for the fifth year running by Grocontinental, was played at Prees Cricket & Recreation Club near Whitchurch. After an excellent day's bowling the worthy winner was Merwyn Williams (Wales) who defeated Ron Holt (Merseyside) in the final.

The following Thursday, the Veterans County Championship was played at Centre Vale Park in Todmorden. The Group winners qualified for the semi-finals in which Yorkshire defeated South Yorkshire Parks and Lancashire beat North Lanes & Fylde. In a well contested final the White Rose County recorded a narrow victory against the Red Rose County.

As usual, one of the highlights of the 2011 BCGBA calendar was the Senior Individual Merit which was played at Meole Brace Bowling Club in Shrewsbury and was sponsored for the eighth year running by Padders feelgoodfeet. Their representative, Lucinda Merriman, was present to enjoy a truly memorable day and witness a great final in which Mike Riley (Wales) proved once again that a Welshman can win the 'All England' with a narrow victory against 'the Beast' from North Lanes & Fylde, Wayne Ditchfield.

The Endsleigh Senior Supplementary County Championship was played at Pennfields Bowls Club in Wolverhampton and resulted in an unexpected but, so I was told by an impartial observer, well merited victory for the Magnificent Eight from Merseyside at the expense of North Midlands.

A week later, the Drakes Pride Junior Supplementary County Championship was played in my own area at New Brighton Cricket & Bowling Club. In the final South Yorkshire recorded a comfortable victory against a young Welsh team.

The Junior Individual Merit was played at Winnington Park Recreation Club in Northwich and, as usual, provided an excellent day's bowling. After an absorbing final the very worthy winner was Josh Towey (Potteries & District) following a very close encounter with Jack Holland (Greater Manchester) - a great advert for junior bowling.

The Endsleigh Senior County Championship final did not have quite the drama of the previous year but I had the pleasure of attending the Shropshire venue where a large crowd was treated to a feast of crown green bowls, including a Man of the Match performance from Yorkshire's Scott Fisher. Congratulations also to Shropshire's Andy Moss who received the Man of the Match award at the Yorkshire venue. At the end of an absorbing match, Yorkshire became the worthy winners of the Crosfield Cup and in 2012 it is interesting to note that the two teams will come face to face at the group stage in June.

A week later, the final of the Drakes Pride Junior County Championship was also won by Yorkshire who recorded a comfortable victory against Warwick & Worcester. They were obviously determined to show that anything the seniors and veterans could do they could do as well and with a bigger margin of victory. Once again, the sponsors generously provided medals and bowls towels for the winners and runners-up.

As usual, the Champion of Champions was one of the highlights of the BCGBA calendar of events and was witnessed by a large crowd. In the 'dream final' contested by the sport's top two players, Gary Ellis just got the better of Graeme Wilson thanks largely to a couple of key bowls at a vital stage in the match.

The final competition in the BCGBA calendar of events was the Centenary Mixed Pairs Championship, sponsored by my wife, Pat, and myself, and played at Fulwood Conservative Club in Preston. The worthy winners were the Isle of Man pairing of Jenny Moore and John Kennish who defeated the previous year's winners from Merseyside, Lynsey Gorman and Terry Glover, in the final.



## NEWPORT RECEIVE CLUBMARK STATUS

In one of his final duties as President of the British Crown Green Bowling Association, Barry Jennings presented Newport Bowling Club with their certificate of Clubmark status at a presentation evening held at the Sir John Bayley Club in Telford.

The Shropshire club were assessed by the BCGBA in August last year and awarded Clubmark for a three year period.



## NEXT MANAGEMENT MEETING



## IN BRIEF ....

- There were 5,540 new registrations during 2012 - 3,830 male and 1,710 female. 371 of these were junior bowlers with 268 male and 103 female taking up our sport. The cost of membership will remain at £6.
- The British Crown Green Ladies Bowling Association has confirmed that their Club Championship will be played at Severnside (Shrewsbury). In their initial calendar for 2012, Todmorden was listed as the venue but it did indicate this was to be confirmed. The Club Championship takes place on Sunday 22nd April with play getting underway at 9.30am.
- Barrow-in-Furness MP, John Woodcock, has his second reading of his 10 minute rule bill in the House of Commons on Monday 12th March. The bill aims to protect bowling greens from re-development.

## COMPETITION NEWS

Bowlers looking for some pre-season practice should get themselves down to Severnside Bowling Club in Shrewsbury where Barry Jennings has organised three one-day Mixed Singles Open Handicap competitions. The first takes place on Sunday 12th February (10am) and continues on the following two Sundays. Entries close on 31st January so you will need to contact Barry on 01743 351155 without delay.

Bowlers can now view all the latest competitions news thanks to a new website. Earlier this month, [Bowlers' Diary](#), was launched which aims to bring all results and competition details under one roof to make it a 'one-stop hub' for comprehensive bowling information.

Information on competitions can also be viewed by visiting – [Arthur Land](#), [Beighton Bowler](#), [Talkingbowls](#), [21up](#) (subscription charge) - excellent websites to name but a few. Like the Bowlers' Diary website, these sites contain a host of information which should answer any query a visitor may have.

The British Crown Green Bowling Association will continue with its Diary of Events and, hopefully, include results of Open Competitions in future Newsletters. Don't forget, if you want your competition listed in the diary just send us an email to [bcgbanews@aol.com](mailto:bcgbanews@aol.com).

### FINAL DATE

### ALL PRIZE MONEY QUOTED IS SUBJECT TO FULL ENTRY

#### FEBRUARY

Sunday 12th (10am)

**Mixed Singles Open Handicap** at Severnside BC, (SY1 1TS)

Sunday 19th (10am)

**Mixed Singles Open Handicap** at Severnside BC, (SY1 1TS)

Sunday 26th (10am)

**Mixed Singles Open Handicap** at Severnside BC, (SY1 1TS)

#### APRIL

Friday 6th (1pm)

**Tom Heyes (Snr) Memorial Trophy** at George & Dragon BC (SJ14 4TQ)

Monday 9th (10am)

**Kirkham Conservative Club Classic** at Kirkham Conservative Club (PR4 2BB)

Monday 9th (10.30am)

**£2,000 Les Evans Memorial Classic** at Chadsmoor Progressive WMC (WS11 6DR)

#### MAY

Monday 7th (2pm)

**Tom & John Candlin Memorial Open Doubles** at Sindair BC (TF1 5AD)

Sunday 20th

**FCGB Ladies Merit** at Harehill Park (Rochdale)

#### JUNE

Sunday 10th (10.30am)

**£600 George Pritchatt Memorial Ladies Classic** at Chadsmoor Progressive WMC (WS11 6DR)

Friday 22nd

**Isle of Man June Bowling Festival** at Nobles Park

Friday 29th

**FCGB v Civil Service** at Grange BC (WA4 1QH)

Friday 29th

**FCGB Ladies v Civil Service Ladies** at Grange BC (WA4 1QH)

Saturday 30th (6.15pm)

**Wigan Subs Junior Classic** at Wigan Subscription Bowling Green Ltd (WN1 1SA)

#### JULY

Sunday (5pm)

**£3,020 Sandal Classic** at Sandal BC (WF2 6AS)

#### SEPTEMBER

Sunday 2nd

**FCGB Over 60's Supreme Championship** at Halifax BC

Friday 7th

**Isle of Man September Bowling Festival** at Nobles Park

Sunday 9th

**FCGB Team Knockout** at Rochdale/Todmorden

Sunday 16th

**FCGB Individual Merit** at Tadcaster BC

Sunday 23rd

**FCGB Champion of Champions** at Todmorden Park