

Year Book 1983

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLING ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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*****	LARAMETER	PRESIDENTS:	
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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr President and Fellow Bowlers.

It is my pleasure to submit my first report and a record of events of 1982. The weather this summer was very mixed, but our match programme was completed with the loss of part of our fixture against Hertfordshire at Garston, play being restricted to 16 ends in the evening. I am sorry to report that we did not have a successful season on the green, results of matches being as follows:

	Р	W	L		Shots	4/-
Middleton Cup Midland Counties	4	2	2	for 517	against 454	+63
Championship Friendlies			3	694 2462	664 2516	+30

The Middleton Cup after a very promising start ended in disaster, we were plus 98 shots up with a 100% record after 2 games, then torrential rain in the 3rd game had disastrous effects when abandoned, after 5 ends played on all rinks we had an overall deficit of 13 shots. When play resumed on a Sunday once again on a wet green, we only just failed by 4 shots, but we still had a chance to qualify by winning the final game but unfortunately we lost.

In the Midland Counties Championship we finished 4th, winning 3 and losing 3, the Champions Warwickshire won all their 6 matches. Friendly games were well supported but unfortunately too many of the teams did not resemble those selected. The selection committee have asked that when you submit your name as available please check that you are not on holiday or have other commitments. Selected reserves who fail to turn up will not be selected for the next game they apply for. During the season 55 colts badges were issued to players playing their first County game and 26 blazer badges were awarded, 4 of which were gained by virtue of the County Fours Finalists playing at Worthing. Nine executive matches were played during the season, Whyte Melville celebrated their 75th anniversary, Abington, Brackley, and Earls Barton their 60th anniversary, Pianoforte Supplies their 25th anniversary and Rushden Town 60 years on their present green. Then we played the 3 Annual fixtures against the Masonic B.C., "Imps" and the Manfield Cup winners Oundle. All these games were thoroughly enjoyed by all the participating players taking part, and thanks are due to all Clubs for their generous hospitality.

Nationally the England Selectors selected 2 players from Northants for the International trial at Nottingham, E. M. Allen and J. H. Clipston, unfortunately neither was chosen for the International team. We congratulate Bob Stenhouse who was Manager of both

the Mens and Ladies Bowls teams at the Commonwealth games in Australia.

Our representatives at Worthing did much better this year, our best results for over a decade. In the Pairs, G. H. Starsmore and A. P. Thurland of Kettering Lodge reached the 3rd round, and the Kingsthorpe triple of J. H. Clipston, E. O. Thomason and E. P. Tredwell were beaten in the Final of the triples by R. Stewart, O. Jones and L. Haynes of Lenham, Kent. Chris Bussey of Kettering to do so. Congratulations to all of you for such a splendid performance.

The Selection Committee met on 15 occasions and devoted a great deal of time to selection of Middleton Cup, Midland Counties and Friendly matches. They also attended the Middleton Cup trial, 4 Middleton Cup and 6 Midland Counties matches. This year a new method was also adopted by the selectors with at least 3 of them playing in all Saturday Friendly games watching new talent, which we hope will be of benefit to the County in future Middleton Cup and Midland Counties teams. Will al! Club Secretaries please note that in future it would greatly help the selection committee if when submitting names for consideration for the aforementioned matches more detail as to performance and honours gained be given against the players names who are being put forward.

To the selectors sincere thanks, I am sure all members

appreciate their service to the County Association.

60 Clubs were members of the Association in 1982, they will be joined by 2 additional Clubs in 1983, they are Monks Park W.M.C. and Carlsberg Brewery, and we wish them a long and happy association with us. We are indebted to all Clubs of the Association for the use of their greens and facilities placed at our disposal for County games, Competitions and Manfield Cup, and to Wellingborough Town, Abington and Kettering Conservatives for the use of Committee rooms for Selection meetings, Council meetings and the Annual General Meeting.

Our Annual Dinner Dance and Presentation of Trophies was held at the Fir Tree Restaurant, Wellingborough attended by 170 members and guests. The principal guests of the evening were E.B.A. President Hylton Armstrong, Midland Counties President Don Henstock together with Presidents and Officers of seven other Counties, Mrs Betty King, Northants Ladies President and Bryn Harris, Chairman of the Vice Presidents Association. it was a very good evening, enjoyed by all who attended from only 12 Clubs in the Association, so what about you other 48 Clubs making it an even better occasion in the future?

Your President Mr. J. A. Forster has almost completed his Presidential Year which I am sure he has enjoyed. He will be able to reminisence in years to come that he gave his full support to

everything his office demanded and remember 1982 excellent year of bowling for him, which although not so success ful result wise, was very rewarding in all other respects. Starting with the calamity of losing the first 2 matches, the "Ayatolla" he was known to the team then had a successful tour to king winning 6 of the 7 matches played, but on his return to the Committee Commit scene early success was followed by further losses, the Arm Dinner being his Final triumph. He has served the County we I am sure he will continue to do so in his new office as a Selector future years.

Your Association continues to be well served by its Officent and the Senior Vice President, Frank Summerly and Junior Vice President Ken Court have given the President their full supports have the Past Presidents and Officers of the County. To my Assistant Neville Whitsey my grateful thanks for all the help and assistance so unstintingly given, especially when I was ill at the start of the season. Unfortunately he has resigned his office and will be greatly missed. To the Competition Secretary Arthur Capon well done, I know what a difficult job it is to get the Competitions completed to schedule, I hope that this is your first

year of many.

Your Area Secretaries who do a tremendous amount of work running the Competitions and Manfield Cup, the Father and Son Combination of Handbook Editors Dave and Sam Wade, Joe Cooper your Treasurer, and George Shears the Minute Secretary continue to do a marvellous job for the Association and deserve

grateful thanks from all concerned.

Finally to you all, my sincere thanks for the co-operation and help I have received during this year, and I look forward to a better 1983.

Yours Sincerely, J. H. Clipston Hon, Secretary.

COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. President, Fellow Bowlers,

May I say first of all, thank you for the way all the Competitions were played. As Northampton has the highest entry in the County it is of the greatest achievement if you can reach the ultimate end. as some of you did, especially the three from Kingsthorpe who nearly brought the Triples Trophy back to Northamptonshire, also Tony Thurland and Herbert Starsmore who reached the 3rd round of the pairs. Thanks to Tony Childs, Secretary of Wellingborough area, also to George Wills who took over from Fred Elwers in the Kettering area. To the Umpires who officiated from the quarter finals onwards. Many thanks also to all the Clubs for the use of their greens and facilities.

As this was my first year as Competition Secretary may I say

what a wonderful experience it has been. Finally may I wish you all every success in 1983 and good Bowling.

A. E. Capon, Area Comp Sec.

COUNTY COACH REPORT

Mr. President and Gentlemen.

1982 has seen the introduction of the Progressive coaching scheme, designed to take a bowler through from the completion of basic instruction to the highest levels.

As no precedent exists for the presentation of a scheme of this magnitude, the National Coaching Committee decided that a series of workshops at regional and county level would be the best method of reaching all county executives and clubs.

The National Coach together with the Regional coaches, assisted by County Coaches demonstrated techniques to County Executives of the Midland Region at Erdington Indoor Bowling Club in April. A similar workshop was held at Wellingborough Indoor Bowling Club in September to demonstrate techniques to clubs in the county.

In order to ensure that coaching assistance will be available in the future to all clubs, we are in the process of building up a

coaching team.

To this end at a qualification course in May, seven Instructors were regraded as Coaches, and a further eight club coaches were certificated as Instructors.

I express my gratitude to the President and committee of Kingsthorpe Bowling Club for once again permitting the use of their green and club facilities for the qualification course in May, and to the President and committee of Wellingborough Town Bowling Club for the use of the Indoor Bowling Green and club facilities for the Coaching Workshop in September.

We again assisted with the Sports Council's promotion Bowls '82 when seventeen club coaches gave instructions at seven venues. At these promotions many people take part to find out about the game, and at the end of the course express a desire to join a Club, I would be pleased to know of any clubs who would

welcome new members.

In conclusion I again ask all clubs without a club coach to try and find a member to fill this position. Whilst many clubs feel they are too small to need a coach, they are often the point of contact for young bowlers entering the game, who will need guidance if they are to reach their full potential. The future of the County depends on young bowlers developing to take their places at club, county and National levels.

Victor Cooper County Coach.

SAGA SINGLES CHAMPION



C. BUSSEY (Kettering Lodge B.C.)