

Royal Wootton Bassett Pétanque Club. Issue 3 - 2023

Thought it was time to send out a newsletter to bring you all up to date as there are few people we have not seen for a while and some new starters.

Site Development

The 2 additional piste 9 and 10 are complete, please note that they must not be raked. The surrounds have been tidied up to make it safe to stand and steps built to the football pitch. There is now a fence around the top area and a gated entrance. The external store has been moved and we have levelled this new area. In the near future will be putting down weed suppressing membrane and beginning to construct pistes 11 and 12, also there will be fencing going up at the end of pistes 9 and 10.

The main canopy has been completed and guttering fitted with a water butt. One section of the canopy has been half boarded and a further 3 other sections will be done later. This boarding now has sign up from our sponsors. There is also a hard standing for mobility scooters.

The windbreak has been extended alongside piste 9.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with this work to get our club looking better and better.

Club Development

Due to hard work of Marion, we have successfully gained sponsorship from Imagine Cruising as many of you will have realised from the signs that have gone up. The money donated will be used to promote and develop the club further and further details will be explained at the AGM.

AGM is due to be held on Monday 22nd January at 7.00pm at the RWBSA in the PH suite.

None of the committee are stepping down and we feel that a committee of 9 officers is sufficient, but we still have a vacancy for a Welfare Officer and if you are interested, please let me know. Dorreen has taken on the role of Welcoming Officer for new members.

We will be awarding some trophies at the AGM and I would like you all to nominate players for..

1. Men's Cup
2. Ladies Cup
3. Most improver newcomer

There is due to be a small change in the constitution to bring us in line with Petanque England which will be voted on at the AGM. In addition, as all committee members are willing to continue, I feel that the membership should have the opportunity for a vote of confidence.

We will provide a light buffet at the AGM.

Competitions

The training by Jan has recent borne fruit with a decisive win by the ladies over a team from Cricklade.

The club played in the Petanque England Eurocup plate final in Leicester on 20th August and won! This is our first national award and just shows what we can achieve. There are 2 club teams in the 2023/24 competition both with forthcoming matches.

The club team won the Cotswold Petanque League this year and a second club team won promotion Division 1. The third team had a difficult season in that not all of the teams in the league were able to complete their matches. The make-up of the CPL for 2024 has yet to be decided.

The only date in the diary for next year at present is the veterans' triples (over 55) on Saturday 18th May. This is a charity fundraising event and club members are welcome to enter.

Fundraising

The 100 club continues to slowly build and if you are interested in joining, please see Jacquii or Jan Bird. The picnic tables were purchased by the 100 club.

Easyfunding has also raised over £400 for the club and does not cost anyone from the club. When ordering goods from groceries to holidays on the internet the provider donates funds to the chosen 'charity' either as percentage or as a fixed sum.

This year our nominated charity is Parkinson's and so far, we have £208 raised but the annual dinner should boost these funds.

The charity for next year is the blood bikes.

RWBSA

If anyone doesn't have a member's card for RWBSA please let me know. Can I remind everyone to follow the correct traffic flow and not to drive round the cones or the wrong way and also that dogs are not allowed on site.

Club Clothing

Keith Laurance is organising the clothing so if you would like anything please let him know.

Social

The annual dinner is on Friday 15th December 6.30 for 7.00 pm and the orders are now closed. If you are not going to the dinner but would like raffle tickets for the hampers, please see Jacquii. She may also like donations for the hampers.

Also, we hope to arrange a social at the Ganges in February and don't forget everyone is welcome for coffee etc in the RWBSA after each session.

That's all for now folks but if you want to volunteer or just have a question let me know.

Alan