

Royal Wootton Bassett Pétanque Club. Issue 4 - 2024

It is a few months since the previous newsletter and there are one or two items to pass on.

Site Development

The main canopy is complete, and we are now obtaining quotes for some screens to keep the weather out. The initial figures are quite high and so we are also looking for sponsorship to cover some of the costs. In the spring of 2025, we will be placing a shelter by piste 11/12 where the current picnic table resides.

The windbreak has been extended alongside piste 11/12 and seems to make a difference to the chill winds.

Hope you all like the new benches.

Club Development

We entered 2 teams into this year's Eurocup and 1 team has progressed to the second round whilst the other is now in the plate section.

The Cotswold League has ended with mixed results, and this has stimulated some actions on improving our competitive play. Ladies coaching has continued and is now suspended until the spring as is the junior coaching and Saturday coaching. Jan and Phil have arranged the Tuesday pairs, and this is going well.

If there any specific requests for coaching, please let the coaches know as we hope to put a coaching programme together for 2025 onwards.

The teams in the regional squad had some success but were up against some very tough opposition including the Welsh national side. Colin and Marion did a sterling job of shepherding the squads. This was the last year at Pakefield and the rumour is that the inter-regionals will be moving to the West Country!

The AGM is being held on Monday 13th January in the evening at RWBSA and I thought I would mention some items that you will need to consider –

1. Increase in membership from January 2026 to £40 per annum
2. Introduction of a junior membership, free in the first year and thereafter £5. This will be used to obtain Petanque England membership for the junior to ensure we are cover from an insurance perspective.
3. A number of committee members are coming to the end of their tenure and before they seek re-election I would ask if there were any volunteers that wish to stand for the committee.
4. We will be awarding some trophies at the AGM and I would like you all to nominate players for the awards below. I will set up some forms and ballot box.
 - a. Men's Cup
 - b. Ladies Cup
 - c. Most improver newcomer

Competitions

The shooting competition in August was won by Roger Scott and the pointing by Mary Elliot
The autumn melee was won by Alan McInnes.

The Regional Triples held at the club on Sunday 1st September at the club was won by a team from Grand Cru Bath.

Future competitions already planned are –

16th March a Grand Prix triples event

17th May EU25 a veterans triples event – see poster below

There will be a new Western Challenge Cup between clubs in the region and we will be entering teams. The full calendar of events will be published in the new year, and I will be asking who is interested in the various squads. If the entry is for teams i.e. doubles or triples, then this is down to the individuals.



OPEN VETERAN 55+ TRIPLES

SAT 17TH MAY

Born before 1/1/71

£20 pp entry

1ST Prize £500

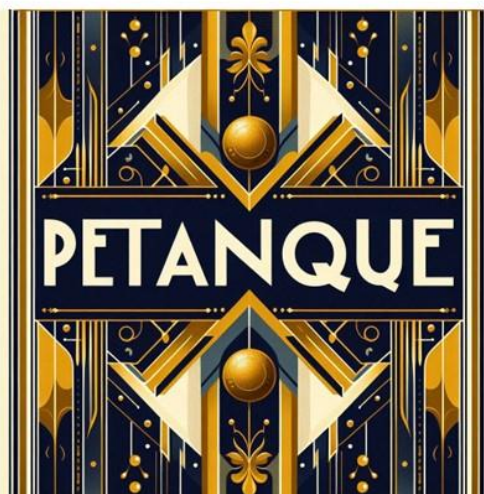
Plus

optional €500

**Marseillaise
sponsorship**



ENTER: www.EU25.UK



Fundraising

There was a very successful Macmillan fundraising event organised by Marion and the sum raised was £521 which was boosted to £651 through gift aid. This year we have raised almost £2000 for charity so well done all.

The 100 club continues to slowly build and will be providing funding towards some benches, if you are interested in joining, please see Jacquii or Jan Bird.

Easyfunding is significantly contributing to club funds with about £300 raised this year.

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. I also refer you to the recently circulated email regarding a child that was hit near the roundabout so please drive safely.

Club Clothing

If you would like any club clothing please let Keith Laurance know.

Social

The annual dinner on Friday 13th December at RWBSA looks to be well attended with 47 going for the meal but if you want to come for a drink and to socialise, please do.

It is hoped that we will arrange a meal at the Ganges in February.

On a final note, can I please ask that whenever the club is used that all items are stored away and that the hut is left clean and tidy especially now that we have made improvements.

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

Alan

December 2024