

Diary Dates 2008

FEBRUARY

16th Roy's Race Night with cheese & onion cobs

MARCH

1st Stand-up Bingo! and Quiz with faith supper

8th Coffee Morning

9th Jess Conrad Cabaret Night!

15th "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" with sausage & mash supper

17th Joint Club AGM

31st Official Opening of the green

APRIL

4th "Meet the (Men's) President" Night

12th Coffee Morning

26th Closing date for Men's Competition entries

MAY

10th Coffee Morning

JUNE

14th Coffee Morning

JULY

12th Coffee Morning

18th Men's President's Day

AUGUST

9th Coffee Morning

SEPTEMBER

6th County Ladies' President's Day

13th Coffee Morning

14th Men's Finals Day

OCTOBER

11th Coffee Morning

NOVEMBER

8th Coffee Morning

Men's Presentation Night

DECEMBER

1st Men's Section AGM

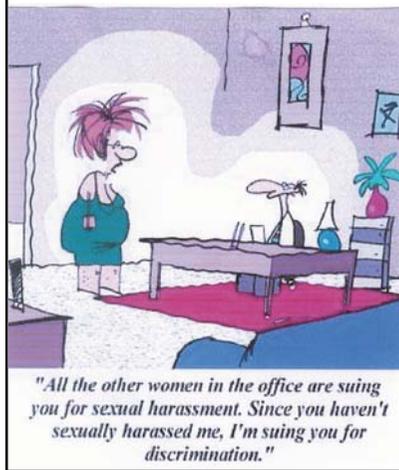
11th Coffee Morning

SPECIAL NOTES:

Indoor roll-up at the Melton Club every Monday throughout the Close Season starting at 1140 hours. Those interested, please turn up in god time to allow for rink selection. Everyone welcome. For further details, contact John Lambie, Tel: 292 1619

ALSO: Regular Wednesday evening "Social" sessions (7 - 9 p.m.) every week for darts, cards, carpet bowls, dominoes or any other (legal) social activity you would like to engage in. Bring a guest or two.

The battle of the sexes continued!



Ain't life punny?

TWO TV aerials met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much but the Reception was brilliant!

The Invisible Man married the Invisible Woman. The kids were nothing to look at either!

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One says to the other, "Dam!"

CLUB CABARET NIGHT

Sunday 9th March 2008

7.00 p.m.

JESS CONRAD

with supporting singer artiste

£8.50 per ticket

(Maximum capacity 80)

BOOK EARLY TO AVOID

DISAPPOINTMENT

Friends, family and other

non-Members welcome



THE SYSTON GREEN



Official Newsletter of the Syston Joint Bowling Club

No 24 - February 2008

CHANGES PROPOSED

Joint Club Board unanimously recommends support for proposals for structural change from all Members at AGM

DIRECTORS of the Joint Bowling Club are actively planning extensions to changing room facilities and improvements to internal disabled services. In order to equip the Club with the necessary powers to take advantage of a range of currently available grants to help to implement these plans, it is essential that Members give their approval to changes in the way in which the Club is currently structured. A series of proposals is therefore to be placed before the Joint Club AGM, scheduled for Monday 17th March, to enable these changes to be fully debated and, hopefully, approved.

The proposals have the unanimous support of all currently serving Directors of the Joint Committee.

Explaining the need for change, Chairman of the Joint Club Committee (Board of Directors) Colin Grimes, says:

The Joint Bowling Club was registered (incorporated) in March 1981 as a Private Limited Company with each Member holding a single share and each one having a single vote at any General Meeting.

This means that, if the Club were ever to "fold", the assets, including the Clubhouse would be sold and any residual funds, after all creditors had been paid, would be shared equally among the current Members.

The decision to incorporate was taken to limit the risk to individual Members at the time the Clubhouse building project was being initiated with attendant risks. While this structure was totally appropriate for the conditions at the time, recent changes in the sports club environment - especially in relation to access to grant aid - have raised the need for change to be considered.

In any case, the administration of a Company incorporated in this way is rather cumbersome with a list of current shareholders required to be submitted annually to Companies House.

The Board of Directors of the Club is now seriously considering an extension to the current changing facilities and improvements to current facilities for the disabled. There are a significant number of grants now available to help in these tasks **but only** provided that the Club is incorporated as a "not-for-profit" organisation.

As a Private Limited Company with shares, we do not qualify as a "not-for-profit" organisation and therefore do not qualify for grant aid from any of the current sources. At the same time, it has to be recognised and conceded that "not-for-profit" registration will not **guarantee** success in any grant application.

JOINT CLUB AGM - Monday 17th March 2008 starting at 7.00 p.m. BE THERE!

Your views, opinions, news and any other material of interest to Members would be welcomed for publication in future editions. Please send to **George Dodge**, as Editor, by the first Monday in every month

SYSTON JOINT BOWLING CLUB Clubhouse Telephone: 0116 269 2105

All communications to **The Secretary:**

Mr Roy Hill, 31 George Toon Court, SYSTON, Leics LE7 1ZQ

Telephone: 0116 260 1532

In order to overcome this basic problem, the Board of Directors has already taken the necessary steps to set up a **Company Limited by Guarantee** to be known as **Syston Bowling Club** within which structure Men's and Ladies' Sections will be enabled to continue to operate as normal.

This is a not-for-profit structure which limits the liability of individual Members to £1 in the event that the Club should "fold" and in which every Member has a single vote at any General Meeting. At the same time, it abolishes the principle of "shareholding" and, thereby, prohibits the distribution to Members of any assets of the Club at any time. If the Club were ever to "fold", any residual assets would have to be transferred to another Company having similar not-for-profit or charitable aims and objectives.

Within the "not-for-profit" organisation, annually elected Directors, who must be Members of the Club, may not be paid a salary but may re-claim approved out-of-pocket expenses. The Directors can employ staff - if thought appropriate. This simply formalises the way in which the Club has always operated.

The current Directors now propose to recommend to all Members that the Joint Club should cease trading with effect from the earliest possible date and that all current Members should become Members of the newly established **Syston Bowling Club** with immediate effect.

If approved, this move will cancel and invalidate all shareholding. Share certificates currently held will have only sentimental value.

Elections for the nine places on the new Board of Directors (*constituted in an identical way to the current Joint Company arrangements*) will determine the Board of Directors of the new Company Limited by Guarantee.

Once these arrangements are in place, the Board proposes to seek registration with the Inland Revenue as a Community Amateur Sports Club (**CASC**). **CASC** status is an arrangement open to formally incorporated, amateur, "not-for-profit" organisations which have as, their main purpose, the provision of facilities for, and the promotion of participation in, an "eligible" sport recognised by the Sports Council.

The main benefits of **CASC** status include a minimum of 80% relief on business rates,

exemption from Corporation Tax on any Bank/Building Society interest received and, most importantly, **allow the Club to reclaim £28 Gift Aid tax benefit on every £100 paid in annual membership subscriptions.**

So, in order to enable the Club

1. To gain access to a wide range of grants to support Club developments
2. simplify administrative processes
3. become eligible to be registered as a **CASC** which, in turn, will lead to a
4. significant increase in annual income without the need to raise subscriptions

my Board and I urge everyone's support for the following proposals to be put before the AGM:

THAT Syston Joint Bowling Club shall cease trading and be wound up at the earliest possible date and that all residual assets of the Company be transferred to Syston Bowling Club as a Company Limited by Guarantee.

THAT all current Members of Syston Joint Bowling Club shall immediately become Members of Syston Bowling Club as a Company Limited by Guarantee.

THAT the currently elected Directors of Syston Joint Bowling Club shall become the first Directors of Syston Bowling Club as a Company Limited by Guarantee, and **THAT** the Directors of Syston Bowling Club shall seek registration as a Community Amateur Sports Club (**CASC**) at the earliest opportunity.

We thank you in anticipation of your full co-operation. Should you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact any of the current Board - myself, **Margaret Abbott, Marjorie Clowes, George Dodge, Roy Hill, Anita Lowder, Ian Oxman, Tim Wall** and **Kate Williams**.

OBITUARY

It is with deep sadness that we record the passing of

ROY STURMER

Our sympathies and best wishes are offered to his family. **RIP**

"Deep disappointment" caused by Leicester League poll

THE EXECUTIVE Committee of the Men's Section have expressed "deep disappointment" at the results of the recent poll seeking to measure support for the Club's entry to the **Leicestershire & District Bowls League**. (13 In favour: 21 Against: 19 No returns.)

Interpreting these figures, and reflecting the strong view of the Committee, President, **Ian Oxman**, expressed regret at the apparent lack of enthusiasm shown for a more competitive approach to the sport within the Club. It was also regrettably clear from the result that there was insufficient support to make it possible even to contemplate entry to the League on a shared basis with another Club. The number of "No returns" on such an important issue was also a matter of some concern.

Major Clubhouse security upgrade approved

PLANS for the installation of a "state-of-the-art" CCTV security system for the Clubhouse and an audible main door alarm have been approved by the Joint Committee at a total cost of about £3000. Both the Men's and Ladies' Sections have each agreed to contribute £1000 to help to meet the project costs.

In letters thanking them for their support, Joint Committee Chairman, **Colin Grimes**, says:

"My Committee feel sure that, once the installation has been completed, we can look forward to a significant reduction in expenditure on repairs as a result of vandalism and, **most importantly**, all Members and other users of our Club facilities will feel much safer as we engage in activities in and around the Clubhouse."

President's Piece

Men's President, **Ian Oxman**, looks forward to a good Season

FELLOW bowlers, we have a very important and exciting Season coming up. The Ladies have their 75th Anniversary. On behalf of the Men's Section, I wish them a very successful and happy Season and assure them that should they need any help or support, we will all be there for them.

From the Men's Section, the President's Charity this year is **Diabetes UK**. I ask everyone to be ready for a few "surprises" as we go about raising money for this worthwhile cause.

Men's **President's Day** this year will be **Friday 18th July**. Please keep this date clear if you possibly can

Shrewd - or what?

SPIES report that someone looking suspiciously like one of our more elderly Members (Let's call him "**M**") walked into Syston Jewellers one Friday evening recently with a beautiful young girl at his side. He told the jeweller he was looking for a special ring for his girlfriend. The jeweller looked through his stock and brought out a £500 ring. "**M**" said, "No, I'd like to see something more special. Really special. Money no object."

The jeweller went to his special stock and brought another ring over. "Here's a stunning ring at only £5,000," the jeweller said.

The young lady's eyes sparkled and her whole body trembled with excitement. Seeing this, "**M**" said, "We'll take it."

The jeweller asked how payment would be made and "**M**" stated, "By cheque. I know you'll need to make sure it's good, so I'll write it now and you can call the Bank on Monday to verify the funds. I'll pick the ring up Monday afternoon," he said.

On the Monday morning, the jeweller phoned "**M**" saying, "Sorry, Sir. There's no money in that account."

"I know," said "**M**", "but let me tell you about my weekend!."