



Registered Charity No:
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1. WESTON SUPER MARE OPEN SINGLES TOURNAMENT 2024

Ron, Mo and Simon, together with helpers, Lisa, Debbie and Trevor attended the Open Singles tournament at Weston at the beginning of May. The first day which was cold and wet, saw Ron, Mo and Simon win all their games and all end the day with the maximum six points.

The second day, Mo again won both his games; Ron won one game and lost the second. Simon, ably directed by Lisa came up against tough opposition and suffered two defeats but he gave a really good account of himself and made his opponents work hard for their wins. On day three, again Mo and Ron won both their games and Mo ended the day as the only unbeaten player in his group. Simon came up against one of the top bowlers and again with Lisa's assistance, played well and again made his opponent battle for every shot.

Debbie and Trevor had the unenviable task of marking numerous games each day (and when the schedule allowed, act as directors for Ron and Mo). Saturday evening saw the customary quiz run by David Stott and Ron, Mo, Debbie and Trevor were joined by Alison and Paul from Plymouth for a really great evening.



The final day started with several players on maximum points and Simon with fantastic direction from Lisa achieved a great 13-8 win against a bowler who has bowled in the VI Nationals. Ron and Mo both finished the tournament with seven wins out of eight and after shot difference was calculated and then with players still drawing for the medal positions, ends won over the whole tournament were tallied and Ron was awarded the Bronze medal.



2. INTERNATIONAL BOWLS FOR THE DISABLED (IBD) WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ron travelled to South Africa with the Disability Bowls England Squad for the World Championships to defend his IBD B2 title which he won in 2015. The championships hadn't been held for many years due to covid and a schedule change. Ron was playing in both the pairs and singles. Challenging fast greens and strings that couldn't be seen by Ron gave him some problems in the pairs event, a request to use a small plastic marker was refused but Ron and his director Moira, battled on and some great results in the B2 Singles saw Ron come home with a Bronze medal. As a small visually impaired bowlers club in Yeovil, we are very proud of the achievements of our bowlers



3. DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The 2024 AGM for YVIBC will be Tuesday 15th October at 1.15pm, immediately after our Tuesday bowls session, further details to follow.

4. 2024 VIBE NATIONAL SINGLES AND PAIRS

This year's competition at Royal Leamington Spa, started off with the schedule for the singles thrown out of the window. The pairs competition ran from Sunday morning through to Monday afternoon and Ron and Mo won all their games part from one, where they drew. The B4s then ended up with only 5 games to play across the remaining days instead of the 10 originally scheduled. A shortage of markers and umpires saw the B4s drafted in to mark instead of play bowls (which is what they went to Leamington to do).

Ron started his B2 singles section in style and continued throughout the week until his last game which he eventually won by 1 shot after trailing the whole game. Mo also started strongly and by the end of the week, had only lost one game to the eventual winner. That game was a hurling match in the rain and cold win, Mo's more experienced opponent dealt with the conditions well and finished with a seven shot win.

The week at Leamington, also saw Mo standing in as Ron's director as Moira, his regular director who travelled to South Africa with Ron in May, was injured and confined to a wheelchair and drafted in to help with the administration of the tournament.

There always seems to be a downside for Mo when it comes to the medal ceremony, this time he was presented with the B4 Men's Championship, only for a recount of the results to take place and it to be awarded to another player two days later.

To summarise, Ron came away with the B2 Men's National Singles title, Mo came runner up in the B4 Men's National singles and together they were the B4 Men's pairs champions



5. HASTINGS VI OPEN TOURNAMENT

Only a short time after the Nationals, Ron was off on his travels again, this time to Hastings where he competed in the singles and pairs. With some great results, Ron came away with the runners up medal in both the pairs and singles competitions.



6. MATCH REPORT SHERBORNE 5th JUNE 2024

A lovely afternoon of bowling, fun and great company was enjoyed by all that went to Sherborne bowls club. With Dave Brooks in his first ever game and Peter Honeywell playing as skip, a huge congratulations to both of you for playing so well.

Against sighted bowlers, overall the YVIBC play very well and we can as a team give anyone a good game. This showed at Sherborne, where this year we only lost by two shots overall compared with twenty three in the 2023 fixture.

Well done to all players and thank you so much to our helpers who helped to make the day run as smooth as it did. Also, it was lovely to have Jo and Georgina with us enjoying the lovely weather and atmosphere.

We look forward to next year's game as we were again invited back next year before we left.

7. NEW MEMBER

Welcome to Sue Hector who has joined YVIBC after completing her taster sessions.

8. MATCH REPORT SEVERALLS 26th JUNE 2024

This fixture was going to be a new experience for all of us. After competing against Ron and myself on previous occasions, bowlers from Severalls wanted to extend an invitation to us so their club could witness the quality and skill of VI bowling.

As a club we didn't disappoint in any aspects of the afternoon. We won by five shots overall against a very strong side, who, like others were amazed at the quality of our VI bowlers. Our grateful thanks goes once again to our helpers, our club has a brilliant gang of helpers who make these days memorable for us, thanks also to Colin Nicholls from Yeovil Bowls Club who stood in to help on the day.

As well as great hospitality, we as a club were given a generous donation by Severalls, to help us with our funding and running of our club. We look forward to next year's game as we were invited back to play again.



9. MATCH REPORT SOMERTON 24th JULY 2024

Another great afternoon for the bowlers of YVIBC, who despite the threatening weather enjoyed the warm atmosphere and hospitality shown to them by the players and other members at Somerton Bowls Club. The game by any standard was a close contest; our hosts came out on top by

just two shots as both clubs won two rinks each. The customary raffle went well, which saw us win some of the prizes.

Many thanks to all the YVIBC members who contributed draw prizes. As the fixture was so successful again, the good people of Somerton invited us back next year before we left.

Thanks once again to Jeff for our transport on the day and to our helpers who are so generous with their time and definitely sometimes their patience, again finding ourselves short of a sighted helper, thanks to Pete Smith from Yeovil Bowls Club who stood in to help on the day



10. A YVIBC TRIBUTE TO ROD COURTS.

ON the 8th August, ten members from the YVIBC attended the funeral of our helper and friend Rod Courts. Wearing our club shirts, Vivienne, Rod's wife thought it was a fitting tribute to him.

If you saw him at our club, nothing was too much trouble for him when it came to helping out. On many occasions when we played at other clubs, Rod would take charge of our away case of equipment and often as not Georgina Park's bowls trolley. He will be fondly remembered for his contribution at Sherborne in 2023, when he stepped



in to help out at the end of a game. Playing with small floral woods, he really got some stick, but in true Rod style it was just ammunition for some great banter. And, like it was said at his funeral, in all winds and weathers, there was Rod with his sun tan and shorts.

Our club was very important to Rod and for this reason, at Rod's funeral, Viv and the family asked for donations to YVIBC in lieu of flowers, a very generous gesture which is greatly appreciated. God bless you Rod.

11. MATCH REPORT SUMMER CHALLENGE CUP VERSUS YEOVIL BOWLS CLUB 7th AUG 2024

Putting the equipment out in the rain is not the best start to an afternoon's bowling. Fortunately, it didn't last long and the game was played in lovely conditions. The YVIBC bowlers put up an honourable fight to give our opponents a tough afternoon. Trish, Bill & Ron won by ten shots on their rink with everyone playing very well.

Peter Honeywell, Trevor and Simon were drawing until a four and then a three shot loss put them well behind. The guys rallied well and ended up only losing by two shots.

Diane, Debbie and Mo struggled to make any head way in their match until they were 9-3 down. We had to turn the rink around as Lisa worried us by saying we wouldn't get any cakes at the end if we lost! The roles became reversed and going into the last end our trio were 12-11 up. This rink ended in a 12 all draw.

Sadly, our remaining trio of Eric, Peter Mottram and Dave Brooks were on the end of a sound beating. Even Peter who plays a lot of county games couldn't steer home our players or get close to avoid a 22-6 defeat. We await the second leg of the Summer Challenge which will take place on Wednesday 28th August. As always, our club through our helpers put on a magnificent tea after the game followed by a draw which was pretty much shared between the teams.

Nancy Cheeseman who was a founding member of YVIBC; came along to watch the game and everyone enjoyed catching up with Nancy who sadly has now stopped bowling due to arthritis in her hands.

We also played a Spider at the beginning of the game to raise funds for Visually Impaired Bowls England; the bottle of whisky kindly donated by Ron was won by Keith Abbott from the YBC.

