

FRIENDLY MATCHES PROGRAMME – 2022

Now that the 2022 match season has drawn to a close, I thought it might be worth bringing together the threads of our journeys and exploits during this last friendly matches season.

When I was asked if I would run the 2022 programme, it was agreed that it might be all the more enjoyable if we managed to meet new friends, new venues in the process and generally see how other parts of the 'bowls world' organise themselves. In particular there were the following specific objectives:

1. Improve our players skill levels, i.e., tough first part of season focussed on grass surfaces.
2. Refine our hospitality to develop a reputation for being one of the most welcoming clubs in East Hants.
3. Visit new venues, see new methods of operation, meet new contacts and make new friends.
4. In doing the above, hopefully, improve CBSC member retention and possibly even attract new joiners.

As it turns out, we visited some lovely locations such as Lockswood, Winchester (Friary), etc and also visibly upped our standards of play as the season progressed. I have to say we also visited some that re-enforced just how lucky we are to have our own lovely facility set in superb surroundings. Most importantly perhaps, we also had a lot of fun, both away and at home, so included towards the end of this report is an appropriate selection of photographs that capture the ambience of our adventures.

First though, this is a summary of the results:

DATE	CLUB	HOME/AWAY	RESULT	SCORE	G/A
9/3/22	Portchester	Home	lost	82-70	A
23/3/22	Lockswood	Away	Lost	87-72	A
14/4/22	Waterlooville	Away	Lost	117-68	A
23/4/22	Purbrook	Home	Won	109-40	A
30/4/22	Headley	Away	Lost	76-39	G
04/05/22	Meon Valley	Away	Lost	92-37	G
07/05/22	Bridgemary	Away	Won	73-52	G
18/5/22	Lockswood	Home	Won	72-63	A
29/5/22	Colden Common	Away	Lost	Discarded	G
10/6/22	Winchester Friary	Away	Lost	62-54	G

DATE	CLUB	HOME/AWAY	RESULT	SCORE	G/A
29/6/22	Colden Common	Home	Won	80-51!	A
9/7/22	Waterlooville	Home	Lost	106-91	A
15/7/22	Winchester Friary	Home	Won	81-61	A
31/7/22	Bridgemary	Home	Won	59-55	A
3/8/22	Chichester	Away	Lost	94-63	G
1/9/22	Petersfield	Away	Lost	49-45	G
17/9/22	Rogate	Away	Lost	38-18	G
29/9/22	Bedhampton	Away	Lost	101-39	A
NOTE 1 :	A = Artificial	G = Grass			
NOTE 2:	Waterlooville the rematch shows how much we are improving.		They are another large club but with several league teams.		

Below, is a montage of photos that span this period of play:



And that's how it's done!



Now our chance to balance the books – Colden Common at Home



Nice one Glenda and the catering team!



Portchester's first visit to us



Girls just wanna have fun – Waterloooville!



Our first ever visit to the lovely Winchester Friary BC



Chalkie does his magic – Thanks Tracey!



Beautiful Lockwood at the start of our journey!



All in this together at Headley BC



The view from the stands – Waterloooville BC



Tom goes for the best dressed man award?



A bad hair day for Debbie...



Carol cruises at Petersfield



Mary, Tom and Vin – very pleased with a winning bowl at Rogate

As to our second objective regarding reputation and hospitality, there has been a stream of generous comments from visiting Captains, and I have picked out just one example below:

“Hi Michael,

Thank you for your comments and the friendly match was thoroughly enjoyed by all our members. Your club facilities are excellent, and your hospitality is second to none!

I have analysed the results and it made interesting reading. Clanfield were winning by 48 shots to Portchester's 33 shots after 8 ends. It just goes to show what a topsy turvy game Bowls can be.

Your gift of Chalkie was most appreciated and I will present him to our membership at our pre-season meeting on Saturday.

Finally, good luck on your Club's journey. With your current organisation I feel sure that your Club will be a big success story.

Best Wishes

Dave (Winter league captain)”

I would, therefore, like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped on the catering side for these games led by Glenda/Jo. The word is spreading and I have already received 2 new requests from clubs who wish to visit and play us next year.

I would also like to express my thanks to Marilyn and Geeti for stepping in towards the end of the season when I had to take some time off to attend to personal matters.

Finally, as we move towards the 2023 season, it would be most appreciated if you could provide your feedback or comments on the following two issues. Your responses will very much help form the direction we take next year.

1. SELECTION CRITERIA FOR FRIENDLY MATCHES

To date our policy has been to try to make it possible for as many of our members who are available and wish to play, to do so. To that end teams/players have been rotated as much as possible. However, one of our members has suggested that a Captain and Vice Captain are appointed, and they then select teams for each game based on performance and skill levels. For me this is a step nearer the whole league serious play piece that we have so far avoided but, nevertheless, it is important that we take the majority preference into account ready for next season **so please let me know your preference:**

A. Yes, continue as we are in 2023.

OR

B. No, I would prefer that only the best players are selected to represent CBSC.

Either way David has asked me to formally accept the Captain's role and we are looking for someone who could also partner on the whole 2023 friendly match programme as Vice-Captain. The Vice-Captain and I will choose the teams for each match using the preferred method that the members have voted for, as detailed above.

Please let me know if you are able to help.

2. CLUB SHIRTS

These have served us so far, but I have had many players suggest now would be the time to change to a new design and perhaps something that is more representative of our Club Colours/Logo and also perhaps more stylish and comfortable. Also, your views as to whether the shirts should include each player's name on them would be appreciated.

Please let me know your views on this and also if you have any design ideas or could help with this sub-project.

In the meanwhile, my thanks and congratulations to all who played during the 2022 friendlies season and, in doing so, made the effort worthwhile. Here's hoping for an even better 2023!

Michael

Founder & Honorary Member

Recruitment & Coaching

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