

BOWLING

NEWS

SOUTH
EASTERN
BOWLING
ASSCN.

OF THE B.
T.
B.
A.

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THE SOUTH EASTERN BOWLING ASSOCIATION OF THE B.T.B.A.

The B.T.B.A. charters of Southend Area and Kent Area have been withdrawn by the B.T.B.A. Council and the seven bowling centres are now merged under this new title. S.E.B.A. now comprises Ambassador Basildon, A.B.C. Bexleyheath, Top Rank Chatham, Excel Cliftonville, Chantal Grays, Excel Southend and Excel Whitstable. This amalgamation will strengthen the association in every way and will give bowlers on both sides of the Thames new opposition in the larger area tournaments that can now be run. The Dartford Tunnel makes travelling between the centres an easy matter and in fact the nearest centre to Grays in route miles would appear to be Bexleyheath, irrespective of the Thames in between!

All three of the centres North of the Thames have lanes certified by the B.T.B.A. for the Season 1966/67 and with Whitstable also in the same position we have at least 4 of the 7 centres fully operative for sanctioned tournaments, of which many will be promoted by the Area in the Season ahead.

The league programme for the coming season is already well advanced in a number of our centres and this applies whether or not the lanes have been B.T.B.A. certified. Following the emergency measures taken by the B.T.B.A. Council it is permissible for sanctioned leagues to roll upon uncertified lanes but with the obvious proviso that high score recognition cannot be given until the bowlers association once again, has the right to ensure that everything with regard to the lanes, pins and machinery is as it should be. Leagues that sanction on uncertified lanes will still receive the full services and protection of their association, however and some of these advantages were described in the recent S.E.B.A. Communique which mentioned:-

1. All members will receive their new membership cards permitting them to bowl in any sanctioned league or tournament anywhere in Great Britain.
2. Leagues will receive a full league kit which includes Playing Rules and Regulations, Standing Sheets, Record Cards, Handicap Manual, Average Calculator and League Schedules etc etc.
3. B.T.B.A. free insurance coverage for your league funds and area funds.
4. Newly designed S.E.B.A. Award Badges catering for all standards of player.
5. The Area Discount Service allowing members large savings on all types of purchases and giving you the opportunity of recouping your membership dues many times over in the course of any season.
6. The Area High Score Award Programme with divisions for ladies, juniors and all bowlers covering 5 person, 4 person, 3 person, Doubles, Mixed Doubles and Singles - assuring you of local recognition for your season's achievements or the achievements of your team. This programme culminates in handsome plaques being awarded to the winners in every division.
7. Fully organised and sanctioned tournament programme covering Singles, Doubles, Trios and 5 person teams - scratch and handicap to allow for all tastes and at the same time all existing tournaments from both the old Southend and Kent Areas to be continued.
8. The monthly issue of this publication which is free to all and is distributed through your league secretary. Read about your achievements, about new World Records, about National Tournaments and all items of interest to you, the bowler, giving local, national and international tenpin coverage.
9. 16mm sound film shows on bowling - both colour and black and white. See the American champions in action as well as players from this country.
10. The service and friendliness of your local association - always on hand and only too pleased to assist with any problem or query you or your league may have. Call in the association to decide any issue on an unbiased basis. In this way leagues stay friendly and bowlers don't fight among themselves.

THIS IS YOUR ASSOCIATION - USE IT TO THE FULL - IT WILL PAY YOU IN THE END.

AREA TRAVELLING LEAGUE

With seven centres now available to enter a team or teams the Area Travelling League should be stronger still for the coming season. Teams or individuals from Basildon, Bexleyheath, Chatham, Cliftonville, Grays, Southend and Whitstable are invited to submit applications to Brian Langford,

59, Lower Higham Road,
Gravesend, Kent. Tele: Gravesend 64538.

Apart from being the President of the league in past seasons Brian, of course, is also the S.E.B.A. Area Secretary.

Write now with your application and when all centres are represented a meeting will be called at Grays Bowl to decide the league schedule and constitution. A minimum entering average of 800 is suggested for the teams.

AREA HIGH SCORE AWARD WINNERS 1965/66

Congratulations to the following who win plaques for the highest scores rolled in their respective divisions during the past fiscal year:-

5 PERSON TEAM	3 GAMES	PENPAD	BEX	2773
5 PERSON TEAM	1 GAME	THE BARBARIANS	BEX	1033
4 PERSON TEAM	3 GAMES	ORPHEEANS	WHIT	2394
4 PERSON TEAM	1 GAME	ORPHEEANS	WHIT	870
3 PERSON TEAM	3 GAMES	NIGHTRIDERS	BEX	1783
3 PERSON TEAM	1 GAME	NIGHTRIDERS	BEX	635
2 PERSON TEAM	3 GAMES	PETE RIGHT/ALAN ICETON	BEX	1226
2 PERSON TEAM	1 GAME	PETE RIGHT/ALAN ICETON	BEX	479
MIXED DOUBLES	3 GAMES	JANET MORRISON/FRED WILES	BEX	1168
MIXED DOUBLES	1 GAME	JANET MORRISON/FRED WILES	BEX	445
INDIVIDUAL MEN	3 GAMES	JEFF MITCHELL	BEX	691
INDIVIDUAL MEN	1 GAME	PAT DUGGAN	BEX	288
INDIVIDUAL LADIES	3 GAMES	ANN HENDERSON	CLIP	626
INDIVIDUAL LADIES	1 GAME	VERA PEACOCK	BEX	268
INDIVIDUAL JUNIORS	3 GAMES	PETER RAYMENT	BEX	622
INDIVIDUAL JUNIORS	1 GAME	PETER RAYMENT	BEX	248

Particular mention must also be made here of the National Records still held by our Area bowlers. In addition to the ORPHEEANS 2394 and 870 the TAKE FIVE junior team from Bexleyheath top the listings with a team series of 2626 and the 3 lady team representing Bexleyheath in the Ladies London League rolled the top game and series of 614 and 1701.

An idea of the standards that will be required for Area recognition in the season ahead comes from JOHN WALLACE, the Secretary of the Southend SHRIMPERS LEAGUE. The final standing sheet from this league shows the top five person team game and series as a formidable 1045 and 2821! The high averages in this league are held by M. BURRIDGE and J. MORLEY with 188 and 184 respectively. Well done gentlemen - the Area records for the South Eastern Bowling Association look as though they will take some beating in 1966/67!

A VETO GIVEN TO AMERICANS IN U.K.

We understand that a recent bulliten issued to United States Air Force personnel in this country forbids them to bowl in any unsanctioned league. It is stated that if this directive is ignored that their future membership of the American Bowling Congress will be placed in jeopardy. The American Bowling Congress rules are, of course, a lot tougher than those of the B.T.B.A. and no member of our U.S.A. equivalent is even allowed to roll in any league which is non-sanctioned. This is yet another example of how the B.T.B.A. has leant over backwards to please our proprietors in this country. Despite being a member of the B.T.B.A. there is nothing to stop you rolling in an unsanctioned league or tournament - apart from your common sense of course!!!!!!

BARBARIANS WIN MINI TRAVEL LEAGUE OUTRIGHT

No details at the time of going to press but we understand that the BARBARIANS from Bexleyheath, who won the Northern Division of this league have played the Southern victors and emerged victorious. Congratulations and more details next month.

AVE YOU BEEN CERTIFIED? (or THE'RE COMING TO TAKE ME AWAY - HA! HAA!)

EIGHTY FIVE WHOLE DAYS HAVE PASSED since the proprietors announced that only many centres have been measured by these professional men? To the best of our knowledge and belief ONE! If this rate of action continues it will be some 37 years before all the centres in this country have been measured! So much for the apparent concern that all centres should be professionally measured for the new season. The new season commenced 6 days ago and even the one centre that has been visited by the surveyors does not display a certificate!

If and when a certificate is issued what will it contain? Apparently the surveyors measure the lanes but they do not actually certify that they conform to B.T.B.A. specifications. The proprietors, at the present time, refuse to allow the B.T.B.A. to see the measurements and the proprietors, themselves, intend to check the surveyors figures and sign the certificate to the effect that the lanes and equipment fall within specifications! If we are to trust the proprietors in this respect why are not the B.T.B.A. allowed to see the forms? It has been suggested that on this basis the certificates will not be worth the paper they are written on.

The cost to the proprietors of using qualified surveyors is a matter for them alone. That the cost is quite formidable will be obvious when it is realised that the two senior partners of a well known City firm undertook the first inspection. It is now understood, however, that the fees are to be drastically reduced. Does this mean that the surveying firms are to sub-contract the task for the future? If so can we expect to revert to square one with unqualified men doing the job? If builders or the like are now to be used this will be the case. The whole position appears quite mad - the're coming to take me away - ha! haa!!

WHAT ARE THE N.T.B.C. PLAYING RULES?

The Editorial of our June issue referred to the circulation of a tournament entry form that stated that the playing rules of the National Tenpin Bowling Council would govern the tournament. It was pointed out that the N.T.B.C. do not have any playing rules! Since the proprietors have decreed that none of their members shall seek B.T.B.A. sanction for any tournament that they promote they are obviously at a loss as to which rules their tournaments can operate under. A number of other entry forms are now being circulated mentioning the playing rules of the N.T.B.C. and we must mention again that the N.T.B.C. do not have any rules. What is apparently confusing the proprietors is a booklet published by the N.T.B.C. for beginner bowlers. With the written acknowledgement and permission of the B.T.B.A. their basic playing rules were mentioned BUT ONLY ON THE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE BOOKLET WOULD NOT BE USED BY THE PROPRIETORS TO PROMOTE ANY NON-SANCTIONED LEAGUES OR TOURNAMENTS. This agreement seems to have been forgotten by them but in any event they should be reminded that the booklet in question does not contain any TOURNAMENT RULES. Over to you gentlemen!

TIME MARCHES ON!

The Operations Manager of Excel Bowling, Mr Mike Bentley and the B.T.B.A. General Secretary, Mr Morris Glazer, discussed their respective differences at an open meeting of the league bowlers at Cliftonville on Sunday, 28th. August.

Many questions were fired at both gentlemen and the majority of those present came away much wiser than when they arrived. Mr Bentley stated that it was his job to give his customers what they wanted and was left in little doubt that the league bowlers at Cliftonville wanted their lanes to be certified by the B.T.B.A.

The position with regard to the surveyor's measurements being submitted to the B.T.B.A. for ratification was left unresolved but Mr Bentley did agree to put the point before his Directors. The outcome is not yet known but as this appears the only remaining hurdle to a peaceful solution of the respective problems we keep our fingers crossed - particularly as some of the largest leagues at this centre have already indicated that they will not bowl until the position is clarified.

The attitude of the bowlers is understandable when it is remembered that the lanes at this centre have not been certified for the new season by either of the two interested parties. This situation also applies to the Top Rank Bowl, Chatham. Meanwhile time marches on! The bowlers are confused and the Area Executive have their hands tied with regard to the new season. Normally this time of the year is productive with new and old leagues being helped on their way and tournament venues being decided. Unless something is resolved without further delay it is almost certain that the B.T.B.A. will lose members who find something else to do with their spare time and these same people will be lost forever to the proprietors as customers. IN THE INTEREST OF TENPIN BOWLING PLEASE DON'T DELAY ANY LONGER. TIME RUNS OUT!

BEXLEYHEATH HIT THE NATIONAL DAILIES

The B.T.B.A. Certificate covering the lanes and equipment at A.B.C. Bexleyheath expired at midnight on 31st August. The first league scheduled to bowl on 1st September on lanes that no more carried a certificate of any kind, was the 70 strong OLYMPIC LEAGUE. Even the National Dailies were interested in the situation and reports appeared in, among others, the Daily Mirror, Daily Sketch and Evening News.

The word "strike" was used by the press but of course only paid employees can take this kind of action - all that happened was that the bowlers in the league voted to postpone the start of their Winter Schedule until October. This was in the form of a token protest to the proprietors concerned but in any event they had already rolled throughout the hot Summer months and many will say that they more than honoured their obligations to A.B.C. by bowling for 48 weeks out of 52.

That the league would normally have continued through September there is little doubt but when, on 1st. September, no certificate was displayed at the centre, either from B.T.B.A. or the Proprietors/Surveyors the league decided by vote that they could not bowl. The same position would have faced any of the Bexleyheath leagues had their schedule fallen on 1st September but it is the Olympic League that has borne the brunt of the publicity. The fact that the remaining leagues at this centre have now voted to take the same action does not appear to be newsworthy.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF TENPIN TERMS - AND WIN A PRIZE

The first correct letter or postcard received by the Area Secretary will receive the price of three games. Send your answers to 59, Lower Higham Road, Gravesend, Kent. Members from outside the S.E.B.A. and Area Executive Officers are not eligible to compete. The Area Secretary's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Answers next month.

- (1) What is meant by 'One in the Dark?'
- (2) What is a 'Foundation?'
- (3) What is a 'Tap?'
- (4) What is meant by the expression 'Part of the Building?'
- (5) What is 'Pitch?'
- (6) What is the tolerance allowed on pin spotting?

FILM SHOW FOR CHATHAM

Chatham bowlers should keep their eyes on the notice board for details of a 16mm sound film show coming to the centre very shortly. The show will be on a Tuesday evening and will include a 30 minute colour production of the 1965 American Bowling Congress Championships including the Masters Tournament with the top American professionals on show.

EXTENTION OF THE AREA DISCOUNT SERVICE

Bowlers from Basildon, Grays and Southend are invited to submit details of any concern willing to offer trading discounts to our members. The present booklet covers only Kent and similar facilities are now wanted from Essex. The booklet is confidential to Area members and this fact is in the interest of the trader and for the continuance of the services offered. It is produced annually in the belief that money saved means more for personal enjoyment of the sport.

THIS IS YOUR PUBLICATION

A reminder that we need articles and letters from YOU for publication in future issues. You have a complaint? - tell us about it. You or your team mate have just bowled your best ever series? - tell us about it. You think a comical situation is worthy of publication? - tell us about it. This is your paper - not one 95% owned by vested interests. Use it and never underestimate the power of the written word!

YOU'RE NEVER TOO OLD!

A gentleman by name Joe Bono recently rolled games of 242-225-244 for a series of 711. No not in our Area but in the Friday Commercial League at Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Nothing unusual by American standards? - maybe not but Mr. Bono is 71 years of age and averages 182 in three leagues. There is hope for us all yet!

WHEN YOU HAVE READ THIS PUBLICATION PLEASE PASS IT TO A TEAM MATE _____