

BOWLS at Pretoria Country Club

The bowls section at PCC has a well-deserved reputation for conviviality and good cheer – not only of the liquid kind! The recent Golden Owls versus Silver Hawks Competition is a case in point. This fun event pitted the more experienced players against the less experienced ones, the latter being given big handicap advantages, leading to much good-natured ribbing and a good deal of hilarity, despite a constant drizzle. The rainwear worn could definitely not be described as sartorial splendour. One player, enveloped in a huge white plastic garment, bore a close resemblance to the Yeti. The Silver Hawks won the trophy, driven by almost audible adrenaline!

The bowls club is constantly on the look-out for ways to garner new members and the Business Bowls League is one such endeavour. Over a four-week period in November 2019, 12 teams from various companies participated enthusiastically and vied for first place. The event was ably run by Brian Birkholtz, with the assistance of many dedicated bowlers, and in the end the black-and-white team emerged victorious. The bowls section sets store by having a sense of social responsibility and thus the New Hope School benefited from the funds raised during this event.

Corporate events constitute another way in which the bowls club raises funds and entices new members. We coach 'em, feed 'em, spur 'em on and then let 'em loose on the green. Some companies return year after year because their employees have so much fun with us. In all, we have exposed 780 people to the game of bowls over the last two years!

An added bonus for prospective members is that they are given free coaching by well-qualified coaches, so anyone thinking of joining us should simply pitch up on a Monday afternoon to be taken in hand by coaches only too happy to help.

Another enjoyable tradition at the bowls club is the Summer Fun floodlit game played on Tuesday evenings, from 17h45 to 20h00. We play in civvies and not our usual staid whites, and afterwards we all have drinks and supper, in great camaraderie.

The bowls section runs many competitions and championships for its members, too many to comment on individually, and we also participate in our District League, the Bowls Gauteng Championships and the National Championships. This keeps our competitive spirit alive and ensures that we stay current and involved. PCC bowlers are renowned for their good humour and good sportsmanship. Come and join the family!

The Thursday School presented Joe Brown with an Honorary Life Award for his service over the last 18 years. John Maynard did the presentation mentioning that in the Thursday School's long history it is only the fifth time the award has been made.

Joe Brown, our oldest bowler at 93 has decided to “pack away his bowls” and has resigned from PCC.

We will always be here for you Joe and will miss you and your warm smile.

