

ABERGAVENTNY
PETANQUE CLUB

SPECIAL
POINTS OF IN-
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ABERGAVENTNY PETANQUE CLUB

NEWSLETTER N^o 34



AUGUST 2009

PLAYING MATTERS

This year the Club and it's members have been involved with two major competitions:-

Firstly the annual 3 way Inter-Club Competition between APC, The Wheatsheaf and the Marches PC.

After three rounds of matches played in fine weather the final Results were as follows:

Winners—Wheatsheaf 28 wins

2nd Marches 25 wins

3rd APC 19 wins

CONGRATLATIONS TO THE WHEAT-SHEAF ON RETAINING THE TROPHY.

We'll do better next year!!!

13 APC players have entered the WPA Qualifiers this year in the hope for some of us but expectation of others, to qualify to represent Wales at this years National Representative Events. These events include "The Home Nations Tournament", The EPA Inter-Regional Event, Wales vs Marches and also the European Championships held in Nice in late July. After 4 rounds of competition played in weather ranging from blizzard conditions to Mediterranean sunshine these players have qualified for one or more of the competitions:

Abergavenny Reds

Peter Clarke, Andy Pook, David Mason & Mark Jones.

Abergavenny Clarets

Barbara Clarke, Pat Ford, Denise Mason & John Prosser.

Qualified with players from other Clubs

Stewart & Gareth Spencer
Ian Bailey & Julie Bailey
Berengere Demay

APC OPEN TRIPLES 12th July 2009

This year the tournament was run offering a large cash prize for the winners. This did seem to stimulate interest as we had 27 triples enter. The day went fantastically well and proved a great success for the Club.

The winners were the Monkstone from Cardiff.

7 APC members also shared in the "pot" of prize money.

Gareth organised the event tremendously well and he was supported by a fantastic effort by various Club members to ensure the day went smoothly. The Committee extends it's thanks to all who pitched in.

All those who played this year are to be given invitations to next years competition; but places will be available for more APC members to get teams together and enter.

THE BIG LEAGUE

With just 5 weeks to go the competition is hotting up. All four teams have something to win or lose depending on the results from the next few weeks. The Blues are in contention for the first division championship. Caerleon A at home appears to be their biggest challenge on the 17th August. The Reds are leading the second division and are in

line for promotion but with a bye on the last day they need to secure the points early. With 3 home games and only one away left they must be confident but I'm sure the Clarets will have something to say on the matter on the 17th August when they meet. The Clarets are also in the hunt for promotion being placed 5th in the second division but

only 4 points behind second place. The Golds however have different challenges. Relegation to division 3 is a very distinct possibility. However their 4 games left are against teams also struggling to avoid relegation. It should be a good scrap.

" COME ON APC!!!"

CLUB CLOSED SINGLE & DOUBLES



On Saturday 8th August the Club is holding it's annual **CLOSED SINGLES & DOUBLES COMPETITIONS** open only to Club members.

The programme for the day is as follows:-

Saturday Morning - CLUB SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP. Arrive @ the Clubhouse for 9.30. Play starts @ 10am - The Format will depend on the number of entries and will be decided on the day. Club Trophy and wine for the winner and wine for the r/up.

1pm Lunch - Bring your own food and beers etc. The Club will provide wine.

Saturday Afternoon - CLUB DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP. Play starts @ 2pm. Format - as the morning, depending on numbers. Either come down as a pair or pair up when you get here. Club Trophy and wine for the winners and wine for the r's/up

Evening approx 5.15pm - FISH & CHIP SUPPER @ The Clubhouse. The Club will pay for this and provide wine.

The Committee hopes that all Club members will be able to attend both competitions and the Evening Supper but if you can only make it for one or the other please do come. Some indication in advance of whether you will be attending and for which sections would be helpful.

DRESS CODE - CLUB KIT PREFERRED.

ORDER FORM FOR CLUB KIT

GARMENT	CODE	COLOUR	SIZES	PRICE	No. / SIZE REQUIRED
POLO SHIRT	SS402	BURGUNDY	S—XXL	£8.10	
POLO SHIRT	SS402	BURGUNDY	3XL	£8.43	
POLO SHIRT	SS402	SUNFLOWER	S—XXL	£8.10	
POLO SHIRT	SS402	SUNFLOWER	3XL	£8.43	
V-NECK SWEAT-SHIRT	WH009	BURGUNDY	S-XXL	£13.23	
V-NECK SWEAT-SHIRT	WH009	BURGUNDY	3XL	£13.95	
REVERSIBLE FLEECE	BLUE MAX – “MISTRAL”	MAROON	S-XXL	£18.97	
LADIES FLEECE GILET	J8720F	BURGUNDY	S-XXL	£13.61	
MENS FLEECE GILET	J8720M	BURGUNDY	S-XXL	£15.65	

SIZES: Small, Med, Large, Ex-Large, 2X-Large, 3X-Large

NAME _____

TOTAL COST OF ITEMS _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE A CHEQUE TO BALAN SPORTS INTERNATIONAL LTD FOR THE TOTAL COST OF GOODS WITH YOUR ORDER

WHAT ELSE HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

Over the early May Bank holiday, 13 APC members travelled to Abergavenny's twin town in France—Beaupreau to take part in the Twinning Group's celebrations and to take on our Petanque counterparts SMS Club de Petanque. As has become the norm we were treated to a first class weekend of hospitality and Petanque and I would recommend that any Club members who haven't experienced a visit of this sort give it a try next time.



King Henry VIII School recently sent a big "thank you" to Abergavenny Patanque Club for the successful petanque sessions organised for pupils of the school, where they enjoyed demonstrations by club players and also enjoyed a game with their friends at the club terrain in Bailey Park.

A small group from the school first enjoyed the experience last year as a French activity for Curriculum Week. This year 55 pupils wished to take part and so sessions were organised on two separate days! Linda

Club members have also contributed to local community activities by assisting the Carnival Committee with the manning of an entrance gate to the Bailey Park on a rota system. They also assisted the Abergavenny Rotary Club in arranging their annual Abergavenny vs Crickhowell Petanque match. Abergavenny came out winners by a slender margin.

The Committee would like to thank both these organisations for financial contributions made to our Club funds which will go towards further Clubhouse improvements and playing equipment.

Coaching Tips - Pointing Styles

Getting nearer to the jack can be achieved in various ways:

a) A boule can be thrown to it. b) The jack can be moved closer to one of your own boules. c) The opponent's boule nearest the jack can be moved further away by playing your own onto it.

Pointing is the part of the game in which you try to bring your boule as close as possible to the jack. In general the squatting position is for playing short and the standing position is used for pointing long.

Pointing wins games. To the beginner it is an element of luck. To the expert it is a test of skill and is often used defensively. It's important to remember that you only have to get closer to the jack than your opponents, not necessarily close to it.

"Read" the terrain as a golfer reads the line of a putt. Predict the path of the ball from where it first will touch the ground (la donnée) to where you want it to stop. **The terrain will show you which type of pointing method to use.**

There are three main pointing throws in Pétanque.

The Rolling Point (la roulette) b. The Half Lob (la demi-portée) c. The High Lob (la portée sometimes la plombée)

The Rolling Point (la roulette)

The last of the pointing throws is the rolling throw, as the name implies your boule is rolled all the way from your circle to the jack. We've said that there are two styles of pointing. Well there is a variation of the standing style where you bend forward from your waist and release the boule close to your feet.

Note: Whether you stand, bend forward or squat to make a throw depends largely on the type of terrain you are using. As a general rule for pointing, you need to be higher off the ground on a terrain that is rough and closer to the ground when the terrain is smooth

The Half Lob (demi-portée)

The most frequent and common way of pointing is the "half lob". Most players adopt this as their standard form for throwing their boule. The half lob is throwing your boule so that it lands between the circle where you are standing and the target, allowing the boule to run along the terrain for the rest of the way to the target. The terrain needs to be reasonably smooth, to allow the boule to roll forward in a line directly to the target. You will pay particular attention to where your ball lands so that you can adjust your next throw as necessary.

The High Lob (portée)

The "high lob" is the most difficult of the three pointing throws, and requires a great deal of height and a lot of backspin to prevent the boule rolling forward too much. The idea is to throw the boule up and landing as close to the jack as possible, then stopping without moving forward too much. At times the throw is executed so well that the boule stops dead where it lands. The throw is difficult to master but a very effective one when carried out correctly. This throw is particularly useful on rough and uneven terrains.

Practice the action of pointing on smooth ground and uneven terrain while both squatting and standing:

- Reading the terrain and choosing the best landing point (la donnée) for the boule to land.
- Plan ahead of your throw: how hard the boule is to be sent, how high it is to go and the distance it has to cover.
- Keeping the eye on the jack, the field of vision which should extend from between where the boule lands and the jack.
 - Loose arm-swing which governs the success of the throw.
 - Releasing the boule correctly.

ABERGAVENTNY



PETANQUE CLUB

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We Play at:
The Old Pavilion
Bailey Park
Abergaventny
Monday nights from 6.45pm

Abergaenny Petanque Club was formed in 2002 with the express aim of :-
"Promote and play the sport of Petanque. Offer coaching and competitive opportunities for members in the sport of Petanque. To manage the Club's playing facility in Bailey Park".

The Club formed with 20 members and has grown over the years to now stand at 45 members.

New Members are always welcome!
All levels of play are catered for from social play to fully competitive play. The Club even has a number of members who have represented Wales in International Events.

If you want to try out the sport in a friendly and social environment please just come down to the OLD PAVILION in Bailey Park any Monday evening and you will be made welcome.

Visit our Website.



FORTHCOMING COMPETITIONS

August		
Sun 02-Aug-09		
Sat 08-Aug-09	CLUB CLOSED SINGLES & DOUBLES	ABERGAVENTNY
Sun 09-Aug-09		
Sat 15 -Aug-09	HOME NATIONS	SWANSEA
Sun 16 - Aug - 09	HOME NATIONS	SWANSEA
Fri 21- 23-Aug-09	National de Pétanque de Kerlouan (North Finistère)	Kerlouan, France
Sun 23-Aug-09	Open Doubles	Brecon RFCPC
Thurs 27-Aug-09	WPA General Meeting – All Members	TBA
Sun 30-Aug-09	Wenvoe Welsh Open Triples	Wenvoe
September		
Sun 06-Sep-09	Open Triples	Panteg
Sun 13-Sep-09	Presidents Cup	ABERGAVENTNY
Sat 19-Sep-09	EPA Inter-Regional Championships	Brean Sands
Sun 20-Sep-09	EPA Inter-Regional Championships	Brean Sands
Sun 27-Sep-09	League Cup/Plate Final	Neutral Venue -tba
October		
02-04 Oct-09	Junior World Championships	Monastir, Tunisia.
Sun 04-Oct-09	Stuart Clark Cup - Doubles	Wheatsheaf PC
Sun 11-Oct-09		
Sun 18-Oct-09		
Sun 25-Oct-09		
November		
Sun 01-Nov-09		
Sat 07-Nov-09		
Sun 08-Nov-09		
Sat 14-Nov-09	WPA Presentation Evening	Caerleon PC - TBC
13- 15-Nov-09	Ladies World Championships	Supanburi - Thailand
Thurs 19-Nov-09	WPA AGM	TBA
Sun 22-Nov-09		
Sat 28-Nov-09		
Sun 29-Nov-09		
December		
Fri 04-Dec-09	APC CHRISTMAS DINNER	TBA
Sun 06-Dec-09		
Sun 13-Dec-09		
Sun 20-Dec-09		
Sun 27-Dec-09		