**VETERANS’ BOWLING LEAGUE 2021**

**President: Mr Derek McCann Hon Secretary: Mr Brian Connor**

 **1, Donegall Crescent,**

**Whitehead,**

**BT38 9LS.**

**Phone 02893 353041**

**10th May 2021**

**Dear Secretary,**

At long last our great wait seems to be nearing an end!

I trust this letter finds you well and keen to make a return to competitive Veterans’ Bowling. Our Section Secretaries have tried to contact each Club by telephone to discover their viability and I offer you the following information, along with the forms and charges necessary to make our Programme possible.

**Starting Back:** Government and I.B.A. guidance have prompted us to select

**1.30pm** **Monday 24th May** for resumption of League games. Where possible, each team will consist of two rinks of four players. Normal Bowls rules will apply if a team cannot field the full eight players. This may seem strict, but our aim is to return to normal as soon as possible and to maintain V.B.L. standards.

We have replicated last year’s playing programme but, of course have had to adjust the dates and some leagues where Clubs have declared themselves not available. We have tried to keep “Byes” to a minimum.

**Travel:** Each Club is responsible for its own travel arrangements, according to Government and I.B.A. advice. Currently the recommendation is two players per car, seated diagonally. Driver and Passenger should wear Face masks till the Government advises differently.

**Health and Safety:** each Club is responsible for the application of current Government and I.B.A. hygiene and distancing policies. Clubhouses and Changing Rooms should not be used; toilets should only be used in emergency. It is recommended that a Rink should be left vacant between each game.

**Fees:** The Veterans’ Bowling League has always tried to keep fees as low as possible. Last season we collected no Fees.

This year our Honorary Treasurer Harold Sloan has had to resign for Family Health reasons; we thank him for his years of loyal service. Our Assistant Treasurer John McCoy will assume responsibility for Financial affairs and we would ask you to address all monies/cheques and bills to him at

**Mr John McCoy**

**Hon Treasurer V. B.L.**

**10 Knightsbridge Court,**

**Bangor,**

**BT19 6SD**

**Cups and Competitions:** Because things happened so abruptly, we have reluctantly abandoned this season’s Cup Competitions; we realise that players will be under severe time pressure to deliver N.I.B.A and P.G.L. Competitions and that our late start would only serve to increase that pressure.

**We do believe that it is important to deliver our Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours Championships** and invite early entry for these. As is previous years, a player may compete in only one Championship event,

Please include payment for these with your fees unless you do not wish to be part of any Cup or Competition. The Draws will be published on our Website.

**Correspondence:** We have had to assume that Club Secretaries will stay in office as for 2020 but will update details on return of these forms. Please Note that we are asking every Club to provide an E Mail address. Mail is slow and very expensive and the Covid 19 emergency has shown us how vital fast and economical Communications are.

Our own Website is www.niveteransbowlingleague.com

Our Webmaster Paul McIlreavy can be contacted 07546930146 or secretaryvbl@gmail,com

Our new Competitions Secretary is Michael Bunting Phone 07856101059 or nivetsec1@gmail.com

**Default;** we recognise that, after the ravages of Covid 19, some clubs may be in disarray and will not be fully functional at the start of the season.

A Club which has to default will not be penalised in 2021. However the Secretary MUST inform the opposing Team AND the Section Secretary two days before the match date.

We wish all our Clubs a successful and Covid-Free season.

**Yours in Sport,**

**Brian Connor.**

**Honorary Secretary**

**Derek McCann**

**President**