

A Brief History of Wyrral Park Bowls Club

The Club has undergone a number of changes since formation in 1929. It would appear that the original name was Clark Son & Morland Ltd Bowling Club then somehow Northover Bowling Club came in with reversion back to Clark Son & Morland Ltd Bowling Club very quickly. Another name change to Morlands Bowling Club in 1947/48 and finally in 1987 to the present name of Wyrral Park Bowling Club. The original Green was situated on what had been a Tennis Court, and was three rinks. This was extended to four in 1934 before moving to the current location in 1950. *The notes below have all been taken from historical minutes.*

29 April 1929

An initial meeting was held of the organising committee of Clark Son & Morland Ltd, Bowling Club - present Mr H King in the chair, Mr C C Morland, MR H N Alves, Mr R Toogood, & Mr S Harris (convenor). Mr A Tucker was unable to be present due to working overtime. The Hon Sec of Wells BC (Mr E W King) reported on how their Green was maintained. Mr C C Morland's suggestion of Rules for the Club was agreed. A decision was taken to purchase 16 pairs of Bowls, 8 Jacks, 6 Rubber Mats, & 18 Soles or Slips in assorted sizes at a cost of £20. The Athletic Committee to be approached for the money. Under the Rules membership was to be limited to C S & M Ltd employees at 2/6d (12.5p) per year & not more than 12 outside members approved by the Committee at 10/6d (52.5p)

3 June 1929

The opening meeting of Northover Bowling Club was held with Mr J C Morland elected to the Chair. Election of officers was – Mr John Coleby Morland – President, Messrs Roger Clark, Mr Pittard, James C Morland, H N Alves, Mr Reynolds, H N B Dyke, O Connell, & H F S Scott Stokes all elected as Vice Presidents. The Committee to be H N Alves, R Toogood, H King, A Tucker, T Bevan, H Talbot. Sam Edward Harris was appointed as both Secretary & Treasurer & to be the

representative on the Athletics Committee. The Green was formally opened with a game between Mr J C Morland & Mr H N B Dyke.

8 May 1931

Of the original £250 development fund, which was meant for the Bowling Club some £140 was handed over to the Tennis Club as payment for the ground they were vacating. Some £87 was spent on improving & equipping the Green & also the purchase of woods etc. Some £11 remains in the development fund as a credit to the Bowling Club. It was agreed to open the Green for use by members on Sunday afternoons.

21 April 1933

Agreed that both a ladies & men's singles KO tournaments be arranged at a cost of 3d (less than 2p) per entry.

7 May 1935

Sec authorised to apply to Somerset County Bowling Association for membership.

18 April 1940

£5 repaid to Athletics Club to reduce the loan for the pavilion to £5. Many clubs are experiencing difficulty with transport.

22 April 1941

Several matches had to be cancelled because of transport problems The Pavilion debt has been cleared. The SCBA subscription still reduced to 2/6d (12.5p) with nothing to the EBA.

29 April 1942

Transport problems continue. Only matches with Street & Wells with possibly Yeovil & Westlands coming to us

3 May 1944

Still problems arranging matches. Proposed that three matches per year with Street be arranged.

6 May 1946

Club funds now £38/14/11 (£38.75). Resolution passed asking the Athletics Committee to consider a new green near the Drill Hall & for it to be developed as soon as possible but to continue using present green in the meantime

26 April 1949

Hoped the new green would be ready for play by 1950, but so much depended on the weather.

4 July 1950

"Lovely 6 rink new green opened". The Mayor Councillor R G Mapstone bowled the first wood. The first match followed with the Mayors team including players in the MSL from Wells, Shepton Mallet, Street & Wookey Hole. Rain marred the proceedings & only 5 ends were played but all adjourned to the refreshment tent afterwards.

25 November 1958

Ladies section had been started with 9 members. Ladies use of the green restricted to 2 half days per week unless there was a match but they could play in the evening.

10 March 1959

Ladies to use the green on Monday & Thursday afternoons for practice with some latitude for Saturdays & Sundays.

26 November 1964

Won MSL convincingly and also defeated the rest of the League. Green improvement now better than most optimists thought. Start has been made on the extension which should be completed by mid summer with indoor bowling in 1965/6. Matches won 21, lost 8, 2 drawn making this the most successful year ever.

24 November 1966

14 teams in the indoor bowls league & is also fully booked for the non-league periods. The income to the Sports & Social Club averaging about £8 per week. Runners up in MSL having played 6 & lost 1 – 497 to 442 – but

level on points with winners. Finances in good shape with balance just over £160.

14 November 1969

40th Anniversary match against SCBA Executive & lost 112 to 132. Club name was changed to Morlands Bowls Club as opposed to *Bowling*.

25 November 1977

Won South section of MSL (unbeaten in five games) & beat Frome Park in the play off final.

15 November 1979

Won MSL winning all games & defeated Purnells in the play off.

18 November 1980

Most successful year ever – reached semi-final of the Turnbull Cup, won MSL & one side reached the area final of the Nat West 2 rink KO.

1987

Became Wyrall Park Bowls Club

2021

As of December, 2021 the Club has transferred its management, liabilities and assets to the new charity that it formed (a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in fact) in the name of "Glastonbury (Wyrall Park) Bowls".