



THE COMPETITIONS PLAYED AT VICTORIA BOWLING CLUB

The Chairman of the Competition and Handicap Committee provides details of the rules of the individual competitions, either on the day of the event or a few days beforehand. The information is displayed in the clubhouse.

Records show that the oldest competition was "Prize Play". This finally ended in the 1920s. Another competition began in 1912 which was carried on for some time. This was the "Adcock Cup", a massive silver flagon of some 150 ounces in weight. It was finally won outright in 1925 by H C Masters who won the cup three times. Alas, only a photograph exists of this magnificent trophy. There were some other competitions but none lasted long.

By far the oldest competition played at VBC is the "President's Prize".

Other Competitions have been competed for over the years as members donated Trophies to the Club. Some of these ceased to be played and were brought back into use in later years often in a different format.

In more recent times competitions with a "round robin" element have been better received by members than pure "knockout" and most tournaments have been adapted to this format. However it must be remembered that the Club was formed on a 2 bowls basis with knockout Competitions and some still retain this tradition in their design. The number of participants and time constraints dictate how many ends are played in most Competitions.

The ARTS Challenge Trophy

In 1924 the Club was presented with a trophy which took the name "ARTS" from the initials of the donors (Dr C H Andrews, C Row, W Thompson & W G Stevens) The trophy was originally competed for by the members who had reached the age of 65. The competition was suspended in 1958 because of the lack of support.

It was brought back into competition in 1977 and currently is a pairs, handicap and knock-out competition. It is played throughout the season using 2 woods over 21 ends. Aggregate handicaps apply.

Games are played at times mutually agreed by the competitors, but precedence must always be given to casual play.

No umpires are required until the finals, which is played in September when the President or Deputy President officiates.

The Jesse Underwood Trophy

This competition was named after Mr J Underwood who was a member in 1989 when the competition began. The competition is a singles 3 wood, handicap and knock-out competition played throughout the season with dates being set for the completion of each round. Playing times are mutually agreed between competitors, but precedence must always be given to casual play.

No umpires are employed until the final played in September when the President or Deputy President officiates.

MRL Trophy

A trophy presented by Past Presidents Mike Lucas and Mike Rumbelow in 2009.

This is played for by those who are unsuccessful in the first round of the Jesse Underwood Trophy. Played for on the same basis as the Jesse Underwood, the final is in September when the President or Deputy President officiates

Baly Trophy

The Baly Trophy was presented to the club in 1944 by the family of the late Mr G J Baly and was initially awarded to the runners-up of the ARTS trophy. This competition was also suspended in 1958.

In 1977, like the ARTS, the Baly Challenge Trophy was revived, with changes to the rules taking place on several occasions.

Although initially a pair's competition, this is now a triples competition played initially in a round robin format then knockout, played for in May or early June. In recent years it has become the opening Tournament in the Calendar and has a luncheon included in the event.

The Hanly Cup

This silver cup was presented in 1933 by Mr B J Hanly, Sheriff of Norwich.

This is singles, handicap and has recently been moved to a "round robin" format then knockout. Umpires are used in all rounds, and the President or Deputy President umpires the final.

The Norman Dean Triples Trophy

This competition was introduced in 2004 when a Celtic Mounted Quaich Bowl for the competition was presented to the club by John Harris (Immediate Past President),) Derek Slidders (President) Mike Rumbelow (Deputy President).

The competition is played over a late afternoon/evening in early August followed by a supper. Play is based on a triples handicap format.

The Trophy was renamed in 2019 when Norman Dean's name was added in recognition of his long service to the Club, as Committee member and Secretary. Norman was Deputy President when he died in 2019

The Motum Cup

This silver cup was presented by Mr W Dunthorne in memory of Mr E J Motum who was President in 1937.

This is a pairs, handicap and knock-out competition and the President or Deputy President umpires the final.

The President's Prize

This competition began as the President's Cup which was donated in 1908 President, Dr C H Andrews.

It was an immediate success and shortly after, a runners-up prize was donated by the then current Deputy President.

The President and Deputy President do not play.

Unfortunately the existing trophy no longer exists and the President and Deputy President now donate prizes to the Winner and Runner up

President's Charity

A further competition was introduced in 2016 in support of the President's nominated charity.

This is for triples, 3 bowls, 6 or 8 ends, in a "round robin" format followed by knockout

The Thomas Trophy

This competition was introduced in 2011 and named after its benefactor, Michael Thomas {Past President}.

It is intended for less experienced bowlers and only those with a handicap of 2 or below are eligible to enter

This is for pairs competition played over 6 or 8 ends in a round robin format. The President officiates at the Final

The John Young's' Challenge Trophy

In 1923, the family of Mr John Young's (President 1925) presented a handsome silver salver to be played for annually on an after-noon later in the season.

The competition is a singles handicap and knock-out competition played late August or early September. Umpires are used in all rounds, and the President or Deputy President umpires the final.

It has become a tradition that the Vice President informs members of his choice to be Vice President Elect at this event.

The Eric Gross Trophy

This claret jug was presented to the Club by former President Mike Lucas in memory of Eric Gross.

It is intended to award members who have not had their names on the Honours Board many times or have given service to the Club over a number of years.

The nomination is made by The President in consultation with The Deputy President and is announced at the Annual Lunch

Honours Board

The names of the most recent winners of competitions (other than the Charity Day) are recorded in gold leaf on the honours boards in the clubhouse. However, the records of previous winners are preserved in the club archive.