

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2021

CITY AND COUNTY OF BRISTOL INDOOR BOWLS CLUB



Winter Season 2021 - 2022

The Club will start returning to normal on Tuesday 31st August when five day bowling returns between 10.00am and 4.00pm each weekday. Session times will revert to the normal 10.00am, 12.00pm and 2.00pm. These times will remain in force until the Winter Leagues programme starts on Monday 27th September, when the 4.00pm, 6.00pm and 7.00pm sessions will commence.

Membership renewals have started, and reception will be open for membership renewals (and new memberships) each weekday from 10.15am. It would be greatly appreciated if membership renewals could be made avoiding the session changeover periods when reception is extremely busy.

A membership renewal form will accompany this Newsletter, which can be printed and completed, or obtained from the reception desk. Please read the form completely as there is an additional payment option for members who joined or renewed for the 2020-2021 season. Renewing members who opt to pay the full annual fee will help the Club as the difference in cost can be Gift Aided to add 25% to the value.

A few members have enquired about the future of the Club following the Covid pandemic and it is pleasing to report that the financial standing of the Club remains healthy. We began the new financial year in May with £66k in the bank and at 31 July this has increased to £69k. Rink utilisation and external functions have been encouraging but significantly we have benefitted from £16k of Covid government support (Back to Work grant, furlough, rates holiday and the lower VAT hospitality rate). Additionally we have taken advantage of the option to defer repaying the Bounce Back loan which otherwise would have begun next month. Importantly, our five year business plan, prepared on a prudent and conservative basis, shows that there is no reason for concern

Expenditure on the building has continued. In addition to the health and safety measures, these include tree reduction works, IT and telephone upgrade, complete electrical installation inspection (including PAT testing), new bowling software, new lockers and day-to-day maintenance. A new Club Manager, Cheryl Brown, was appointed during the pandemic thus ensuring that we are ready for the return to a full programme of bowling.

There has been a recent steady increase in function bookings, with a constant stream of enquiries.

The Club tour in January is almost fully subscribed, and weekend friendly matches are being arranged from October onwards.

The Annual General Meeting has been set for Friday 22nd October 2021 at 7pm. This is later than in previous years to allow the membership situation to be properly assessed, and to give new members the chance to attend.

The future is bright: the future is burgundy and white!

For updates and league information, please see the Club website
www.bristolindoorbowls.org.uk



FROM THE LEAGUE MANAGER

Steve Neal / Mike Humphries

The Winter league programme will start on Monday 27th September, and any member wishing to enter a team should obtain a League Team Registration Form from reception, to be completed and handed in no later than Friday 17th September.

	10,00	12,00	14.00	16.00	18.00	19,00
Monday	Open Session	Ladies Triples	Open Fours	Australian Pairs Box Ladder	Roll ups & Coaching	Men's Fours
Tuesday	Open Triples	Umbrella & Open Triples	Open Fours	Open Session	Roll ups & Coaching	Open Triples
Wednesday	Open Australian Pairs	Open Australian Pairs	Open Fours	Open Singles Box Ladder	Roll ups & Coaching	Open Pairs
Thursday	Umbrella	Ladies' Fours	Open Triples	Open Session	Roll ups & Coaching	Men's Triples
Friday	Open Session	Open Pairs	Improver Coaching	Open Fours	Roll ups & Coaching	Open Triples NEW

The state of play as of 11th August is as follows:

- Monday 19.00 Men's Fours - 9 or 10 teams, so should run.
- Tuesday 10.00 Triples - 21 teams so some matches to be played in the next session.
- Wednesday 10.00 Australian Pairs – 30 teams so 10.00 and 12.00 sessions will be used again. 16.00 session available for the Umbrella.
- Wednesday 19.00 Open Pairs - no response.
- Friday 12.00 Open Pairs – 18 teams so may need another session.
- Friday 16.00 Open Fours - no response.
- Friday 19.00 – Open Fours - very low response and will change to Open Triples to see if there is any interest.
- Ladies leagues –very few entries.



CARD PAYMENTS

To accommodate the use of contactless payments during Covid restrictions, the lower limit on the use of card payments was suspended.

From **Monday 16th August 2021**, card payments will again be subject to a minimum transaction of **£15.00**.

We are sorry that this is necessary, but charges for low value card transactions are disproportionately high.

New Session for Summer Tuesdays

The 12.30pm Summer Tuesday Open Triples league has finished. For the two remaining weeks, there will be an ad-hoc Umbrella session to which all members are welcome.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

There was no Annual General Meeting in 2020 due to the Covid pandemic, so we are pleased to announce that this year's AGM will take place at the Club on Friday 22nd October 2021 at 7.00pm.

This is later than our usual August date, and the decision to change the date was taken to enable the directors to have a clearer picture of membership numbers, to avoid summer vacations, and importantly, to give new members joining in September the opportunity to attend and get involved.

The format has been streamlined to allow the business elements to be concluded sooner, allowing more time for members to meet the Board and Club Manager and to socialise.

This streamlining has been carried into other areas. All paperwork will be sent by email to members who have given an email address. The Member's Book and Club Yearbook will be combined into a single publication, again issued by email. Hard copies will be available for members who do not have email.

Greater use will be made of the Club website for information, together with the Newsletters and Club notice boards.

We hope for a bumper attendance at the AGM.

CLUB FRIENDLY MATCHES

Club friendly matches are played against other Indoor and Outdoor bowling clubs at weekends throughout the winter season. The majority of these are home matches (due to our exceptional facilities) but there are plenty of away matches as well. The fixtures are posted on the match boards in the corridor outside the changing rooms, where you can put your name down for inclusion. These matches are for all levels of ability and are a great way to get involved.

Have a word with our Match Captain, Steve Metcalfe, for more information.

Annual subscriptions and rink fees have remained unaltered for many years now, despite rising costs, and are unchanged again for 2021-22.

One major factor enabling the Club to keep costs down is Club members volunteering to undertake tasks in all areas of the Club e.g. maintenance, reception, cleaning, bar, administration, promotions etc.

V O L N T E E R

all that's missing is U!