



# Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter November 2024

## Message from the Chair – Danny Kite

The Club's Christmas Lunch will be held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Booking forms are available at reception – don't delay as there is a maximum of 80 covers.

The pushers are back! I would like to go on record to thank all the people that came together over the past weeks to ensure that the pushers are back in the building. Yes, I appreciate they look and feel a little different and that there are stricter rules on their use, but all these things had to be put into place in order to satisfy the independent expert view that we sought to ensure success. Please follow these guidelines to ensure their continued use! The sharp edges on some units, have now been dealt with.

Thanks also to those of you who managed to come along to the AGM and for the views and points that were raised at the meeting. The board met last week and these topics were discussed. As usual some things can be considered in the short term and will be acted upon, the others will be looked at for the future but will not be forgotten.

We also held a new members evening which was well attended, and a good amount of interaction was seen and heard. If you could not attend or have thought of questions or points subsequently, please feel free to talk to any of the presenters as and when you see them around the club or send to the new email address created for that reason – details at the end of this newsletter.

Please remember that we are about to enter one of the busy periods for the club vis-à-vis rink bookings. There will be inter-club competitions, national competitions and rearranged games being booked so please be patient and understanding if the time slot you want is unavailable.

Finally, a point about dress code and housekeeping; I am pleased to see that most members are adhering to our dress code policy and also in leaving large objects such as bowls bags in the changing rooms rather than in the walkways around the green. For the one or two members that have forgotten these rules, please accept this as a gentle reminder to comply.

## Bowls Committee

### Weekend friendlies

At this point early in the season, on behalf of the whole club, the Bowls Committee would like to put on record their grateful thanks to Lorraine Paget. For some ten years Lorraine has held the position of Ladies Representative and Vice Captain for the weekend Friendly matches, has been heavily involved with the selection of the teams and frequently been Captain of the Day, taking charge on match days.

Thank you, Lorraine, and we all hope that whilst not being 'in charge' you will continue to represent the club and enjoy playing in these Friendlies.

Here are the current friendly fixtures for this season. As usual, the availability sheets will be displayed on the board; please add your name if you wish to play. Unless otherwise indicated on the availability sheets, the matches will start at 2pm.





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1/12/24 (Away)	Mid Glos	6 rinks
7/12/24	Juniors v Adults	5 rinks
8/12/24	Olveston	6 rinks
5/1/25	Chew Stoke	7/8 rinks
19/1/25	Begbrook	7/8 rinks
26/1/25	Isle of Wedmore	3/4 rinks
5/2/25 (Wednesday)	Wey Valley Tourists	tba
16/2/25	Long Ashton	6 rinks
26/2/25 (Wednesday)	Avon & Somerset Police	5 triples
2/3/25 (Away)	Cotswold	6 rinks
9/3/25	Portishead	6/7 rinks
10/3/25 (Monday)	Devon Ladies Tourists	tba
15/3/25	Avonvale	5 rinks
23/3/25 (Away)	Isle of Wedmore	2 rinks

## Crown Green 2025

The successful and enjoyable Crown Green Day of 2024 will be repeated on Sunday 23 March 2025 (please note change of date from that previously announced.) Please look out for availability sheets in due course.

## Somerset Ladies

Calling all ladies who would like to spread their wings and join Somerset Women in some county matches - Somerset County would love to hear from you.

We have a few ladies already doing this and enjoying meeting others from all over Somerset, playing with novices up to very experienced players. Everyone is very supportive.

The information/availability sheets are posted on the Somerset County board just outside the ladies' toilets. If you would like to have a chat, then first see Cheryl and she will let me know that you'd like to meet up with me.

If you fancy looking into the Somerset Women's website (Somerset women's county indoor bowls association, SWCIBA), type this into the search box on your phone or computer search engine.

You will need to register so that you can gain access to all the information on the site, follow the instructions or I'll sit down with you to get you started over a coffee.

There are friendly matches that help players slowly gain confidence at this level and league matches if you would like a more competitive game.

Somerset do have a red & black kit, and we can discuss maybe borrowing a shirt to start with. We already have the black trousers at Bristol as part of our uniform, so we are halfway there.

Going forward, the next friendlies are:

- Sunday 2 Feb 2025 v Ilminster men @ 2pm
- Sunday 2 March 2025 v N Petherton men @ 2pm
- Sunday 2 March 2025 v Nailsea men @ 2pm
- Saturday 22 March 2025 President's Day @ 1.30pm

League matches:

- Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 v Dorset away, noon
- Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Feb v Cornwall away, 12.15





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The Atherley Trophy [Indoor national elite knockout] - Somerset women are drawn against Dorset [again] at home [Taunton IBC] at 11 am on 11 January. This is very much worth watching if you are free to go along. We may even have some Bristol players in the squad.

We also have a national noticeboard in the ladies changing room where there is information regarding the Yetton Plate and Masons Trophy [over 60's] which our ladies have entered to see how far we can progress. We've got to be in it to win it!

The minutes of the Somerset Women's meetings are posted on the board - well worth a read to get a feel for what is going on.

I look forward to supporting you.

Jenny Tibbs

## Internal Competitions

Reminder – the entry forms for 2024-25 competitions are available at Reception and need to be returned by 1 December, please.

The entry conditions for the senior/junior adult pairs have been amended so that you may enter as a pair. If you wish to enter individually, we will then try to match you with a partner.

## National Competitions

We are in the early rounds of national competitions. We lost to North Wilts by 1 shot in the Top Club competition having beaten Weston St Andrews in the previous round. By the time you read this both the men and women will have played their respective Denny and Yetton Cup matches.

However, our Under 30s team has already had some success by reaching the last 16 nationally. They have already beaten strong sides from Clevedon and Westlecot, both of whom contained international players in their line ups. Their next game is against Dolphin on Sunday 24th November at 11.00 am. Please come and lend your support.

## Somerset Competitions

Entry forms for the Somerset competitions are on a noticeboard at the club. If you enter, please note that the Somerset finals weekend is the same as the weekend we host the Open Singles Circuit, 5/6 April 2025.

## Open Singles Circuit

As already mentioned, we shall be hosting this event on 5th/6th April. This is the first time we have done this since Covid and it would be great to have plenty of entries from Bristol. Entries will be on line through the EIBA website, which will open soon. Please see Eric Seavill or Richard Doughty if you need any more details about how it works. However, please note that we will also need volunteers for that weekend, including markers, so we will be asking for volunteers soon.

## National Mixed Competition Finals

We are hosting the National Mixed Pairs and Fours for the second time from Friday 21st to Monday 24th February. Again, we will be looking for volunteers, but also please come down to watch top class bowls.





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## Somerset Leagues

We are about to start our respective league campaigns. Please add your name to the selection sheets (yes, you are good enough!) to give the selectors plenty to think about. Availability lists are displayed on the boards next to the league table board.

30/11/24	Clarrie Dunbar
5/1/25	St Andrews
12/1/25	Purnell
18/1/25	Victoria (WSM)
9/2/25	Isle of Wedmore
16/2/25	Nailsea

## Wessex League

Two rinks at home and two rinks away; availability sheets are on the noticeboard.

24 November	Thornbury
1 December	Clevedon
19 January	North Wilts
2 February	Purnell
TBA	St Andrews
16 February	Clarrie Dunbar

## Over 60s double rink

The Over 60s double rink continues – dates as below:

26 November

10 December

7 January

### Coaches corner – Danny Kite

I am pleased to see that members are taking advantage of the various opportunities of working with the coaching team to improve their game. The numbers attending the improvers sessions is going up along with the standard of bowling. I am sorry that I have been caught on the hop a couple of times with the increase in numbers but am striving to overcome this and am pleased to say we have a new Level Two coach in the team and several of our members are currently going through training to become Level One competent.

I am sure you will wish them well in their endeavours. Corporate evenings are also becoming more popular with certain groups. If you need more information about these events, please talk to either Cheryl or me. Remember, the coaching in this club is provided free, you just need to cover the cost of using the carpet.





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I am also in discussion with the EBUA regarding a Markers Awareness Course. I hope this will become a reality during January. If you would like to attend such a course, please let Cheryl know and we will keep you informed of progress.

## League Notes

We are now eight weeks into the winter season, and I hope you are enjoying your bowling. I have not heard of any problems with the leagues, they seem to be going okay.

### Scorecards

Please can you check that both cards match when you leave the rink as I have had several that do not. The reasons are usually obvious, so I can amend them.

### Postponed games

Games postponed from the first two weeks, should now be played or a rearranged date booked to play. Any problems agreeing dates, please let me know.

### Players looking for a Team and Pool Players:

For reference, the file on reception has the following:

Monday Afternoon Ladies – 1 player looking for a Team

Monday Afternoon Open Fours – 3 players looking for a team

Monday Evening Open Triples – 1 pool player

Tuesday Morning Open Triples – 5 players looking for a team, also 3 pool players

Tuesday Aft Open Fours - 1 players looking for a team, also 1 pool players

Wednesday Australian Pairs – 2 players looking for a team

Wednesday Open Fours – 1 player looking for a team

Thursday Afternoon Ladies Triples – 1 player looking for a team

Thursday Afternoon Open Triples – 4 players looking for a team. Also 1 pool player

Friday Open Pairs – 2 players looking for a team

If you are now in a team, please cross your name out in the file.

### New Members League

We are considering starting an Open Australian Pairs League at 4pm on a Tuesday - you will need to be a new member within the last two years. If you would like to enter a team, please either contact Reception or Steve Neal on the contact details below.

Also, if you would like to enter, but don't have someone to play with, let me know and we will try to find someone for you.

Steve Neal mobile. 07974 107729





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## Junior News

Arrangements are under way, and entries are being received for the second Under 16s tournament, to be held on Saturday 25 January.

On Saturday 7 December, members are invited to play the Juniors. If you would like to take part, then the availability board has a sheet for this game. Nine rinks have been reserved, so we're hoping for a good turnout.

Please ensure that your names are in before 1 December.

## Have your say.... members' page

To have your say, please email [bristolindoornews@gmail.com](mailto:bristolindoornews@gmail.com)

### Personal Hygiene

The first communication received is concerning personal hygiene, and so will remain anonymous.

It should go without saying that you should wash your hands before leaving the toilet areas, especially following the strict guidelines of the Covid epidemic.

We should not have to include such a statement in the newsletter, but it appears necessary as some members have been observed leaving without washing their hands.

Signs have now been displayed. Please take responsibility, and **PLEASE WASH YOUR HANDS.**

### Dress Code

The second comment received from a member who commented on dress code to another member, and met with a less than friendly response.

Much has been said about dress code when bowling. Everyone should know the club rules, so if anyone questions why you're wearing training bottoms, inappropriate shoes, or whatever, please take it in the spirit intended.

Don't be aggressive with the questioner, but **ask yourself why the dress code should not apply to you.**

