



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter January 2025

Message from the Chair – Danny Kite

Communication

As you may be aware, there was some discussion at the AGM regarding communication gaps that were perceived between the board and the members.

Hopefully you will have seen that steps have been taken to improve that situation. Emma Price has been doing a grand job in getting information out to you via Facebook. We realise that not everyone uses Facebook, and I know for a fact that the dinosaur of a chairman has avoided social media for many years now. So for those like him we have introduced an e-mail address to which you can put your points to the board - **bristolindoornews@gmail.com**. Any communication received in this way will be picked up and discussed at the next board meeting. For those that do not have a computer, there is still the old fashioned “suggestions box”.

We publish a monthly “What’s On” document that goes on to the main noticeboard each month, and in the past few days, we have managed to get the TV screen on the function room wall to also give updates on forthcoming events. If you spot that we have missed anything of relevance, please let us know so this can be rectified. After all, communication works both ways.

Catering

The newly formed catering committee continues to meet to discuss ways in which the food service can be improved/updated. This is a work in progress, and we ask for patience from the membership while we work through this. Planning is well under way for the upcoming Junior Under 16s Tournament as well as the National Finals weekend and the Open Singles Tournament. We are confident we can have the catering side of things where it needs to be, but would be very pleased if any members wish to volunteer their services in areas such as helping to distribute the food orders, get trained up to help behind the bar, take food orders for the kitchen and serve teas and coffees.

Request for help – Ian Anderson, Property Director

In addition to replacing the boilers and upgrading the computer software that controls the heating and ventilation, this year we have put together a long list of works to be carried out either during the annual shutdown or during the summer.

If you can offer your time and effort, please let Cheryl know - she has a list of the jobs.





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Bowls & Social Committee

Weekend friendlies

Here are the remaining friendly fixtures. Friendlies against Keynsham and Somerset U30s have been added. As usual, 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.

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	3 rinks
15/3/25	Avonvale	5 rinks
22/3/25	Somerset U30s	TBA
23/3/25 (Away)	Isle of Wedmore	2 rinks
29/3/25	Keynsham	TBA

Crown Green 2025

The successful and enjoyable Crown Green Day of 2024 will be repeated on Sunday 23 March 2025. Please look out for availability sheets in due course

Somerset League

Please add your name to the selection sheets to give the selectors plenty to think about. Availability lists are displayed on the boards next to the league table board.

9 February	Isle of Wedmore
16 February	Nailsea
22 February	Purnell

Wessex League

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

26 January	St Andrews
2 February	Purnell
16 February	Clarrie Dunbar





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Club Competitions

Club competitions are now well underway. However, please remember that matches, up until the final, have a time limit in line with league matches, i.e. no jack should be cast after 1 hour 53 minutes. This is self-evident if you start a game at the usual time, as the buzzer sounds for the last jack. However, please take a note of the start time if you are in between sessions, e.g. if you start at 6.15 you may not cast a jack later than 8.08.

National Competitions

We have a few members still going in national competitions, all of whom have now reached the area semi final stage.

Paul Bryant and Kelvin Little play at Clarrie Dunbar in the pairs on Sunday 26th January at 10.00 am.

Richard Doughty, John Marshall and Eric Seavill play at home against Weston St Andrews on Wednesday 22nd January at 6.30 pm

Clive Drake played in the Novices Singles at North Wilts on Tuesday 21st January against an opponent from Westlecot.

A further reminder that we host the National Mixed Finals from 21st to 24th February, with the last 16 matches in the fours commencing at 1.00pm. Please support this event to demonstrate to the EIBA that we should be one of the "go to" clubs for prestigious events. Details re catering to be confirmed.

Wessex League

We recorded an 11-shot victory over North Wilts to move to 3 wins out of 3. On Sunday 26th January we play Weston St Andrews in our next group game, followed by Purnell on 2nd February.

Open Singles Circuit

We host the Open Singles Circuit on 5th and 6th April. If you wish to enter please note that entries open on the EIBA website on 7th February. Please enter promptly as the spaces generally fill up very quickly. If you have not entered before you can take this opportunity to compete against top class players, hopefully using home advantage to get the better of them!

If you do not wish to play, but still want to get involved, we will need markers for at least the first session each day, and some later in the day. We will put a list on the Competitions Board at the club if you want to mark.

Torquay tour

On 10th January 67 members went on tour to the Toorak Hotel in Torquay for a long weekend. It was enjoyed by all - we played ten games, and won six. I would like to thank all those who stepped up to be captain of the games each day, and to all the members who travelled and made the weekend go so smoothly.

Also, thank you for the unexpected gift! And we look forward to another tour in 2026.

Lorraine Paget





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Coaches corner – Danny Kite

Coaching sessions for improvers are still running, you just need to turn up at the appropriate time and let the organising coach know you are there. Individual one-to-one sessions are also available for both new and experienced members, but you will need to book these as rink space will be at a premium in the coming weeks due to competition games being played. Don't be shy, we all have bad habits creep into our game and the coaches are there to help you iron these out.

The coaching point for this month revolves around the jack. There appears to be confusion between members when it comes to the end of a game. If you are running close to the end of the session, providing the jack has been cast before the buzzer sounds, the end can be played to a finish. Play begins the moment the jack is cast not after it has been set. Should this jack default i.e. be short, cast off the side of the rink or into the ditch, play will continue.

Also, if a default jack is cast, the opposition skip may simply place the jack on the length of their choosing (providing it is a legal length). However, if the skip wishes the mat position changed, the jack must be sent back so that their lead recasts the jack from the new mat position. You cannot move the mat unless the jack is recast.

League notes – Steve Neal

No moans this month, just a reminder & rule clarification. The last date for registering players in a team is 31st January, although a player can still be registered if you are replacing a member of your team due to health problems.

Rink fees

Can I please remind everyone that rinks fees must be paid before league games commence; there have been a few instances where that hasn't happened, and rink fees have not been paid.

Summer 2025 Leagues and Umbrellas

I have been asked for details of the Summer Leagues, which will start in May. Team Secretaries from last year will be emailed in February, to see if they still wish to enter their team.

Leagues:

Monday Open Australian Pairs	12.00
Tuesday Open Triples	12.00
Thursday Open Australian Pairs	10.00

If you would like to enter or join a team in any of the above, please contact me or reception.

If there is enough interest, we will also start an Open League at 7pm on Tuesday evenings, probably either Australian Pairs or Triples. If you would like to enter a team, please contact me on the number below, or reception, stating preference.





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Umbrellas:

Tuesday 10.00
Thursday 12.00

Starting date for summer leagues to be advised.

Steve Neal - Mobile 07974 107729

Junior News

What a superb gathering and very worthwhile 6 rink 18 ends bowls match versus our adult members.

We won't mention the result but enough to say the adult players were full of admiration for the bowling skills and the excellent behaviour of BIBC Juniors.

After 9 ends we all topped up our energy levels with tea and biscuits. Play continued with a few substitutions ensuring all interested parties had an opportunity to bowl. The Juniors gave their all against strong opposition but never gave up. Their coaches, parents and supporters must be very proud of them.

BIBC adult members watch out, the youngsters are rapidly improving and ready to challenge you in the near future!

Many thanks to Jane Geater and Thomasina for arranging the date and promoting this match. Also, many thanks to Danny and Lorraine Paget for organising us all on the match day and keeping us in order.

Have your say.... members' page

To have your say, please email bristolindoornews@gmail.com. The deadline for inclusion in newsletters is 20th of each month.





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Reminder – here's the poster for the forthcoming Markers Course

EBUA MARKERS COURSE

Enjoy Marking Singles games?
Want to know more about the Laws and
improve your skills as a Marker?

Then join us on an accredited Markers Course run by the English Bowls Umpires Association.

- Learn about the Laws of the Sport in a fun “Quiz” style discussion
- Discover more about practical Marking skills, including time management, distances and answering questions
- Practice a range of measuring exercises using the standard equipment

You will leave the course with a Certificate of Attendance and a handy guide to Marking skills. Following the course, you will have the opportunity to join the EBUA to progress your Marking skills through to National Level.

Attendance fee only £15 (EBUA Members £5)

Register online today to join us on an EBUA Markers Course at:

Bristol Indoor Bowls Club
9th February 2025
09:30 to 17:00 (approx)

Book online from the link or QR below

<https://www.ebua.co.uk/marker-courses>

www.ebua.co.uk

