



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter Summer 2025

Message from the chair – Danny Kite

Well, you cannot say that we, the board, are not open to trying new things.

We are aware that more of our members are saying that they are less likely to play outdoor bowls in the summer than before, which is why we have created the new opening times of Wednesday during the day and Thursday evenings.

Whilst the initial uptake has been slow, particularly on Wednesdays, it has been positive in allowing local schools to come in for coaching and for some national competitions to take place as well as some regular roll ups.

The Thursday evening sessions are gaining popularity, with the junior section taking advantage to play pairs matches for fun and education, some regular roll ups, coaching sessions and some ad hoc competitive matches between a few stalwarts. These games are not formalised so if you feel like a bit of fun just come along and take advantage of what is on offer.

Not only that but, to my knowledge, you are reading the very first summer newsletter that the club has produced, unless you know otherwise as they often say on the TV!

It is with great pleasure that I can announce that Sarah Buxton is now part of the catering team and has been working with Claire over the past month or so on the preparation of buffets for wakes and functions. Consequently, we anticipate that we will be able to open the kitchen on Fridays. Please welcome Sarah in her new post with the customary goodwill that this club is renowned for.

Have you heard of Boccia? Watch this space....

Ian Anderson – Property Director

Following a tendering exercise, we appointed our maintenance contractor to undertake the upgrade of the gas-fired boilers that reside in the plant room above the men's locker room. This also includes an upgrade of the computerised system that controls the heating, ventilation, cooling, hot water and street lighting.

The 25-year-old gas fired boilers have now been replaced with the latest energy efficient models. We hope to see the benefit of them this winter, particularly as our current 4-year gas and electric contracts comes to an end in a couple of months. We, like everyone else, are faced with a substantial increase in energy costs in our new 3-year contracts.





Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter Summer 2025

We have also upgraded our computerised building management system, where again we hope to see improved control over heating, ventilation and cooling, albeit we had a few trying days during the transition from old to new. The system was in its day designed to cope with a couple of weeks of 26 degrees, not a couple of months at 30 degrees and as such we will always battle to keep temperatures down where some would like them during very hot spells. We can now purge the bowls hall in the middle of the night making use of lower air temperatures and off-peak electricity ready for the day's bowling when we open.

One benefit of this hot sunny weather is the amount of energy produced by the solar panels on our roof. This link shows you just how much each day [Bristol Indoor Bowls Club](#)

This month we have

- replaced the membership card software,
- replaced some of our external CCTV cameras and
- acquired another electric wheelchair.

We still have a list of jobs inside and out that require volunteers to complete before the start of the winter season. Please see Cheryl for more information if you can help.

Bowls Committee

Winter Leagues 2025/26

League entries, withdrawals and vacancies are detailed in the pdf attachment.

Club Friendlies 2026 – Jane Geater

Our first weekend friendly fixture is a six-rink game on Sunday 28th September 2025 at 12.00 against Sully BC, a team from South Wales.

We will have a sign-up sheet put up at the beginning of September for members to add their names.

Torquay tour 2026 – Lorraine Paget

Forms are available at reception for next year's tour.

Novice & New Members wishing to play in Leagues – Steve Neal

As a way of including more willing participants for the Winter season 2025/2026, we are prepared to start some extra leagues, if the demand is there.

These can be in any format, and include separate leagues for 'Novices plus Experienced' bowlers, which will hopefully get them known to the current members.





Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter Summer 2025

Leagues would have a maximum of 8 teams and run for up to 7 weeks, depending on the number of teams. Teams could join or leave at this point. Then this could be repeated so it's possible to have three rotations in the winter season.

If you would like to join in with the above, please let me (Steve Neal, 07974 107729) or Cheryl know, especially if you are prepared to organise a team entry.

Coaches corner – Danny Kite

A few of us have taken advantage of the good weather and taken our roadshow out to several events to promote both the club and the game of bowls itself.

We have hosted and have planned a couple of corporate events during the summer months along with some sessions for schools both at primary level and also SEND schools.

One to one coaching is still available, and I can say that we have gained several new members through these sessions and will continue with them throughout the summer.

A couple of our members have also qualified as Bowls England Level One coaches, and I wish them well at their outdoor clubs during the summer season.

Somerset Ladies section – Jenny Tibbs

My name is Jenny Tibbs, and I am BIBC rep for Somerset Women's Indoor Bowls Association.

As the indoor winter season is quickly approaching here are a few competitive matches to look forward to.

The club has entered **Women's National Competitions:**

Yetton Trophy (2 rinks home 2 away)

Mason Trophy (over 60's) 1 rink home and 1 away

Both of the above are play on dates and

Somerset Women's County Indoor Bowls Association (SWCIBA) competitions:

Top Club

Double Rink (1rink home 1 away)

Then there is a **Double Rink League** across Somerset (1 rink home, 1 away). Clubs will be split into sections (probably 2) and each section winner will play off on finals day.

These will be play by dates, draw information and rules will be on our national noticeboard (on the wall in ladies changing room) and Somerset noticeboard (between ladies changing room and toilets).





Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter Summer 2025

SWCIBA have many county matches arranged throughout the season, and these are a great way to meet both other players in Somerset and players from other counties. Coaches are arranged for long distance matches, and the pick-up is usually at Cartgate services. If anyone is interested, we may be able to car share to meet the coach or drive direct. Let's have a chat if you are thinking of playing.

The start of the season begins with Presidents Open Day on 11 October at Taunton Deane Indoor Club, and there will be a poster on the noticeboard shortly. Meeting minutes are also posted on the county noticeboard.

Have an enjoyable and - if you are up for it - competitive season ladies. We're always on the lookout for up-and-coming competitive players wanting to play at the next level, so either chat to me, Wendy, Emma, or Julie.

Or come along and support us, it can make a lot of difference having friendly faces to cheer us on.

DBE Disability Bowls England and VIBE – Visually Impaired

Further success for the club. Several members have now played in friendly matches for Disability Bowls England and congratulations go to Emma Price and John Marshall for winning the Mixed Pairs Plate in the national competitions.

We have also had members involved in the Weston Lions Visually Impaired Tournament and the National Visually Impaired Championships both hosted this year at Clarence BC in Weston-Super-Mare.

During the Weston Tournament, one of our VIBE section members, Dave Garland, played in eight singles, matches, winning all of them. A great achievement and well-done Dave! Disappointingly though, even whilst he remained undefeated his overall shot difference was not enough for a place on the podium. Unperturbed, he then entered the doubles national competition along with John Vickery. A couple of wins in the round-robin were achieved but again glory was just out of reach. Hopefully, they will both be back during the winter to hone their skills here at BIBC.

Have your say.....

Comments, criticisms and suggestions are always welcome.

To have your say, please email bristolindoornews@gmail.com

