



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter September 2025

Message from the Chair – Danny Kite

Well, we did tease you all a little bit about this, but I can now tell you that Saturday 27th September was National Boccia Day and to celebrate that we hurriedly arranged to have our inaugural session in the function room at the club. This is a sport which features in the para-Olympic Games and is a new venture for the club and is seen as a logical extension to the club's commitment to full inclusivity and something else our pan disability section can enjoy.

That said it does not have to be exclusively for them. Our plan is to have regular sessions in the function room on Saturday mornings, to coincide with our juniors and short mat sessions. You may also see flyers dotted around the club advertising these sessions and asking for any interest in making these sessions more competitive, possibly running a competition or a small league.

Even if you have never heard of the game before, why not give your curiosity a day out and come and see what it is all about. It is a fun, quick game that everyone can enjoy. Try it out.

Bowls Committee

Club Competitions

Entry forms for the 2025/26 club competitions are now available at reception.

Somerset, Wessex and National Teams

Please add your name to the lists that are on the wall outside the changing rooms if you wish to be considered for selection. The names that are up there do not constitute an exclusive list and selectors are always looking for new players.

Summer Competitions

We had a good summer in the Fantastic 5s competition, although both teams have narrowly missed out on qualifying from their groups. Bristol Lions missed out on topping their table on shots scored, and Bristol Unicorns will also just missed out. Until this year runners up qualified for the knockout stages, but the increasing number of entries resulted in the qualifying stages taking longer, and this has meant a change to the rules so that only the group winners now go forward.

In the Summer National Competitions, we had players through to the last 16 in the singles, pairs and triples, i.e. one game away from the Finals to be staged at Melton Mowbray.

Gavin Abraham was in the singles; he was also with Ryan Boots in the pairs and the two were joined by Lauren Gowen in the triples. These names may not be familiar to some members as they do not play for Bristol during the winter season.





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Congratulations to Lauren, Ryan and Gavin who won the EIBA Summer Triples competition, thus bringing a national title to Bristol. In addition, Gavin was runner up in the singles and Gavin and Ryan reached the semi-finals of the pairs. Many congratulations on a tremendous performance in the EIBA summer competitions.

With more people choosing to play indoors through the summer, these competitions provide the opportunity to play bowls against top class opposition. Entries will be available later in the season.

Club Competitions Finals Winter 2025/2026

This is a long time off, but club finals weekend in the forthcoming season will be on 11th and 12th April 2026. Although we encourage as many entries as possible, please bear these dates in mind if you are likely to be on holiday at this time as holidays are not a valid excuse for not being available to play in the Finals.

Open Singles Circuit

Following the success of the reinstated Open Singles Circuit at Bristol earlier this year, the event will be held again on 21st and 22nd March 2026.

League Manager – Steve Neal

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Winter Leagues will have started. In October, we are looking to start a Novices League. I have 5 members interested but require a few more. If you are interested, please contact me on 07974 107729 or reception.

Summer Leagues

Congratulations to the Winners:

Monday Afternoon Australian Pairs	Barrier Reef
Tuesday Afternoon Open Triple	Phoenix
Thursday Morning Australian Pairs	The Strines

Winter Leagues

Postponed games should be played within six weeks of the postponement. Full details can be found in the Members Handbook.

Please check your score cards match at the end of the game. I had to make a lot of phone calls last season, trying to work out the correct scores.

If you have any problems re-arranging matches, please contact me on 07974 107729.



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Teams looking for players

Tuesday Morning Triples 10.00/12.05 – 2 teams looking for a player. Wednesday Afternoon Fours 14.10 – One team is looking for a skip.

Have a good season.

Torquay tour 2026 – Lorraine Paget

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

Coaches Corner – Danny Kite

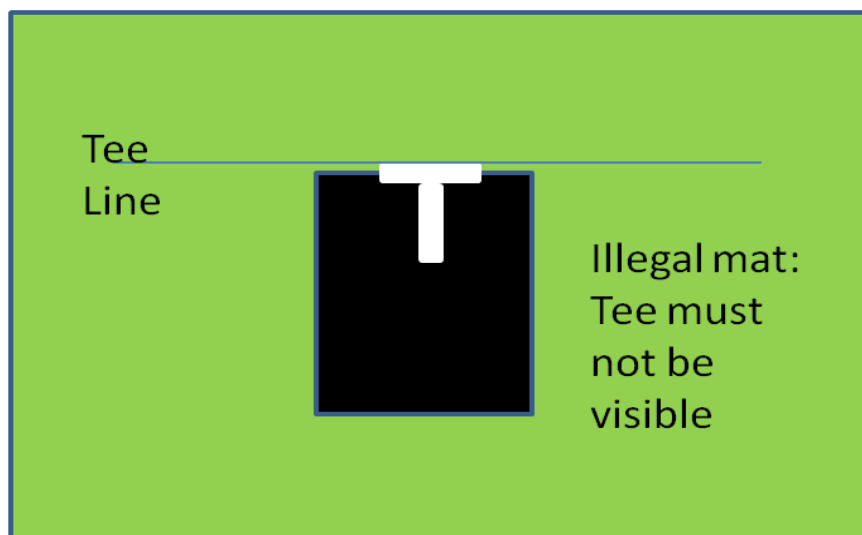
It has come to my attention that there is some confusion regarding the mat position during a game of bowls. This is covered in detail under Law 6 in “The Laws of the Sport of Bowls” Crystal Mark 4th edition but one of the salient points concerns the “T” on the rinks in our club.

In order to ascertain that the jack has travelled the minimum distance of 23 metres, a skip may call out something like “where is the mat” and gets a reply, “it is on the “T”.

Please remember that this call is only correct when the front edge of the mat is touching the topmost part of the “T” (see diagram). Any further forward and this distance has to be considered.

For example, if the mat has been placed such that the rear of the mat is touching the “T” the call should be “one mat up from the “T”.

The skip will then know that the jack needs to be at least one mat's length further on from the 25-metre dot to be achieve the legal minimum distance required for the end to start.





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Juniors Section

Oakley Trent has been a BIBC junior for approximately 8 years and latterly also a member of Knowle outdoor bowls club.

He recently became 2025 national under 18's champion and was hoping to be the first ever to win a national under 25's final as well but unfortunately it was not to be as he lost in the quarter final.





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Have your say

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

The deadline for inclusion in newsletters is 20th of each month.