



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

From the chair – Danny Kite

Since my last update, it has been a particularly active and productive period for the club, with progress being made across events, competitions, facilities and member engagement.

The feedback received following the Christmas meal and social event was overwhelmingly positive. My sincere thanks and congratulations go to Claire and her team, along with all the volunteers who generously gave their time to make the occasion such a success. Judging by the response, this is certainly something we could look to repeat in the future if members would welcome it.

The recent tour to Torquay was also a great success. With thanks to Lorraine, who worked tirelessly to ensure that everyone enjoyed a thoroughly memorable trip.

Both the Board and the Bowls and Social Committee continue to meet monthly, with a strong focus on improving the overall club experience — from competitive play and representative events to social activities and communication. The newly operational TV screen will now be used to promote upcoming events, so please keep an eye on it when you're in the club.

Our presence on Facebook and social media continues to grow, thanks to Emma's positive and engaging approach. We are gaining followers from across the country, and this engaged online audience is already delivering real benefits to BIBC, increasing our visibility, encouraging greater participation, and helping attract new members, events and opportunities while showcasing what a welcoming and inclusive club we are.

We are also extremely proud to be supporting the inaugural Para Open Singles Circuit tournament, delivered in collaboration with the EIBA. The draw has been made and the field includes several high-ranking players. This elite event highlights bowls as one of the most inclusive sports available and reflects very positively on our club.

BIBC continues to thrive, and with membership now exceeding 700, this success brings with it an increasing need for volunteers. If you feel you could help support the day-to-day running of the club in any way, please speak to Cheryl. Any contribution, however small, is always greatly appreciated.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

Bowls & Social Committee

The club would like to make more use of the great facilities we have, in particular the Function Room, so if you have any thoughts on events you'd like to see, please let us know.

Either speak with Cheryl, or drop an email to bristolindoornews@gmail.com



The music will be provided by one of our own, Dave Byett, who's been playing for dances for more years than he can remember (it's an age thing) and likewise the caller – Phil – who has some fun dances and an easy manner to take you through the moves.

There will be a break for hot dogs, hence the ticket price of £10

It will be a fun filled evening, and great fun for dancers and lurkers alike – although it has to be said it shouldn't be a spectator sport, so come and give it a go!

There are lots of outdoor club members, and many playing in leagues. While barn dancing might not be competitive, why not bring a party of friend, and see who has the best do-si-do?

The **Quiz Night** with Eric has been put back to Friday 10 April, which will kick off the Finals Weekend in style.

The Unravelling Wilburys will be back later in the year, so watch this space for details.

If you have any thoughts on what you'd like to see next, please let us know – have a chat or email bristolindoornews@gmail.com



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

League Manager – Steve Neal

Summer Leagues

I will be contacting Team Secretaries from last Year's Summer Leagues during February, to confirm if they wish to continue in Summer 2026.

If you wish to enter a new team or join a team, you can contact me on my mobile below.

Existing Summer Leagues

Monday Afternoon Open Australian Pairs	12 Noon to 2pm
Tuesday Afternoon Open Triples	12 Noon to 2pm
Thursday Morning Open Australian Pairs	10 am to 12 Noon

New Summer Leagues

We are going to try and start two evening leagues, if we can get enough teams to make them viable.

Tuesday Evening Open Australian Pairs	6pm to 8pm
Thursday Evening Open Triples	6pm to 8pm

Other Leagues can be arranged if enough interest is shown, so if you would like a Singles League, or any other type, we may be able to fit in @ 4pm on a Tuesday or Thursday. (Wednesday, we do not have any Leagues at the moment).

Umbrella

Tuesday Morning	10am to 12 Noon
Thursday Afternoon	12 Noon to 2pm

Postponed Games

Thank you for your efforts in rearranging games, if you are having problems arranging, please contact me.

Please ensure that any games which would affect the outcome of a League, are arranged first.

Player Registration for Teams



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

Please be aware that 31st January was the deadline for registering players, after this date it is at my discretion. So if you are short of players to finish the season, please ask if you can add a player.

Contact: Steve on Mobile 07974107729

Competitions and Nationals news – Eric Seavill

National Comps

We have a number of players through to the area semi finals of various competitions. Good luck to all still involved. Please look at our Facebook account for further details.

Open Singles Circuit

The Open Singles Circuit returns to Bristol on 21st/22nd March. Entries are now open through the EIBA website. We would encourage as many players as possible to enter.

As last year, we will need a number of markers as well as other volunteers during the day. We will put a list up for markers to add their name.

Club Competitions

These are now well under way. However, due to the higher number of entries this year, the pressure is on to get the matches completed by the play by dates. Please make every effort to get your games played so we do not have to eliminate players.

Wessex League

Our Wessex League fixtures started with a disappointing defeat to North Wilts. This means we will probably need to win all our remaining fixtures to qualify for the knockout stages.

Let's make that happen!



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

County and BIBC Ladies – Jenny Tibbs

As the season progresses unfortunately our ladies are no longer in the national Yetton, Yetton Plate or Masons matches having been defeated, but we are steadily progressing in the Somerset County Double rink knockout the Somerset County Double rink league and the Somerset County Top 9.

We had a very good win Saturday 10th Jan away at Purnell in the County Top 9 match [Pairs, Triples and 4's] when Purnell conceded the game.

Unfortunately, we don't have any players left in the Somerset county pairs after a great try by Suzi and Sue Ellen.

The Somerset Women's county matches are still happening and the availability sheets continue to be put on the board outside the ladies changing rooms as they are always looking for interested players to join them.

Jenna & Charlie Scott [juniors] continue to join the ladies in their matches which is fantastic, we have such a brilliant pool of juniors coming through and we welcome those interested in playing with the ladies to come forward and work with us. Just come and have a chat with Me [Jenny Tibbs,] Emma, Ella, Julie, Carol or any of the squad. You can see our photos up on the board [rogues gallery] in the ladies changing room to check out who we are.

If you would like to support and watch the Somerset Women's finals then keep the 14th & 15th March free. Venue Taunton Deane bowls club.

I am stepping down as the BIBC ladies manager from September later this year, and I'm delighted Emma Price has agreed to take up the challenge. I will be continuing as the BIBC Somerset Rep and supporting Emma as much as I can. I'm sure you will all give her your full support.

Junior Section news – Thomasina Goodman

It was great to see that three (Brad Cox, Stanley James and Lydia Sheldrake) of the Somerset U25's who won their game against Devon (38-8) started their bowls life at BIBC Junior Section. – we're proud of you!!

Congratulations to all three and of course to the fourth member of the team - Harry Tinker!



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

Club captain Lorraine Paget

Torquay Tour 2026

On the 9th January Seventy BIBC members travelled to Torquay for three nights, staying at the TLH complex - the Toorak Hotel.

We had many members of different levels of bowling on tour with us, some new to bowling, some experienced bowlers and many that haven't joined us before.

The tour was a great success for BIBC; we played 10 games and won 8 so well done to all who took part. Commiserations go to those who were unfortunate (or lucky enough, depending on your point of view) to look after BIBC Ted for the evening – see the TV screen in the club for pictures of some of those who took on that responsibility, and thank you for taking part of the fun!

I would like to thank all the members who have kindly helped me by being Captain of the Day, as it meant I also could enjoy the weekend break.

Jane and I would like to thank you all for your kind collections much appreciated, and we hope that you all enjoyed your weekend.

Here's to 2027!

Lorraine & Jane



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

DBE and para notices – Emma Price

BIBC Members We Need You!

On Saturday 14 March 2026, Bristol Indoor Bowling Club will host something genuinely special — the first-ever EIBA Para Open Singles Circuit. This is a landmark event not just for our club, but for para bowls nationally, and we'd love your help to make it a success.

The draw is now live and the field is exceptional. We'll be welcoming some of the very best para bowlers in the country, including:

- Players selected for the International Series
- Commonwealth Games athletes and trialists
- Competitors from recent World Championships
- Bowlers travelling from across England, Wales and Scotland

This is a rare opportunity to see elite para bowls up close and to be part of an event that truly showcases what inclusive, high-performance sport can look like — especially with the Commonwealth Games approaching.

How You Can Help

We're looking for volunteers to support the smooth running of the day between 8:30am and 6:00pm.

To keep it manageable and flexible, we're asking people to offer one-hour sessions — if you can offer one or two hours, that would be fantastic.

Roles include:

- Markers
- Scoreboard operators
- Rink helpers (pushing bowls back, retrieving bowls from the ditch, helping games move along efficiently)

No specialist knowledge or experience is needed. These athletes have travelled the country — and the world — competing. Anyone who requires additional assistance will bring their own support (for example, visually impaired players will have Directors and will string their own rinks). What really matters is a friendly, helpful attitude and a smile.

Why It Matters

This competition will be run as two five-end sets (or one-hour matches) across eight rinks as an exciting new format designed around accessibility and performance. Sponsorship is secured, media interest is growing, and this event has the potential to transcend Bristol — showing the wider bowls world what's possible when inclusion is done properly.

By volunteering, you're not just helping on the day — you're helping create a moment for para sport.



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

If you're able to offer an hour (or two), please get in touch with Emma Price to let her know your availability. Or put your name up on the sign up sheet on the board outside the changing room.

Thank you in advance for supporting this historic first — and we hope you'll enjoy watching some outstanding bowls while you're at it.

Coaches Corner – Danny Kite – here to help you improve

Coaching continues to be available to all members, not just new joiners but anyone who wishes to improve their knowledge and/or skill level.

Just come along to the sessions on Wednesday and Friday.

If you wish some one-to-one coaching, let reception know or contact me directly and I will try to arrange this for you.

As in previous editions, I would like to make a point from observations I have made recently.

This month's tip concerns when a jack has been delivered incorrectly.

If team A delivers a foul jack, the skip of team B has two options.

First, he/she can simply place the jack correctly at any point on the centre line but the mat must remain in the position that team A placed it.

Second, if the team B skip is unhappy with the mat position he/she must send the jack back.

The mat can then be moved to the new, desired position and the jack will be cast by team B and centred if legal.

In the event that the delivery results in a second illegal jack, the jack must be placed correctly on the "T" and team A can move the mat to any legal position they choose and the end can be played.



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

Locker news – Locker Lyn

Please note when lockers become available, a notice will be attached to the vacant locker in the changing rooms.

Several members have requested a locker –there is a waiting list so please be patient and do check the lockers in your changing room for availability. Large lockers do not become available very often – if you have requested a large locker this will be allocated as and when one becomes available. Please do not pay for the hire of a locker until one is allocated to you.

.....

It has been noted that many of the spare keys to the lockers are missing. Please check with Reception if your locker's spare key is in the cupboard – if not and you are able. please get a spare key cut and claim reimbursement (on presentation of receipt) at Reception.

If you share a locker, the onus is on members to provide their own additional keys – not to remove the Club's spare key from the cupboard.

Many thanks Lyn

Have your say

We're always looking to improve, and your feedback truly helps shape the club. Whether it's a suggestion, a comment, or something you'd love to see included in the newsletter — your voice matters.

 **Email your thoughts to:**

bristolindoornews@gmail.com

 **Newsletter deadline:**

Please send any items by the 20th of each month for inclusion.

Stay connected:

www.bristolindoorbowls.org

Find us on **Facebook**

Email: bristolindoornews@gmail.com



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter February 2026

Club Jackets

During the last month, some members have suggested that we look at club jackets that reflect the club shirt design.

We're looking at that with Karuta, who supplied the current shirts, and hope to share some designs with you soon.

We're also hoping to have the option of long sleeved shirts available through the Karuta on line shop.

Join our Bar team

We are looking for enthusiastic people to join our bar staff team. This is a paid position with mainly weekend shifts, and additional hours available at other times.

No experience needed as full training will be given.

If you are interested or would like to know more please speak to Cheryl.