



Hatfield Bowls & Social Club

Monthly Newsletter

September 2021

General News

We hope everyone is well. Life without Covid restrictions!!

Our government's Covid restrictions are pretty much gone for the main part. Holidays abroad still require some thought about which countries to go to and what restrictions are in place on your return. Cruises out of one of the UK ports saves that aeroplane journey, which we all enjoy! There are some great trips around the UK and holidays in the UK until you are happy to fly abroad.

We are still suggesting that all our members still take precautions where necessary. That may mean still wearing a mask and keeping hands washed. Happy times are here again!!

It is our intention to still offer waiter / waitress service when we are having a function, so please use this when applicable.

It is still a requirement of our Club to sign in guests. This is part of our Club license regulations, guests must pay the 50p membership fee for their visit.

Our Club email address and phone number are:

enquiries@hatfieldbowlsclub.com

01707 264199

This is applicable for attending a function or just popping in for a drink or watching a bowls match.

The outdoor booking systems are running on the website for your own practice sessions, rink booking and also friendly club matches, as well as the organised social bowls under “availability sheets”.

Bar Opening Times

Summer Bar Opening Times from 21st June-30th September

	Lunch Time	Evening
Monday	12.00pm-1.30pm	6.00pm-9.00pm
Tuesday	Closed	6.00pm-9.00pm
Wednesday	Open only when there is a match.	6.00pm-9.00pm
Thursday	Closed	6.00pm-9.00pm
Friday	12.00pm-1.30pm	6.00pm-10.30pm
Saturday	12.00pm-6.30pm	Closed
Sunday	12.00pm-6.00pm	Closed

Upon request the bar can remain open until 11.30pm for Social and Private Functions.

Social Events

Saturday August 7th we saw the Moon Trekkers Band at our club and what great music they played. Everyone that attended really enjoyed the evening, dancing and singing along with songs we all remembered. It was a pity that more members could not make it that night.

Sue will be with us on 4th September, a charity night in memory of the wonderful Shena and in aid of the Isabel Hospice. Please come and exercise your vocals or strut your stuff! We want to pack the club to the rafters to raise as much money as we can. See you all then.

All donations for this event will be gratefully received, small or large. Please bring them to our club or let Martine / any committee member know. All monies raised will go to Isabel Hospice, thank you.

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Social events coming up:

Saturday September 4th (Sue and Friends) Starting at 7.30pm for 8.00pm. There will also be a raffle. Ticket prices will be £3.00 / person. All monies raised on the night will go to Isabel Hospice.

Saturday September 25th PYCR with Elvis and Michael

Saturday October 23rd Diane More (<https://dianemooresings.co.uk/>) singing songs from the 40's to present day, starting at 7.30pm for 8.00pm This is a ticket event costing £5.00 / person. There will also be a raffle.

Saturday November 20th Spencer as Buddy Holly, followed by rock'n roll so get up and dance. This is a ticket event costing £5.00 / person. There will also be a raffle.

PYCR Saturday 18th December. Christmas special. There will also be a raffle and some food.

New Years Eve, Sue and disco £10 including buffet. Always a great night

Dates For Your Diary

Saturday 4th September, 1pm for 2pm. Outdoor Bowls Annual General Meeting.

Sunday 26th September, 12:30pm for 1pm End of Season Luncheon and Presentation.

General

Darts

We have a darts league that plays on a Thursday evening at 8.30pm. Our team is called the Bowls Bees, we are looking for new members to be part of the team. The darts matches are mainly in Hatfield with a few matches in WGC. The fixture list is on the darts notice board at our club. The fixtures run from Thursday 2nd September to 21st April 2022.

Bridge Club

Bridge group has now restarted and we have been playing for a few weeks. We play on Mondays between 13.30 and 16.30. We are a group of players who enjoy playing social bridge. Recently we have been running 2 tables so there is space for more players to join us. We cater for players of all

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standards but do not teach the game from scratch. If you have played before and would like to play again, then please contact Geoff on Monday afternoon at the club, or leave a message with Shirley via the clubs email.

There will be an update when Fridays restart in the afternoon.

Bowls

Annual General Meeting (outdoor bowls)

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the Outdoor Bowls Committee will be held in the Clubhouse on: -

SATURDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2021 at 2:00pm

This will be preceded with a complimentary ploughman's lunch at 1:00pm for those that attend. To provide us with an indication of how many people to cater for, please write your name on the list on the club noticeboard.

Purpose of the meeting: -

1. To adopt the reports of officers with regard to the performance of the Club in 2021.
2. To adopt the report of the Greenkeeper.
3. Election of Officers for 2022.
4. Confirm affiliation to the EBA, HBA, HLBA, SADBA & SADLBA and agree which competitions the club will enter next year.
5. To accept items for discussion and vote on matters forwarded to the Secretary in advance of the meeting.

Members are invited to notify the Secretary in writing (text or email) of issues they wish to raise at the meeting. Changes to our handbook and outdoor rules can be voted upon at the meeting if they are received by the Secretary by **14th August 2021.**

Bowls news

Alison Hall and Mary Banks

The English National Bowls Finals held at Leamington Spa, where Mary Banks and Alison Hall represented Hertfordshire. Unfortunately they lost by 2 shots by two from Sussex. A great match supported by many from the club and county. Well done ladies and congratulations from all at our club.

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Top Club

Sadly our ladies lost in the top club on Sunday the 15th August.

All those that were there rallied behind them and it was wonderful to see so many turn out. If you arrived after the first few ends, a lot of chair shuffling had to be done to fit you into a space. Gradually smiles and polite claps of applause turned into much louder cries of "great bowl" and "come on ladies". Hopefully the players were aware of the warmth of our support.

Well done ladies to get as far as you did.

Congratulation from all our club.

Our Team



More great news - our Hatfield Ladies team are through to the South Area Finals on Saturday 4th September at 10am at Harpenden Bowls Club. When / if our ladies win, the County final will be on Sunday 19th September at Garston BC at 10 am. Good luck and great bowling ladies.

Outdoor Bowls: Hatfield Men are South Area winners and played the Inter Area Semi final but lost to the eventual winners Garston. The games were all very good.

Well played and congratulations to all our Men, Ladies and mixed teams that played in various competitions during the outdoor season.

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From the 1st August we welcome the return of our caterer Ian Carroll who will provide a two-course meal following all weekend friendly matches. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be served half-way through the match and the match fee will be £5.50. Please advise the Captain of all dietary requirements at least three days in advance.

A poster is now on the club noticeboard for members to reserve their places for this year's End of Season Prize Giving Luncheon to be held on Sunday 26th September. Family and friends are welcome. The menu is Roast Beef, Apple Pie & Custard, Cheese & Biscuits & Coffee @£11.50 per head. Please post your monies in the letterbox in the indoor green with the names of your guests. Please advise the Secretary (Ian Powell) of all dietary requirements at least a week in advance.

The men's outdoor roll up sessions are Mondays and Fridays starting at 12.00. To confirm your place to play, please text or email (text preferred) Ray Collins on 07970125556 / raymondcollins123@icloud.com

As a reminder to all, it is a club rule that jeans are not allowed on the bowling green during matches / friendly matches / roll up sessions or your own private roll ups. Please respect this club rule.

Potters

Potters October 2022 – If you are interested in going to Potters please see the notice on the notice board next to the changing rooms. This is a great week away for bowlers and non-bowlers.

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Members thoughts / anecdotes

Bowling General

SKIPPING AHEAD

I am writing this with a little trepidation, since I am still very new to the game. Over the Summer, I have participated in and observed several proper matches. How interesting to notice the very different approaches and styles used by the various skips of both our own and opposing teams.



This prompted me to have some useful conversations with our own skips and other bowlers about these differences. A key theme that has emerged is we could benefit from revisiting how we enthuse and energise our teams. You will all be aware that across the sporting spectrum, positive mental attitude is critical. You only need look at the recent headlines from the Olympics about the mental pressures. A skip can read the head and determine the strategy – the next challenge is to engage the team.

Here are some of the factors people shared that impact on our skipping capability:



- Unclear about expectations of the role
- Traditional role models
- Preference for a low-key approach
- Providing clear instructions
- Listening to team members
- Positive framing of feedback
- Managing own emotions

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I have started some initial enquiries about providing coaching for our Hatfield skips. Whether a seasoned skip who recognises the value of refreshing their approach or, someone who is new to the role of skip, please can you contact Sue to let her know if you are willing to participate (sue.mayhew@qa.com or text 07986 454 018). **Thank you Sue.**

Indoor Bowls News September 2021

Hi everyone, I hope that this letter finds you in good health and ready for our new indoor season of bowling.

We have a full programme of friendly and competitive matches, with our leagues and Club competitions making it a busy Winter.

Open morning is Friday 10th September from 10.00 till 13.00

Please come along and sign in for:

1. Your membership, the fee for this new indoor season is £85 you can pay by cash, cheque, or by bank transfer. The details are: "Hatfield Bowls Club" Sort code 20-92-54 Acc: 40455024
2. Club Matches
3. County Matches
4. Club Competitions
5. Club Leagues
6. The Club are having the carpet stretched and put back to 4 rinks on Thursday 2nd September
7. We also have vacancies for both Ladies & Gents committees & Captains
8. Most importantly we need more offers for both Ladies and Gents Captains for weekend and weekday matches. **
9. This season we will be arranging coaching courses, details of which will be announced later during the season.
10. NEW Members are essential to keep the numbers suitable for running all the events, so please encourage friends, relations etc to come along, to help with this we can consider an "open" morning for the public to "come along" and try their hand at Bowls.
11. The fixtures book is in hand, we hope that it will be ready for the 10th, but please bear with us if we miss out by a few days.

The rink booking system will revert back to the manual book kept in the indoor green. (Brian, chair of indoor committee)

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Men's Indoor Roll Up

Men's indoor roll up starts on Monday 4th October 2021.

Times:

Monday's 1.00pm – 3.00pm

Friday's 1.00pm – 3.30pm

Times could change subject to matches being played. All men are welcome to play especially new members. Should you wish to play indoors before the 4th October you are welcome to do so.

Bowls England

Bowls England is delighted to unveil its new strategy, '**Fit For The Future**', which frames an exciting course for our sport. The five-year plan has been designed with the ultimate goal of getting more people playing & enjoying bowls.

Confirmed by the Board earlier this month, it sets out our vision for the sport, how we plan to achieve our objectives and what success looks like in 2026.

The priorities that will get us to the target of 1 million bowls experiences per year are:

- **Building the brand of bowls** by increasing focus on international & top domestic bowls, and utilizing opportunities such as Birmingham 2022 to achieve larger media coverage;
- **Ensuring the sport is truly accessible to all** by offering different formats of the game which suit all time constraints, as well as driving more people to clubs in new ways;
- **Creating positive playing experiences for everyone** who steps on the green, both for casual and competitive players, as well as growing our events calendar and introducing a Performance Pathway;
- **Putting volunteers first**, as the lifeblood of our sport, by increasing our support for clubs in order to empower them to thrive;

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- **Leading the sport with purpose** by developing our Governance structures, diversifying our revenue streams, and work collaboratively with all the sport's key stakeholders.

Chief Executive, **Jon Cockcroft**, said, "I am thrilled to be able to unveil our new strategy on Day One of our National Finals in Royal Leamington Spa, the home of English bowls.

"With the world constantly changing, it is important bowls continues to evolve too. This strategy has been designed against the backdrop of COVID, but also in the face of a stark reality for our sport; 150,000 players 20 years ago has become 80,000 today.

"We know, however, the incredible qualities our sport has; it is doable, vitalizing, sociable and mesmerizing. Any person, regardless of background, postcode, physicality or bank balance can enjoy bowls.

"Our ultimate goal is, through this strategy, to see 1m people a year playing bowls at one of our incredible 2,000 clubs across the country by 2026."

Chairman, **David Tucker**, said, "The main aim of our new strategy is to get people playing our sport. Participation is at the heart of everything we do and all actions our team undertakes will be determined by whether they increase participation.

"Like so many, we care deeply about our sport and are looking forward to working with everyone across the country to ensure it is Fit for the Future."

The full strategy document is available on our website. We will also have a number of printed copies available to collect from our stand at the Bowls England National Finals, running from today to Sunday 5th September in Royal Leamington Spa.

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Allotment News

Cliff Batts allotment.



All are welcome down the allotment to help out with weeding etc. Any help is always very much appreciated.

Produce can be found in the club house on the table next to the dart boards.

Happy growing!

General

I hope you all found something of interest in the September edition. If there are any thoughts or issues that you would like incorporated into the monthly newsletter please let me or a committee member know.

Richard Collett

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