

News from the chair May 2020

Hi everyone.

The outdoor greens are now open and currently all full members of the club can use them provided they remember to pre book rinks with Sam. If you are new to outdoor bowling, ask Sam if he can arrange for someone to give you some help and advice on the game.

We have yet to receive details of the Covid regulations that we will be required to follow indoors when we open, but it does look as though we will be able to allow you access to use your lockers but not able to use the changing rooms due to difficulties with social distancing in the small area. Looking on the bright side at least you will not have to keep carrying your bowls etc. to and from home! We intend to set up a changing area in the function room similar to the pre lockdown arrangements.

Providing the government give the go ahead, we are preparing to open the indoor rinks from Tuesday May 18th, starting with a pre- booked roll up at 2pm on that day followed by a league match in the evening. Please contact Maurice or Keith to put your name down for any roll up session.

During the Summer season we will be running 3 leagues and individual members will be able to book any spare rinks during those sessions.

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer rinks for individual booking at any other time because we need to have stewards in attendance, however if there is enough demand for sessions at any other time, we will investigate running them for members. Please let us know!

Initially we are offering pre-booked roll-ups on 4 sessions a week, Tuesday 2pm, Friday 9.30am, Saturday 10am and Sunday at 2pm, Covid rules require all sessions to be pre-booked!

Hopefully, this time we will be able to continue running without any more lockdowns and if restrictions allow, we can start looking at holding meetings both official (Committee, directors, AGM) and social whilst also enjoying our sport.

Members please be assured that once we can get back to some form of normal the directors and committee will be officially looking at current and future membership. I have put forward some proposals that will mean that you will not lose out financially over the last periods of lockdown.

If you did not renew in September last year you can still renew for £30 and if my proposals are accepted, you will not be losing out. If for some reason my proposal is modified to your disadvantage, please be assured that I will argue your case.

Currently we have arranged that all full members are able to bowl both indoors and outdoors without paying separate membership fees, as happened previously.

The aim is to encourage all bowlers to try both indoor and outdoor bowls and enjoy bowls in whatever way they wish in our club without having to pay separate membership fees.

Our club is in the same position as many bowls' clubs nationwide in that our membership is gradually falling and we need to somehow encourage more people and in particular younger

generations into the sport, if you have any ideas of how we can do so please let any of the committee or directors know your ideas.

Lockers

When you go to your lockers you will possibly notice that they have been cleaned up (only on the outside) and have new name labels on them, if yours is blank or incorrect please correct it and we will provide a corrected label and update the locker rental records.

If you wish to use your locker and did not pay for your it in September you will need to pay your locker fee now or you should return your key, please ensure that your name and locker number is with the key.

Access cards

Please note that Club access cards have been deactivated for all non-members, if you find that yours does not work, please come to the office so that we can investigate.

BOCCIA

We have just heard that BOCCIA will be returning soon after we open, and I am sure that you all will be pleased to welcome them back and see them enjoying their sport. We will be having discussions with their organisers to decide how to arrange the club so that all users can follow Covid rules.

Summer Leagues

Apologies to team captains of the Summer league teams for possible confusion with the fixture lists sent out. The system played havoc with us firstly by attaching the wrong files to emails and appearing not to send emails out at all.

Eventually Maurice and I decided to extract the PDF files and Maurice would then send them out himself.

I have just been told that this afternoon (Thursday) the system has decided to also send out some files despite there being none in the draft or outbox earlier today.

Please use those that Maurice sent out direct to you.

Look forward to seeing you soon now

Keith Mansbridge (chair)