

NEWSLETTER

November 2023



Hello Everyone

Management Committee Update

Many of you will be wondering about the progress being made to agree the Lease with Gedling Borough Council and I am pleased to say that we continue to make really good progress. The final draft was sent across last Friday and we are now reviewing the additional changes we asked for with a view to sending it back in the next few days.

Overall, we are relatively happy with most of the changes made and most of what we have asked for has been accepted. The final piece is to agree the rent from 1 April 2024 and as anticipated the Council has submitted a figure which represents a significant increase for us. However, we are currently working with the Council to review their assessment of the rent and how they have arrived at that value and will strive to achieve the best possible position for the Club that we can.

In the meantime, please keep bowling, encourage friends and family to come on down and have a go and keep the rinks full.

Bowls Committee Update

We have a new addition to the Bowls Committee in the form of Adam Fuller as our new Men's Vice Captain. Welcome to the team Adam.

Unfortunately, Jim Hartshorn is taking a step back from committee duties due to personal commitments, but has agreed to still look after the brilliant new website he has created. Jim has done a superb job for us all and we thank him most sincerely for all the time and effort he has put into this role.

Our current Competition Secretary, David King Taylor is also unable to continue in his role as he is having a shoulder operation in the very near future and is therefore forced to take a break from his duties. We all wish you a speedy recovery David and hope that it will not be too long a recovery process for you.

Margaret Smith is taking over the role on a temporary basis and will be assisted by John Allen and other members of the Bowls Committee.

National Competitions

What a great season we are having at Gedling, through to the third round in both the Denny and Yetton Plates. The next round for these competitions is 9 December at 10.00 am. The men play Erewash and the ladies are against Sleaford, two rinks at home and two rinks away. Your support once more would be really appreciated especially if we get through this round as we are then in the Regional Finals. We also have members playing in National competitions throughout the coming weeks. The white board at the bottom end of the green will show when home games are taking place.

If the competitors taking part in these nationals would like to keep us updated with their results, we will make these available on the website.

Once more we would like to congratulate Adam Fuller on his England U25 Trial taking place in December. The club is 100% behind you Adam.

Safeguarding

In the last newsletter we introduced our new Safeguarding Officers, Eddie and Julie Jones. Below you will find an article written by them to tell you all about themselves.

Hello Everyone

We have been invited by Gedling Indoor Bowls Club to become Voluntary Safeguarding Officers. Firstly, we would like to introduce ourselves: -



Eddie Jones
Retired Joinery Tutor



Health & Safety Advisor for
the NHS

We started playing bowls just under two years ago after Eddie was due to retire on health grounds. Having worked most of his life, I was concerned his mental health would be affected and bowls was always something that had interested him. A few months later he asked me to try it out and the rest is history, here we are meeting some fantastic people who all have an interest in bowls, people from varied backgrounds, each with a story to tell.

Both Eddie and myself have worked with people from all walks of life and our roles have had similar patterns of supporting others, Eddie working with vulnerable young people and adults and supporting them into the world of work. Myself, aside from my day job, I also undertake voluntary roles in the NHS including being Co-Chair of the Disabled Staff Network and an Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Ambassador. We take on these roles because we want to support people, having both had personal experience of Mental Health issues as well as several long-term conditions.

England Indoor Bowls Association are recommending clubs in England have named safeguarding officers in place and this is how we came to be invited to take on the role given our previous work backgrounds and experiences.

It is important to me and Eddie that people are treated with civility and respect, and when this is not the case, they have the means to raise their concerns so that they can be dealt with, very often on an informal basis.

It is important that all members behave in a manner that is respectful and not offensive to others, we all have struggles from time to time, so being there to support each other and being civil to one another is important, we all want to enjoy the game. We can never fully know or understand what other people are going through, a wrong word or comment can have a huge impact for a person who is already struggling.

The role of the Safeguarding Officers is to provide support to fellow bowls players and where necessary signpost to other support mechanisms, so if you are just wanting a chat when you are not feeling great, or concerned about a fellow player or yourself, please feel free to speak to one of us.

Halloween/Bonfire Night Bowls Drive

The Bowls Drive which took place on 5 November was a huge success with lots of you asking when the next one will be. The buffet was much appreciated after the bowling and thanks go to June Newham and Jane Parnham for providing the majority of this. Thanks also go to Dave Hill and his helpers for his organisation of the event and for Pam Moore and David West for the running of the bowls drive side of things.

Many congratulations to Chris and Pete Dale for winning the event.

Christmas Super Bowls Drive

The Christmas event will take place on Sunday 17 December. Bowling will take place once again between 12 and 2.30 pm with a Christmas buffet and raffle afterwards. All for £7.

For those that fancy dressing up there will be a price for the best outfit. Also there will be spot prizes during the bowling. Any raffle prizes donated would be very much appreciated.

Club Competitions

We have had an encouraging response, to date, in terms of entries, but we could still do with a few more. The closing date has been extended to 30 November so please have a look at the list of competitions available to enter that is displayed to the right of the stage and have a go even if you only enter one it will give you a different experience from league bowling. Come on have a go.

You have all made this season a huge success so far, please keep up the good work in supporting the Club, be it through leagues, casual play, competitions or turning up to support the players in national competitions. We appreciate it all.

Best wishes

Kath Smith

Carole Andrews