

NEWSLETTER

July 2025



Gedling and District
Indoor Bowls Club

Hello Everyone

We hope that those of you bowling outdoors are enjoying the glorious weather and not getting too sun burnt.

Campaign Update: Thank You - and Let's Keep the Momentum Going!

We want to start by saying a **huge thank you** to everyone who took part in the recent **Leisure Services Consultation**. The turnout and level of response was absolutely fantastic — a true reflection of how much our **Indoor Bowling Centre** means to all of us.



Your voices were heard loud and clear — and we want to be equally clear with you:

THIS IS NOT A DONE DEAL.

We remain **positive and focused**. There is still everything to play for. In the meantime, one of the most powerful things you can do is keep **USING THE CLUB**. Keep bowling, keep the community spirit strong, and keep showing why our facility is so important.



CAMPAIGN GROUP FORMED

We are pleased to let you know that we have now formed a **Campaign Group**, which has already held its **first meeting** with Club members. If you would like to be involved, we would love to hear from you — please contact **Sharon in the office**, and we will be in touch.

We are also very grateful to now have the support of a **formal Advisor from outside the Club** who is guiding us on the best strategies to help **Save the Centre** and **protect the future of our Bowls Club**.



Support Is Growing

We are not alone in this fight. We have already received offers of help and support from **numerous organisations**, and the **wider local community** continues to stand with us. That support is invaluable — and growing by the day.



Want to Make Your Voice Heard?

If you haven't already, we encourage you to **formally share your views** with the Council. You can do this in one of two ways:

- Email **Tom Fletcher** (Gedling Borough Council):
tom.fletcher@gedling.gov.uk OR
- send your message to us and we will pass it on:
gedling.bowls@btconnect.com

Questions can also be directed to either address — we are happy to help or advise. We understand that they are accepting email questions and letters until 18th July 2025.

The first step you can all take to help is **STOP THE RUMOURS FROM SPREADING**. We have a lease until the end of **APRIL 2026** and in order for you to help us succeed in our Campaign please don't walk away. We still need you to show GBC that as far as Gedling Indoor Bowls is concerned, we are a club with **SPIRIT** and **DETERMINATION** and certainly worth fighting for.



LET'S KEEP GOING

We are absolutely determined not to give up without a fight. Your support matters more than ever — on the rinks, in the community, and in standing up for what this club represents.

Thank you for being a part of this. We can also confirm that we are aiming to provide you separate updates on a regular basis from the Campaign Group, through our Bowlr system, to keep you up to date with progress and current steps being taken.

LEAGUES 2025-26

We have made a good start with the leagues, but as they are a huge part of our income we are always looking for more teams to enter as one or two of the winter leagues are quite short on numbers.

If you were a member of a team that has not been entered for the coming season as there is no one to run the team then please contact a member of the committee. We have committee members who are willing to run a team as a non-playing captain so please do not be afraid to ask. Sharon our Office Admin Assistant will always pass on your information.

We could do with more teams in the following leagues, if possible, please,

Monday 4.30 pm Open Pairs	Another 2 teams would be amazing
Monday 6.30 pm Trips	
Tuesday 6.30 pm Fours	Another 2 teams would save this league
Wednesday 2.30 pm Aussie Pairs	One more team would put this league back to two divisions
Thursday 6.30 pm Trips	Another 2 teams would be amazing

If there is any other league that you would like to be a part of there is still time to enter a team, or in fact if there is any league you feel you would like to play in, as an individual, I am sure we can help.

We cannot stress enough the importance of these leagues continuing.

CLUB COMPETITIONS

For this coming season we have a new Joint Competition Secretary. Peter Holyk and Tony Mitchell stepped forward after the Club AGM and volunteered to fill the vacant position. They have some great new ideas to put forward before next season and we will update you fully on this in our next Newsletter.



AVAILABILITY FOR ALL CLUB AND NATIONAL MATCHES

Our newly installed Bowlr system has the facility for all these forms to be viewed and completed online. The paper ones can still be accessed on the Club Notice Boards, but for those not able to visit the club at certain times they will make it easier for you to see when any events are taking place and to put your name down for anything you may be interested in.



LADIES SECTION

For information, due to the fact there were no volunteers to take on the vacant roles of Ladies Captain and Vice-Captain, Kath and Carole have agreed to stay on to ensure the ladies matches go ahead.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

7 Sept Open Day - We are planning another open day at the start of the season to try and attract more members and will be looking for help in running the day. Please speak to a member of the bowls committee if you would like to volunteer to help. This was very successful last year and brought in quite a few new members which we hope to repeat.

4 October Ladies v Gents match - A good opportunity to battle it out for bragging rights!!



HOT WEATHER

Please ensure if the side doors are opened during this hot spell that they are closed when the session is finished. The managers say that if they are not closed after use, we will not be allowed to open them at all in future.

NOTE, the only doors that can be opened are the ones on the left-hand side of the green NOT the ones on the road side.

SUPPORT THE CLUB - DONATIONS AND GIFT AID

Last year we had a wonderful response to our request for your help and the Management Committee would like to remind members that **donations are still very much welcome.**

There is **no obligation or pressure** to give, and you can choose to:

- Make a **one-off donation**, or
 - Continue to **spread your donation over future years**,
 - Continue with your pledges from last year
- (You are free to stop future donations at any time if you change your mind.)

Donation and Gift Aid forms are available in the carousel, near the ladies changing room at the Bowls Centre, online on the website (just click on 'Forms') or from Sharon in the admin office.

Completed forms should be returned in a sealed envelope and posted into our **post box** on the wall at the end of Rink 1.

FANTASTIC FIVES

This is a national competition run by the EIBA during the summer. GIBC did very well last year getting through to the Area Final. We have also entered a team this year and in the early stages are currently top of Group 2.

NEW JACKS HAVE LANDED!

We're delighted to let all our members know that **we have purchased six brand new jacks** to replace the chipped and tired ones currently in circulation.

A big thank you to everyone who raised the issue - we've listened, acted, and now we're all set with shiny new jacks ready to roll just in time for the upcoming winter season.

Let's hope they stay as **pristine** as the day they arrived!!

Happy bowling, everyone!

100 CLUB - NOW BIGGER THAN EVER!

Great news, bowlers!

Following a brilliant rise in both club membership and the number of **enquiries for 100 Club numbers**, we are excited to announce that this year's 100 Club will now become the **120 Club**!

That's right - **more numbers, more chances to win**, and even more funds raised to support the club.

So, roll up, roll up - don't miss your chance to grab your lucky number(s)! You can **book directly with Sharon in the Office and pay by Bank Transfer or cheque**, either:

- **Before the September joining meeting, or**
- **At the Club Management AGM in September**

Remember - someone's got to win, and it might just be you! Let's make this our biggest year yet.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - SEPTEMBER 2025

As most of you will know, **membership renewals** are due **1 September 2025**, and we'd like to confirm that the annual fee this year will be **£55.00**. We're also pleased to say that **rink fees will remain unchanged**.

We've had a few enquiries about whether, given that our **lease currently runs until 30th April 2026**, the club will only be charging for eight months instead of a full 12. The answer is simple: **NO - because we fully intend to still be bowling long after April 2026!**

That said, we want to be fair to everyone. So, if circumstances change and the club is unable to continue beyond the lease date, **members will be refunded four months of their subscription**, ensuring no one is out of pocket.

FINAL POINT

Please be assured that **no final decision has been made by the Council**. While some of the language being used may suggest otherwise, **we are not down and out** — not by a long way. Our campaign continues with **STRENGTH** and **DETERMINATION**.

So, let's keep looking forward, keep planning for the future, and keep bowling as a central part of life at the **Richard Herrod Centre**.

Looking forward to seeing you all very soon.

Kath Smith
Carole Andrews