



MELTON & DISTRICT INDOOR BOWLS CLUB LTD

Bowling Green, Leicester Road, Melton Mowbray, LE13 0LR



Newsletter – November 2021

Message to Our Bowlers

The Club is starting to get busier. **Remember to bring your Membership card and rink tokens – it makes checking in so much easier.** Please remember;

Please do not go to your rink or rink tables and chairs before the previous session has finished their game. Please stay in the Bar Lounge until your rink is completely clear.

Similarly, please move away from your rink as soon as possible after your game has finished, if you want to stay for a chat please move into the Bar Lounge. Please take all glasses and used crockery back to the Bar.

Please remember, stick chalk should no longer be used to mark touchers at the Club. And licking your chalk is definitely something we do not want to see. Use spray chalk! (Available from the bar.)

We are asking you not to turn up to swipe in before 09.00 as it is quite difficult to complete our cleaning routines when members are in the building. The bar will not be able to serve drinks before 09.30, as the bar staff are now having to collect and reconcile rink fees before resuming bar duties.

DID YOU KNOW? If you book a rink and don't turn up to play – you could be fined £10 – for denying other players the chance to play. Please ring the Bar as soon as you know that you no longer need the rink to cancel your booking.

Winter Leagues

From November 1st one rink is reserved for Competition matches on weekday evenings. Occasionally, this requires a league match to be moved to a different rink. Scorecards will always have the correct rink to be used, but there may be changes from your original planners. This will not affect which team is at home and which is away.



Tokens

We are asking you to buy and use rink tokens for all League and competition matches – and they can be used for any session payment. The Bar sells the rink tokens in packs of five for £15.

Changing Rooms

The Changing rooms are back in use, and access is control by the membership card swipe locks. Please note we may ask you not to use the Changing rooms when there is a home match in progress, or limit the times that you can enter, as we may offer the away team first use of the facilities. We may try to arrange alternative facilities for the Home players' bags and coats – e.g. perhaps the Committee Room.

The Mal Williams Trophy Event

On Sunday, 17 October the Club played a memorial tournament for Mal Williams, who passed away suddenly on 7 February this year. His widow, Joan, had donated a handsome glass trophy for the winners of what is hoped will become a regular feature in the Club's calendar. It was a great tribute to Mal that over 70 members and family spent a fun afternoon at the event, which closed with a buffet for all present again donated by Joan Williams. Players all wore shirts in the colours of the Welsh flag and played for teams named after South Wales' towns in tribute to Mal's proud Welsh heritage. It was a real pleasure that Mal's brother David was able to travel to Melton to take part in one of the teams, and his sons Matthew and Glen were able to present the prizes. Our hope is that they enjoyed the day as much as we did, and Joan can add this to her happier memories of Mal and the Club.



The tournament featured 16 teams of four players (picked to be of evenly balanced ability) playing four 5-end rounds in the course of the afternoon. There were some good tight, games and three captain's extra end shoot-offs were required. The winners of the trophy were Gail Staples, Ken Renshaw, Rose Barton and Dave Hudson, and the runners-up were Steve Kent, Chris Fleckney, Beryl Birch and Barry Pelos. An award also went to the B-Final winners Lesley Elsom, Alistair Wright, Cheryl Rawle and Fred Thorpe. Somebody has to come last, and garden leeks were presented to Hazel Armstrong, Martin Warner, Eva Radford and Laurie Pugh.

Well done to all those who took part and made this a fitting tribute to a man who had become one of our most valued players, the biggest smiling face and friend-to-all in the recent years. (More pictures now on the website.)



Our Bar won an award

Our bar won the Melton Mowbray CAMRA '2020 Club Bar of the Year', but things being what they were we have only just received the certificate. We would like to think that the friendliness of our staff contributed to the overall score achieved – not just a decent pint. Let's all enjoy it a bit more and spend a little bit more time sampling the delights offered.

Help us to stay safe and open

It looks as though this Winter is going to be difficult with restrictions staying with us. It would not be a surprise if we don't see the face mask on entry make a return. If you are asked to take a Covid Test, please remember that you should not mix socially until you have received a negative result. **You should not enter the Club before you have been notified that your test was negative.**

If you feel that the rinks are becoming 'stuffy' please report your concerns to the member of Bar Staff on duty as we try to maintain good air movement in all areas.



Do not travel to or enter the Club if -

- You or any member of your household have had any COVID-19 symptoms in the last 24 hours (with or without positive test).
- You have been abroad to a "quarantine required" country within previous 14 days
- You have visited a UK area in "Local Lockdown" within the previous 14 days
- You are a known contact of a person who has activated "Test, Track & Trace"

Ladies' Coaching

Back by popular demand, there will be another season of coaching for Ladies of all abilities. These are led by Erica and Mark Warrington, and are designed to brush up your skills and deal with any delivery problems you may think you have. The first session was Thursday, 21 October and 11 ladies took part. The feedback has been very encouraging – the next session will be at lunchtime on Tuesday 30 November - for all future sessions see the Ladies noticeboard for details. Sign up and enjoy.

Men's Coaching

Not to be outdone, there were several requests for Men's coaching to be introduced. The first session, led by Gary Kilbourne, was held on 23 October. Just five men turned up, so coaching was almost on a one-to-one basis. We have heard since this event that more men are now wanting to attend the planned late November/early December session.

Ian White's Funeral

Ian's family have requested that we pass on their sincere appreciation to all the bowlers past and present from both the Howell Sports Bowls Club and the Melton & District Indoor Bowls Club who attended Ian's funeral on the 20th October, and in particular the formation of the Guard of Honour which brought them so much comfort.

Winter Competitions Rounds

Your entry forms should have been in by now. Please ensure that you remember the rules about arranging fixtures – unsure – check the rules on the Competition noticeboard. The dates for the rounds are as follows;

Round 1	01 Nov to 28 Nov
Round 2	29 Nov to 02 Jan 22
Qtr Finals	03 Jan to 23 Jan
Semis	24 Jan to 13 Feb
Finals	14 Feb to 06 Mar

Barwell & Lincs VP's Successes

Pat Wright took a team of 18 Melton players (and 2 guests) and travelled to Barwell on Sunday, 24 October, to play Melton's first friendly away match since lockdown. They were welcomed by Roger Percival, the Barwell Captain, and both sides had teams of triples over six rinks, playing in greys. Melton won the day with an overall score of 112 shots to Barwell's 92, having 4 winning rinks to Barwell's 2 rinks. Pat Wright presented Melton's winning rink (consisting of Rose Barton, Kate Toon, with Skip Jenny McConnell) with some President's pens, and thanked all concerned.

Melton played the Lincolnshire Vice Presidents Assc. at Melton, on Sunday 31 October. Melton had the overall winning score with 102 shots to the Lincs V.P's 85. It was an evenly balanced game with 3 winning rinks on both sides. During the meal, Melton's Captain Pat Wright congratulated guest, Arthur Broadberry on his achievement of becoming a Golden Lincoln Imp, and presented the winning team of Bettine Broadberry, Glen Robertson, Barbara Preston and skip Jenny McConnell, with President's pens. The Lincs VP's Captain, Dudley Davonport expressed his team's continuing pleasure at each time they came to play at Melton, and suggested another match (perhaps in early Summer 22 if Melton could find a free date). Thanks we're extended to the Restaurant and Bar for excellent service.

Future Friendly Matches – watch the Gala Noticeboard for details

The signing-up sheets for the following Friendlies (not all with following meals) will be going up on the Gala noticeboard from late October onwards;

- 7 November – home – 6 Rinks (Triples) – Charnwood – Greys**
- 14 November - away - 6 Rinks - Spalding – Whites/Greys tbc**
- 21 November – home – 6 Rinks – Notts HVPs – Triples – Greys**
- 28 November – home – 6 rinks – Grantham – Triples - Greys**

Junior Section Report - Under 18 National Final

Sunday, 3 October saw three Melton Juniors making the trip to Nottingham for the postponed 2019/2020 National Finals. Taking part in the under 18 County Double Triples semi-final, were Isabelle Pymm, Max Magee and Alexander Warrington along with fellow teammates Alice Atkin, Ellie Dawson, Kieran Chambers and travelling reserve Joshua Toon

who found themselves facing a formidable team from Kent which included England players Joshua Austin and Olivia Moulton.

A tentative start was made on both rinks leaving them level pegging after three ends. Unfortunately the next few ends saw a gap in the overall score appearing between the teams despite some absolutely excellent bowling of which we have not necessarily seen by these junior bowlers before, which left them nine shots behind at the halfway stage. Combined with a few extremely close measured ends, none of which went Leicestershire's way, it seemed the chance of a place in the final was slipping away.

Holding their heads high they battled on and despite falling further behind for a time, they went into the last two ends still with the hope they could cross the line the victors. Alas, the luck was still against them.

Final Score Leicestershire 33 – 41 Kent. Kent went onto to claim the title over the previous season's winners Somerset.

Other National Competition News - EIBA Over-50's Finals

The finals were supposed to be played in April 2020 but were cancelled due to the pandemic. They were re arranged for April 2021 this year but again had to be cancelled until 5 October 2021. The Melton & District Indoor bowls team consisting of Peter White, Mark Warrington and John Robinson defeated a team from Grantham in the area final winning comfortably by 21 shots to 9 putting them through into the last 16 to be played at Nottingham. In the first round the Melton team took on a Team from North Wiltshire winning comfortably by 18 to 11 putting them into the quarter finals.

In the quarter finals the Melton team were up against stiff competition taking on a team from Egham. With things not going their way being 13 to 1 down in the first few ends then 16 to 5 down they made a valiant fight back to come within two shots being only 16 to 14 down. The team from Egham then took 2 shots on the next end and further points in the last few ends to eventually beat the Melton team by 20 to 14.

Men's Over-60's League

Melton A have played 2 away games at Barwell & Carlton losing both very narrowly, however our 1 home game vs Market Harborough resulted in our first win.

Volunteers still required



Please step forward to offer your services as a Fixtures Secretary. Do you have an eye for detail, have decent computer skills and are happy to talk to people?

There is still a post to be filled on the BMEC - the **Captains Representative**. Any Club Captain or Selector may apply for this role.

Pat Wright will be able to supply a job description for the role to any interested members.

Selling Bowls

We are still being asked about whether we have second-hand bowls for sale. Did you know that there is a worldwide issue with the supply of the raw material to make new black bowls? Deliveries of up to six months have been quoted recently. Our current stock of donated bowls is low. Why let those old sets sit in the cupboard under the stairs? Sets of four within date can easily fetch £80-£100, and older sets of popular Indoor bias bowls in good condition sell for around £50. If you are happy to donate the bowls to the Club the money will be used to support our improvement of Disability, Junior and coaching equipment. Sizes 0 to 3 are in demand, but any bowls larger than size 4 do not sell - sorry. If you want to sell privately, you can arrange with the Office to have a sales card put on the lobby noticeboard.

Bring a Friend

This is a scheme to reward our Members who bring a friend or relative to the Club, who then go on to join as a full member.

The friend or relative may be an experienced bowler or somebody new-to-bowls. It is recommended that, whatever the skill level of the 'friend', a short, initial meeting is arranged with either a Club Coach or a member of the Mission 650 Team so that we answer any questions they may have about getting more involved in our Club's activities. For those new-to-bowls, we will explain the further offer made by Mission 650 to give them 3 free coaching sessions and a month's free temporary membership whilst they decide whether to progress to full membership. If the 'friend' does join MDIBC as a full member then, as a thankyou to the existing member who made the introduction, the Office will issue them with four rink tokens.



Sad News

We have been notified of two more deaths within our bowls community. Donald (Don) Tempest, the widower of our one-time Company Secretary and Director Margaret, passed away on 19 October 2021. Our thoughts are with all of his family. As yet we have no details of the funeral arrangements on 8 November.

We also hear that Peggy Thornton died on 20 October 2021 at the Egerton Lodge Residential Home. Her funeral will be at Grantham Crematorium on 5 November. Once again, our thoughts are with the whole family.

When you need to buy new bowls equipment – remember to use the deal on Club discounts by showing your membership Card at your local bowls shop.

If you know of a Club Member who does not have access to the internet, please ring them and tell them about the items in this Newsletter.



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