



THE AIBC TIMES

EDITION 7 – September 2017

Welcome once again to a new season of indoor bowling at the Ashford Indoor Bowls Centre and the seventh edition of our newsletter.

We would like to produce this at least twice a year, if not more often if there is news to spread to club members. We would like to hear from you if you have any articles to publish or have requests for content.

Please contact David White on david@david-j-white.com with suggestions.

HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE

The following is an update from Ashley White your Bowls Centre director with responsibility for Health & Safety for the centre and all its members.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for supporting me in my role as health and safety director over the past year.

I am happy to report that we have not had any major issues in this time.

We have trained four club members, John Oliver, Heather Taylor, Peter Bright and Zahra White, as emergency first aiders.

Roy Attree is also a qualified first aider and has agreed to have his name added to the list of club first aiders. If you are qualified and would like to be recorded as a first aider within the club, please let me know.

Without warning we carried out an emergency evacuation of the building in August, I am very pleased to say that the building was declared by the steward to be safely empty in 92 seconds.

I would like to ask you all to familiarise yourself with fire exits in the building and with the emergency evacuation procedure.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable and safe season bowling.

Ashley.

Rink availability on Saturdays

All members please be aware of the rules issued by the England Indoor Bowls Association regarding national competitions that this club has entered as usual.

These are: Denny Cup/Plate (men)
Yetton Cup/Plate (ladies)

All rounds of games are to be played on Saturdays starting in October. Depending on how well the teams perform will determine how many Saturdays are taken for these games.

The club apologises to those members, adult and junior, who may be affected by this decision and has advised the EIBA of our disappointment in their lack of flexibility.

Notices will be posted to keep you informed of the situation

Bar Report 2016/17

The bar has seen many changes over the past year, the most significant of which was the removal of draught beers. This has reduced both our wastage and our costs of keeping the cellar room cold. All the associated pipes and air conditioning units have been dismantled and disposed of. We have also had installed 4 new fridges, a new glass washer and a new ice maker.

The summer season is much less busy than the winter season of course but we do now need to start planning for the coming busy period. Although we have a core group of people supporting us we could always cope with more volunteers, so if you could spare a few hours a month to help us staff the bar (training provided) then please contact us.

So a big thank you to all of our helpers over the past year and of course many thanks to all of you for using the bar during the year.

Cheers

Debbi & Michael

A poem from our resident laureate - Ken Hurran ODD ODE TO THE OLYMPICS - (with apologies to Rudyard Kipling)

If you can swim and you can run
And ride a bicycle made for one
For miles and miles and think it`s fun
Then you should try triathalon

If jumping for length is your strength
Or if you desire to jump even higher
Or if with a pole you wish to vault
Though this may seem daft it`s not your fault
For others before you have struggled and striven
Perhaps by the lure of gold medals driven

If when shots are putt and hammers tossed
Punches thrown and tempers lost
If you can run and not get bossed
Until the winning line you`ve crossed
Then you`ll deserve the accolade
For all the efforts you have made

If you can rise to the challenge the Olympic Games offers
And work for four years and not swell your coffers
Rewards you will get but it`s certainly true
You can`t have your kayak and heat it too

So, if you can swim and you can run
And ride a bicycle made for one
For miles and miles and think it`s fun
An Olympian you can be my son

P S

If in the middle you really must poo
The marathon`s the race for you
And since the Olympics is run by old farts
It seems only right it should include darts

Bowls Centre Finances

“Money, money, money, it`s a rich man`s world” says the song and so it is but we are trying to make our bit of it affordable to everyone. So I was pleased to be able to recommend to my fellow directors that despite prices rising for just about everything, fees for the coming season should remain as they currently are for the third year running. This is only made possible by good management and your enthusiasm and support for the club.

It is interesting to note from figures recently published by the County (KCIBA) that, of the 19 clubs in Kent only two are expanding, ourselves and Thanet. The other 17 show a cumulative loss of men members since 2002 dropping from 6885 to 4051 a loss of 2834 which is a massive 35%.

In 2012/13 our electricity bill was £17,029 this year it was £2,100 a reduction of almost £15,000. In order to achieve this we spent £68,000 of your money on solar panels and LED lights. With savings interest rates at an all time low a return of capital in under five years should make this a good investment.

We are currently trying to get planning permission to make a car park for members on the unused ground on the south side of our building. This project was started by us in November last year and at the time of writing, having jumped through numerous hoops (levels survey, tree survey, impact assessment and development plan) at a cost of nearly £3,000 we still await a decision!!

I am ever mindful that this is your money and will continue to use it, in a word little used by bankers these days, prudently.

Ken Hurran

Ian Payne, our centre director who diligently continues to find sponsors for us to alleviate our expenditure, has announced our latest sponsor, the Coop Funeral Care.

They will give us £250 annually for displaying their banner at the club and you will see this at the far end of the playing surface.

They will also sponsor the "drawn pairs" competition with £100 each year.

They supplied us with many lovely raffle prizes for one of Roger Coker's famous "race nights" and finally gave us a supply of scorecards, about a 100 scorecard holders and many pens.

Ian has also been busy trying to raise funds for an additional motorised wheelchair, the cost of which will run to about £5,250.

So far we have obtained a grant of £2000 from Kent County Council's Sport and Physical Activity Service and are currently pursuing other possibilities for additional grants.

2017/18 Social Activities

We had a very successful social event programme last season and hopefully we can do so again this year.

The following Social Events are planned for the 2017/18 season. Please come along and support your club and have a good time with your bowling friends.

October 21st	Hopefully, Kevin
November 25th	Quiz Night
December 23rd	Elvis
December 31st	Disco
January 20th	Bingo or Horse Racing
February 10th	Ricky Fontaine
March 10th	Horse Racing or Bingo
April 7th	Alison and Michelle

The Social Committee are to be congratulated (and thanked) for the considerable effort that they put in to plan and make these events a success.

Please make every effort to try to attend at least one of them.

Poem recently spotted at another Kent club.

Which side of the fence are you?

**ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER
THE KIND THAT WOULD BE MISSED
OR ARE YOU JUST CONTENTED
THAT YOUR NAME IS ON THE LIST**

**DO YOU ATTEND THE MEETINGS
AND MINGLE WITH THE FLOCK
OR DO YOU SIMPLY SIT AT HOME
AND CRITICISE AND KNOCK**

**DO YOU TAKE AN ACTIVE PART
TO HELP THE WORK ALONG
OR ARE YOU MERELY SATISFIED
TO ONLY JUST BELONG**

**DO YOU EVER GO AND VISIT
A MEMBER WHO IS SICK
OR LEAVE THE WORK TO JUST A FEW
AND TALK ABOUT THE CLIQUE**

**THINK THIS OVER MEMBER
YOU SHOULD KNOW RIGHT FROM WRONG
ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER
OR DO YOU JUST BELONG**

From The Captains Table

LADIES - Come along to the club at 7 p.m. on 27th September and enjoy a free cup of tea or coffee with your captain and all of the ladies who make the section run smoothly. Learn about the section's plans for the new season and how you can take part. Socialise with your fellow lady members and get to know everyone.

Carol Morton

Ladies Captain

MEN - Firstly I would like to introduce myself as your Captain for 2017/18 and to welcome all members and new members to Ashford Indoor Bowls. I would like to take this opportunity to say how honoured I feel to be your Men's Captain and look forward to meeting and talking to you all throughout the coming season.

We had a very good season last year in the Kent League only to be pipped at the post by Mote Park, and this has given us a firm foundation to go all the way this year and build upon the club and its future success competitively in competitions.

I'm very encouraged by the number of new players we have joining the club and taking up this sport and from what I have seen so far your ability on the green will only contribute to the club and the success we look forward to in the future.

The Kent League and Friendly availability sheets are now up on the board so I would encourage you to start to put your names down for these so that we are well supported when it comes to selection for these games. I will be looking forward to talking to you all and for those of you who wish to be considered for playing in the Kent League hope you take the opportunity to do so, however please come and speak to me if you feel unsure and I will happily try to assist you in playing in this or give you some guidance as to improving your game through some of the great coaches that we have at the club. We all take advantage of this whether we are experienced or not so please use this great resource we have to help your game.

We have by far the best playing conditions from the green to the catering facilities in the County and we know this from the many comments that we get from visiting clubs and from the number of clubs interested in playing their National and County Area Finals at the venue.

Going into this season we have a few changes to the competitions that the club has entered this year with the addition of the Egham Trophy which is a Mixed Rinks National competition and the Leonard Denny Memorial Trophy which is a Men's Rinks Competition.

We are hosting the KCIBA in one of the first fixtures of the season which is always a great fixture for the club.

All that remains to say is that I hope you all have an enjoyable and memorable season and I look forward to playing along side you all

Paul Scrivener

Men's Captain

HUNGERS END

Hungers End would like to give a warm welcome back to all the members plus new members to the Ashford Indoor Bowls Club for the coming 2017 / 18 Winter Season.

Please come along and sample our food served daily whether it be a breakfast, snack, lunch or tea and coffee. We cook all our food fresh to order and have a wide selection from which you can pick on our menu board.

We also have a new addition to our team with Carla Owen joining us, so please come along and introduce yourself to her. Carla has worked here for a while through the summer, so you may have already met her when visiting the club.

Our opening times are as follows, **Monday to Fridays from 09.00am to 6.00pm. Saturdays and Sundays we are open from 09.00am to 2.00pm and on Match days until 4.00pm.** So even if you're not bowling, please pop in and take a break and have yourself a bite to eat and some refreshments.

(Please note that on Match days due to the match meal we will only serve full breakfasts up until 12.00 noon, so please come early).

Don't forget we run a loyalty card scheme which in previous seasons has been very popular. This allows you to get discount for your loyal custom, so each time you order from our select menu you will receive a stamp. Collect 10 stamps and choose a meal free. So, don't forget to ask myself or Carla about this when you visit us at Hungers End.

We are looking to re-introduce our Tasty Tuesday theme nights between 5pm and 8pm. This will be a 2-course meal for £7.50 per person.

Please look at the notice board for details of this and see which ones take your fancy such as our proposed Mexican night, Steak Night or Italian Night to name but a few, there will be others.

So, go on treat yourself and enjoy the food and the experience.

Please also feel free to ask us if you have any questions about the meals, about ingredients etc. for those of you that may have food allergies and we will be happy to accommodate this or supplement it in your choice.

I, and my team, look forward to seeing you all throughout the season here at Hungers End.

Zahra White