



# 2-Wide 2-Heavy

## The Newsletter of Olveston & District Bowling Club

May/June 2022

[www.bowlsolveston.co.uk](http://www.bowlsolveston.co.uk)

### The Chairman's Message

I write this in a week when we have had a number of members contracting Covid-19. This is a timely reminder that it hasn't gone away and that we still need to be vigilant and follow the procedures we've all got used to over the last couple of years. So, please open the clubhouse fully when inside, make use of the many hand sanitisers available, minimise contact where possible and wash your hands regularly. I do wish all those currently suffering a speedy recovery and a return to bowling as soon as you're able.

There have been a larger number than usual joining us this year with both new bowlers and more experienced. A very warm welcome to all of you. To existing members if you see a new face, please, introduce yourself and make our newbies feel at home. Others may tell you to go ahead and sign up for Friendlies and I encourage you to do so. It may seem daunting and you may question your ability but, on the day, you will surprise yourself how well you play and contribute to the game and you'll be pleased at how helpful our players and the opposition are to guide you through.

Since the Spring Meeting there has been a lot going on at the club:

A serious water leak has been repaired. A great big thank you to Kevin Dann for his determination to get this solved to save water and money. One or two others gave some assistance but it was primarily Bob Phillips and Mike Greedy that dug down and replaced the leaking connector. Thanks very much.

In addition, a number of maintenance tasks have been undertaken not least the painting of all the outside furniture. Ken Leach has spent many a happy morning in the warmth of the men's changing room painting benches and his overalls whilst others toiled outside. Thanks Ken.

The green team did what they do day in and day out – cutting, swishing, tinning, drinking coffee, keeping the paddock tidy, snipping the edges and drinking coffee – to get the green ready for the season. John's appeal for more volunteers was fruitful and new faces have joined his team. Thank you all.

Catering has been different so far as no one stepped forward to manage a rota of volunteers hence we had no volunteers which meant players on the day have been asked to do the honours. This has gone reasonably well although it has been noted that some, on pre-match tea duty, have arrived a little late to do their bit and those on clear up suddenly disappear but I'm sure as we continue that will improve. It's not too late for anyone to take on the role and manage volunteers and you would be very warmly welcomed and supported by the members. Please, speak to an MC member if you want more information about this post. For Friendlies we are just serving tea/coffee and biscuits, this season, and all the supplies are being bought and delivered by Jan Arrowsmith. Jan is also taking charge of the Hosted Matches and we're very grateful to her for that.

You will have noticed some changes inside the clubhouse and I hope this meets with approval. The work isn't finished yet as there are other important items still to be replaced on the walls. Please be patient as we continue with this but if you have any comments or suggestions then speak to, or email, a member of the MC.

Individuals and the club have entered a lot of leagues and competitions again this season and I wish you all well in your quest for success. I shall look forward to announcing your season's achievements at the AGM. But even if you're not challenging for silverware, I wish you a thoroughly enjoyable playing experience this season and look forward to playing with, or against, many of you as the season progresses.

Best wishes

Geoff Cook



## Our President's Message

Compared to the last few seasons the 2022 season has started with a bang. The green is in a fabulous condition, the clubhouse pristine following its re-decoration, new curtains and the replacement of the original honour boards. When completed the new Trophy cabinet will also enhance the overall effect. My applause to the maintenance and green teams for their amazing efforts over the winter months.

We have unfortunately had a number of match cancellations due to the visitors being unable to form a team. As the season moves on though I believe this will improve.

I should like to offer my personal thanks to all club members for the help and assistance that is offered to me and my light stick on and around the green. For those of you who do not know I have Macular Degeneration, which is the most prevalent eye disease and the Macular Society is my chosen Charity for this year and any support raised by the club would be gratefully received by the Society for further research into the disease.

I hope that the weather keeps fine for us for the season and I look forward to meeting you all at the club.

John Paton (2022 President)



Thanks Fran for the Photo.

## Treasurer's Update

Like several members at the Club, I have recently suffered a bout of Covid. It is a timely reminder that we must remain vigilant and continue to take sensible precautions particularly when around vulnerable members and hosting visiting clubs.

Why not take advantage of the good weather and socialise outdoors in the fresh air on the patio furniture under the smart new gazebos.

The interior of the clubhouse has been freshly redecorated, with new curtains and updated honours boards and, with the acquisition of a magnificent trophy cabinet, now looks really splendid.

You will probably be aware that we recently sustained a serious water leakage at the entrance gate. Thanks to the intervention of the maintenance crew, this has been repaired at minimal cost, but not before a significant amount of water was lost.

Just as for your household budget, our main concern this season is the major impact of inflation on our energy, consumables and infrastructure costs. Although we may feel that these costs are outside our control, what each one of us can do is to eliminate any unnecessary waste by ensuring lights and heaters are turned off when not in use, and water taps are not left running.

It's your Club, be rightfully proud of it, and take responsibility to look after it.

Kevin Dann

Treasurer



## Welfare Officer Update

The season is well underway. I hope you are enjoying the return to normal with the fellowship of a super club.

It has been great to welcome so many new members and to see them taking part in club activities and matches.

As you know my role of welfare officer is to be a link/point of contact for anyone who may need help, practical, physical or emotional. Please contact me directly if I can help or you know someone who would benefit from a call, card or practical assistance. Any information is treated in the strictest confidence.

My role also encompasses Safeguarding and Safety within the club and membership. There may be an issue that would benefit from my involvement. Again, if you think so, please contact me directly and I will clarify or get the situation referred to the right person.

I hope you have a successful season but most of all enjoy playing Bowls in our great club

Gail

Mobile@: 07949920852

E-Mail: [Gail@gailowe.com](mailto:Gail@gailowe.com)

## The Green Team

The climate conditions leading up to and for quite a few weeks into the season were not very favourable for the growing of grass but from a playing point of view it worked very well. The very dry but cold April followed by very little rain in May resulted in a fairly hard playing surface which resulted in a much quicker green than you would expect at the start of the season. We maintained the height of the grass at 6mm throughout this period but this week we have now reduced it to 5mm which we will maintain for the rest of the season.

The week before the start of the season a message was sent out to all the members informing them of two open mornings when anyone who would like to help out on the green could come along and try their hand at cutting the green. I have made an appeal for help a number of times in the past without any takers but to my surprise seven stalwarts turned up to have a bash and all proved to be more than capable. This means that when the regular cutters are not available, I have plenty of cover to replace them.

Last season we had a bit of a scare when we thought we had a major leatherjacket problem but it turned out to be a false alarm. Unfortunately, this year we do have a leatherjacket problem which has been made worse by the crows and magpies digging holes to root them out. We have tried various methods to try and get them to the surface but without a lot of success however last week we were a bit more successful and as a result all the local birds had a field day gobbling them up. We are not clear of them yet but the green is beginning to look less spotty.

We still have a problem with small hollows occurring on the green which results in the bowls leaving the ground on occasions, especially on rinks 1 and 2 away from the clubhouse. Again, I am gradually reducing them by infilling with top dressing but it is a slow process.

The green maintenance team will continue to do their best to create a good playing surface throughout the season but what everyone needs to realise is that we have a very large mix of players of different abilities and therefore there is always going to be someone who is disappointed with the playing surface.

John Arrowsmith

## Maintenance Update

The last few weeks before the season started and the month following saw some frantic work being completed to take the club from its winter slumbers to the vibrant location, we all know.

The list of tasks completed is long and the number of members involved is large, but I will itemise a few of the bigger ones.

The front of the clubhouse has now received three coats of finish and I think we are all agreed how smart it now looks. Thanks go to all the maintenance team and to Jeff Cooper who did the high bits, Peter Baker and especially Mike Greedy who has now completed the lion's share of outside decoration. Others have dipped in and out of the decorating tasks and to those I offer my thanks. No sooner was the decorating completed than we embarked on erecting the gazebos which have been firmly fixed to the clubhouse and bolted to the terrace. Our plan is to pack them away at the end of the season and hopefully use them for seasons to come.

We purchased some new outdoor chairs and a table for members to give their views. They are quite expensive and purchasing more will need to be carefully considered. Meanwhile, we had some good fortune when Dave Lewis spied some redundant outdoor furniture being scrapped at the Golf Club and quickly offered to take it away. With a

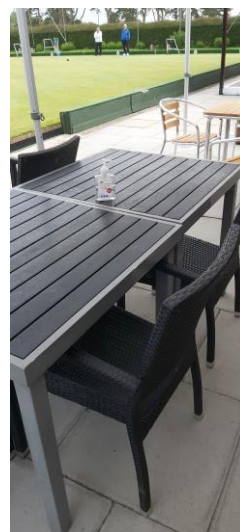
little bit of work, we are now lucky to have some perfectly workable tables and chairs for the terrace. This may not be the long-term resolution, but many thanks to Dave for spotting this opportunity.

The team has also completed some “cleaning-up” work in a number of areas in the Changing rooms and elsewhere in the grounds.

Lastly, we have installed the updated honours boards and hung curtains in the clubhouse. The professionally made trophy cabinet has been put in place and the final work being undertaken to put it into use. The finishing touches in the clubhouse are not yet complete but we will continue with these tasks just as soon as we have all been knocked out of the internal competitions! (It won't be long!)

I have included just a few of the many projects undertaken recently but as with all facilities of this size we will always have a long list of new work as well as the regular tasks to undertake. As always, the Club owes a huge debt to the members of the maintenance team and we are always pleased to welcome others to join us.

Bob Phillips



## Fixtures Update

I hope that by now most people will have started playing games, either friendlies, league or both. You have plenty of opportunities to play as there are almost 100 friendly fixtures in the programme for this year. It is not an inconsiderable task to get all these fixtures arranged, so it would be good if we can play as many as possibly can.

To help in this, I have a couple of requests...

If you put your name down for lots of fixtures when the sign-up sheets go online, please check as the dates get closer to make sure that you are still available.

It is not a 'first come, first served' system. If you notice that there are already many names on the list, don't let that stop you signing up.

I appreciate that sometimes things happen and you cannot play. If that is the case, then please let the captain/manager know as soon as possible.

Finally, friendlies are for all abilities, from seasoned players through to those who have picked up a bowl for the first time this year. Don't worry that you "are not good enough". You will be!

As I said, these games are fun and friendly and the perfect opportunity to play more bowls. I know and appreciate how much many people like their bowls and visiting other clubs, and meeting other people is all part of the friendly, social side.

Enjoy your bowls...

Steven Wharram  
Fixtures Secretary

## Rink Diary is Coming in 2023!

Traditionally, we have signed up for matches and booked rinks using paper sheets in the clubhouse. When we could bowl again, we adapted the way that we did these things to reduce touch points. One way was by having Robert managing the rink bookings by phone. In addition, I created the online sign-up sheets that you access from the club's website. The sign-up sheets continue to be done online but we have gone back to booking rinks using the booking book at the Club.

Now, going forward, we want to use a dedicated system for carrying out these tasks. That means that you will have one place to go to book rinks and sign up for matches. And, that place will be Rink Diary.

So, Rink Diary, the questions...

### **What is Rink Diary?**

Rink Diary is an online system which allows you to view rink availability and make bookings anytime, anywhere, as it suits you. Confirmation emails are sent straight to you. It can be used from any device – computer, tablet or smartphone. It has been developed by a bowler, so it is designed to be 'bowler friendly' unlike some of the other systems that are available.

### **Why are we getting Rink Diary?**

As I mentioned already, the Club wants to move forward and use systems that will be of benefit to the majority at the Club. Using Rink Diary will mean that both rink booking and sign-up sheets will be available from the same place, using the same interface.

The advantages for rink booking – You can see the rinks available without having to travel to the club. If you are arranging a competition then you can both be online and see what is available, again, without going to the club or choosing dates only to find that rinks are booked when you get to the Club. Also, provisional bookings can be made when you need to provide your opposition with alternative dates.

The advantages for sign-up sheets – The details of the games that you have signed up for will be readily available to you. No more searching for emails or notes of phone calls, or looking through your handbook. A confirmation link will be provided for you with your selection to confirm your availability.

### **When are we getting Rink Diary?**

It is not possible to run an online and paper-based system in parallel, so we will switch to using Rink Diary from the new season in 2023. However, I would like to try and use the sign-up sheets for some fixtures this year. Watch out for more on that.

### **Who will use Rink Diary?**

Everybody will be using it. Members will use it to sign up for fixtures and to book rinks for competitions. Captains/managers will use it to publish match details and then use it to select and inform those selected.

### **How are going to implement it?**

An implementation plan will be developed. This will include training, face to face where required, Instruction sheets for members and users (captains/managers). A Rink Diary help team (including mentors and buddies) to manage it and to help and assist people.

### **What next?**

All our home fixtures for 2022 are already on Rink Diary. You can see this by logging onto Rink Diary using the link - <https://www.olveston.rinkdiary.co.uk>

However, without being logged in, all you will see is 'BOOKED' against certain rinks. To see the actual rink bookings and fixtures you will need to login. There will be a separate email about this in due course.

Finally, please remember that we are not trying to disadvantage those who may not have the inclination, skills or the devices to go online. As much help and assistance as required will be provided. However, we are keen to embrace the future and make our systems easier for all.

Any questions? Please come and speak to me.

Steven Wharram  
Fixtures Secretary

## **Men's 1st Team Update – Joe Hardwick**

I'd first like to welcome all members back onto the green for our first 'normal' season back from COVID. The first teams Bristol & District league campaign has got off to a good start with 5 wins. As of week, 5 we are second place with one point behind Page Park who are also undefeated.

As the weeks go on all of the county and national games are starting, if you have a free evening when one of these games are on, please come and support!

As my first season as the 1<sup>st</sup> team manager, it's been great to speak to so many of you (new and current members), please feel free to come and have a chat if you see me at the club, it's great to see so many new members taking part in the league! If you haven't got your name down or now have a little more confidence to give it a go, please let me know and we can get you added into the selection list.

All the best and hope to see you all at the club!

Joe

## Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Update – Ian Barton

As at 26 May, we have now played 5 games and amassed 47 points out of a possible 50 with a very healthy shot difference. It's early days but it's all going well so far for the B Team.

Thanks

Badger

## Ladies League C Team Update – Brenda Cook

Captain Cook would like to thank the ladies who are supporting her each week and enjoying our Voyages to different clubs. Some of us need to brush up on our navigation skills but in the scale of things it's a minor issue.

There is still plenty of room aboard for more ladies so please put your names down on the availability sheets. I would hate for anyone to be left waving from the Harbour when they could be Sailing with us.

Also, your Captain is still waiting for YOUR call to discuss the possibility of one of you doing Ladies Captain next year.

We could discuss perhaps doing it jointly???

Don't all rush at once 🏹🏹🏹

Bren (Captain Cook).

## South Cotswold League Update

We have started our campaigns in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Divisions of the South Cotswold League. The A team had a tough start against Cam Mills – previous winners of the Division – but ended with an honourable 5 – 5 draw. The B team had a good win 8 – 2 against Fairford. Unfortunately, Cirencester withdrew from the fourth division so the B team have a reduced fixture list.

The teams are chosen from those members that made Phil and I aware that they wanted to play in the South Cotswold League at the beginning of the season, together with those who put their names down on the Availability list on the website. This has unfortunately led to some confusion that will have to be resolved in the near future.

The matches are played over 18 ends starting at, or before, 6:30 in the evening. This has made the matches more enjoyable since there is a chance one can get home before 11pm! So, if you are looking to gain a little league experience and visit some of the more rural and picturesque greens in the County, I'm looking forward to seeing your names on the Availability sheets in the very near future.

**Norman Taylor & Phil Tellwright**

South Cotswold League Managers



## Monday Night is Club Night

Club Night is still proving very popular, especially Sponsor Nights. We have had 2 so far with wine for the winning rink, the first sponsored by Almondsbury Garden Centre attracted the largest attendance to date with a full 7 rinks and a large number of members having to share a game. The second sponsored game (Specsavers) was cut short by the weather, thunder, lightning and heavy rain! We still had 4 full rinks playing.

Thanks

Tricia & Ian

## Summer Lotto Bonus Ball

This season's winners so far:

Week 1 – 9 April – No 16 – George McDowall

Week 2 – 16 April – No 44 – Bob Borland

Week 3 – 23 April – No 15 – Graham Morris

Week 4 – 30 April – No 52 – Roly Moore

Week 5 – 7 May – No 39 – Ann McDowall

Week 6 – 14 May – No 35 – Margaret Drayton

Week 7 – 21 May – No 8 – Bill Main

Thanks

Tricia & Ian

## Sponsors Update

We have been well supported by our sponsors this year. Whilst unfortunately losing Simon Jenkins-Holiday Consultant we have gained two new ones, The Computer Store and Phoenix Flooring.

Please see the full listing in the Members Handbook and continue to support them.

We also look forward to welcoming them to the Club for our Sponsored Club Nights.

Tony Cullen – Sponsors Co-ordinator.



The Computer Store in St Mary's Walk



Phoenix Flooring Ltd

## Umpire's Corner – Jamie Campbell

Now that the outdoor season is well under way I expect to be 'collared' regularly at the club with questions about the Laws of the Sport. I usually try to give an answer at the time, but some need more research and may find their way to this column.

The first question to make the cut is from our President John Paton:

*During a County fours match the Umpire is called on for a close measure. As he approaches the head, he collapses and falls forward, displacing a number of bowls and the jack.*

*The Umpire is attended to, given first aid and then assisted from the green.*

*The Skips now have to decide what to do about the result of the end and how, or if, the match should proceed without an Umpire?*

*Answer: To decide the result of the end, we apply the Laws of displacement, specifically 37.3 Bowl displacement by a neutral person.*

*If a bowl at rest is displaced by a neutral person and it has disturbed the head after it is displaced, the skips must agree on the former position of the bowl and how to replace any part of the head disturbed after the displacement. If they cannot agree, they must declare the end dead.*

*For the match to proceed, we would check the Conditions of Play for this competition and if the presence of an Umpire is a requirement, we could consult the Controlling Body (County Official) to appoint a competent person to continue.*

The second question from Phil Tellwright and Gary Jones:

*What happens if a player bowls out of turn?*

*Answer: Apply Law 29; Irregularities during play: 29.1 Playing out of turn;*

*If a player plays out of turn, the opposing skip can stop the bowl and return it to the player to play it in the proper order.*

*If the bowl has come to rest and has not disturbed the head, the opposing skip must choose whether to leave the head as it is and have their team play two bowls one after the other to get back to the proper order of play or return the bowl and get back to the proper order of play.*

*If the bowl has disturbed the head, the opposing skip must choose whether to leave the disturbed head as it is and have their team play two bowls one after the other, to get back to the proper order of play or replace the head in its former position and return the bowl and go back to the proper order of play; or declare the end dead.*

The second is from my personal question bank:

*During a fours match after winning the previous end, the Lead of team A, delivers the Jack straight into the ditch. The Jack is re-delivered by team B Lead, but it hits his Skip, who was not paying attention and is diverted off the rink.*

What happens now? This scenario has a very unusual conclusion, I'll leave it with you and answer in the next edition of '2 Wide 2 Heavy'. If you have any questions about the Laws of the Sport, please feel free to email me at [tracy2jamie@virginmedia.com](mailto:tracy2jamie@virginmedia.com)



## “4-Week Beginners Course”

The Club’s “4-Week Beginners Course” got underway on 24<sup>th</sup> April, with **29 people** registered on the Course. This is the highest number we have seen on the Course for many a season and it was brilliant to see so many wanting to get started in the sport.

Of the 29, 11 were Non-Members, but already at least five of those have been bitten by the “Bowling Bug” and have applied to become Club Members.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the Course for their commitment and patience with us as we organised larger numbers than we have been used to. But most of all a huge thank you must go to the Club Coaches for their time and dedication, so thank you to Alan & Jean Lambourne, Trevor Graham, John Paton, and David Wiggall for their support, along with Trainee Coach, Annie Muldoon.

Also, thanks to our National Umpire, Jamie Campbell for kindly giving up a morning to provide a session on measuring and the Laws of The Sport.

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## “Ongoing Coaching”

Please remember, if you need any help, you with your game/development, please contact one of the Club’s Coaching Team and let us know what help you need.

We are here to help you, we can work with you as an individual, as a pair or if you have a small group looking for help in the same area, get together and we can run a group session for you. We will always do our utmost to accommodate you.

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Enjoy your Bowling and remember  
***Practice with a purpose, play with a passion.***

## Ken Tudor

Club Coaching Co-Ordinator  
“Coach Bowls” Level 2 Qualified



## Membership Update

2022 has seen the biggest number of new bowlers ever joining ODBC in a single season. We have 20 newcomers and 2 returners. The majority of the new bowlers have been attending the Beginners' Course on Sunday mornings and the standard of bowling has been impressive. One or two beginners have already played for the league teams. We hope that once you have learned the basics you will want to play more competitively and enter friendly matches as well as attending Monday Club Nights. Friendly matches are usually held on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays

Angela Greenslade – Membership Secretary

## Bar Update

Thanks to all who have stepped forward to start making the new bar rota a success. At this early stage in the season, we have already seen 20 individuals taking a turn and serving. If you have been assigned a slot before the end of July then you should already have received an email with the rota. However, please do double check the rota which is printed and on the notice board by the bar. Remember, the more folk on the rota the fewer shifts any one individual will do.

If you have not yet been assigned a slot but would like to become involved sooner rather than later, please do contact me directly on [dkolive@virginmedia.com](mailto:dkolive@virginmedia.com) and I will roster you in. Remember that “not being trained” is no reason to not get involved! You can ask to be trained at any time the bar is open – just ask whoever is running the bar to show you the ropes.

Thanks also to the team who are now ensuring the lines are cleaned each week.

We have also been able to address some requests from various members on stock, and now offer bottles of Budweiser and bottles of Doom Bar Zero.

If on any given event the rota falls apart or only one person is working the bar, then please do offer to help by serving when there is a queue and/or collecting glasses etc.

There are now printed “pre order” forms available under the bar on top of the fridge containing the Guinness. If you are working the bar for a club friendly and NOT playing then players can order and pay for drinks at half time and you can then get the drinks poured and set out on a table with the relevant form so that there is no big queue at the end of the match.

Finally – there are 3 or 4 small “invoices” left over from last year. These are in the till as IOUs. They may not be for much money, but it would be appreciated if these were settled in the near future.

Derek Olive – Bar Manager



## Bowls England Big Bowls Weekend

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May the Club opened its gate to invite people in to experience playing bowls as part of the Bowls England Big Bowls Weekend. We didn't know how many we may get indeed we had wondered if anyone would turn up! In fact, we had 16 in total which was a good number for the Coaches and 5 asked for membership forms before they left! The Coaches did an excellent job explaining the fundamentals of the game but most importantly those present got to deliver woods and all looked to be enjoying doing so.



## Cider Day

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June some 50 members attended the Club's first Cider Day to coincide with World Cider Day. The event organised by Derek Olive also included a game of Target Bowls. Although we could perhaps have played a little longer whilst sitting in the Clubhouse the heavens opened and we were all glad we finished when we did!!

Congratulations to Janice Leach who got the highest Ladies score and Tony Iles who got the men's top score. A special mention went to Brenda Cook for her cider farmer hat. Many thanks to Derek for organising the event.





## Crown Green Bowls

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June Chris Bentley and Jeff Cooper introduced members to Crown Green Bowls. Although we decided to leave the green flat and without a crown, we were still able to enjoy using jacks with bias and visiting parts of the green we have rarely seen. Although at times it looked like organised chaos with woods going in all directions in reality very few woods collided with each other. Games up to 15 shots were played with Di Pleass winning the Ladies section and Dave Lewis the Men's. Thanks to Chris and Jeff for the afternoon of fun and flat caps!



## The Last End.....

The quiz this time is a question of who are these members, one of whom appears to be a Captain and the other have on the world's tallest hat (but he has a chimney behind him!):



We also have a caption competition. This is Alan Lambourne during the Big Bowls Weekend event. Someone has already suggested that he is saying, "if your wood goes this high then there is something wrong with your delivery!"

