



Brush Bowls and Sports Club
Watermead Lane
Loughborough
LE11 3TN

NEWSLETTER

August 2020

They say “No news is good news”

WRONG!!

Brush Bowls Club News is GOOD NEWS.....

We haven't had a newsletter for a couple of months due to the current climate, as there hasn't been much to share. However, that doesn't mean that things haven't been happening. Due to the pandemic, our season was a right-off, but that has given the opportunity to sit back, reflect and take actions that were needed, but there never seemed time for.

In the last couple of months activities have been going on 'behind and in front of the camera' to get the club going again. Along with some background policies and training that will help the club run more effectively in the future.

Due to personal reasons, there have been changes to the members of the Management Committee which created vacancies for the Vice-President and Hon. Secretary roles. The committee has co-opted Lea Toone and Debra Hardwick to fill these roles until the AGM. The Committee structure is:

President and Club Captain	Mick McAuliffe
Vice-President	Lea Toone
Hon Treasurer	Dave Saunders
Hon Secretary	Debra Hardwick
Ladies Representative & Team Captain	Lesley Bentley
Bar Manager	Ann Burrow
Entertainment Manager	Pete Chambers
Maintenance Manager	Brian Bentley
Past President & Publicity Officer	Nick Pigott

As Club President and co-player, Mick McAuliffe would like to whole-heartedly thank both of those stepping down from the Committee. "I would like to thank both Fay Benford and Ken Wainwright for their commitment to the Committee. They have given their time and experience to the Committee and supported the Committee and Club unstintingly. Both remain strong members of the Club and Ken will continue to act as a Trustee, Auditor and Green Ranger".

Activities and Events that have happened in the last couple of months.....

Green Opening

As of May 20th, in line with Government and Bowls England guidelines, the Committee made the decision to open the green to members. Those of you that have taken the opportunity to play will know that only 3 alternate rinks are open on any one day (to allow for social distancing) and that the club house remains closed. We started with two players per rink, but as the guidelines have changed, we are now able to play pairs or possibly triples. Mats and jacks are stored in a green box outside the clubhouse and must be sanitised (spray provided) before and after playing. The green box also holds a First Aid Kit and the code for the defibrillator at the tennis club. More detailed information on use of the green has already been emailed separately.

To book your rink

Telephone Pete Chambers between 10.00 and 11.00 am daily on **07905 339804**



Ladies Day.....

As of a few of weeks ago the Ladies have taken the initiative to arrange a morning of bowling. Every Tuesday from 11.00 am the rinks are booked for the Lady Members to play pairs or possibly triples depending on the numbers of players available. Government and Bowls England Social guidelines are followed to keep us all safe.

Ladies if you would like to play.....

Please contact the Club Ladies Captain, Lesley Bentley on **07940 305834** or lesley.bentley3@ntlworld.com

Mid-week Mixed Tonic.....

As of last week, the Club has extended its invitation to bowl, by adding a Wednesday evening fixture. As with current Bowls England, distancing guidance and restrictions, 3 rinks are used and depending upon the numbers wishing to play, we can organise pairs or possibly triples for a 6.00pm start.

As Club Captain, our President, Mick McAuliffe is arranging this fixture and drawing the teams for each rink, so please look out for an email from him each week.

Let's keep our 'distanced' socialising and exercising going.

Bar Opening Day

July 4th - Not just American Independence Day!

Following new guidance from the Government and Bowls England the Committee agreed to re-open the Club bar, albeit with limited access. Following the initial success of the evening, the bar remains open on Friday evenings at 6.00pm until 9.00pm.

Drinks, beer (in bottle and cans) and wine (by the glass) are served outside. Seating is arranged outside, subject to social distancing guidelines. Toilet facilities are available with strict rules in place and cleaning materials are provided.

AND you can play bowls as well.....

Look out for the weekly email from the President.

Unsung Heros

As well as those members on the Committee with specific responsibilities for club maintenance and those who already volunteer their time and effort to help keep the club looking good, there have, in recent weeks been members who have worked on projects to make further improvements.

10-out-of-10

Mick Burrow has completely refurbished the score board opposite the clubhouse. He stripped, sanded and repainted the whole piece and has incorporated the new club logo. A great job that really smartens up that side of the green.



Benchmarking

Phil Hopkin has sanded and varnished all the benches that were positioned around the ground. They look fresh and new and enhance the look of the ground.



Group Therapy.....

A group effort to support Alex and Jenny Kirk with the gardening was undertaken on 22nd July. Mick & Lesley McAuliffe, Lea Toone, Mick & Ann Burrow, Patsy & Norman Hockley, Phil Hopkin, Ken Wainwright, Debra Hardwick & Brian Bentley all gave time to cut hedges and trees, prune, weed beds etc., to tidy the garden areas. The overall look of the area surrounding the green now is really clean, tidy and smart.



Pinnies and rubber gloves at the ready

Mick & Lesley McAuliffe and Ann & Mick Burrow have also taken time to deep-clean the kitchen and bar areas within the clubhouse. Not a very glamorous job but one that was needed ahead of a future Health & Safety Inspection.

Ann Burrow has also washed all of the Clubhouse curtains (not been done for years, if ever!! And they're still in one piece).

The defective glass washer in the bar has now been replaced by Brian Bentley.



Compliance.....

Dave Saunders has now produced a new Health & Safety Policy document and Lesley Bentley has produced a Safeguarding Policy and a document listing contact details for relevant agencies and organisations. These documents will be displayed/available in the Clubhouse.



Maintenance.....

The replacement of the old diesel tank, used for heating the Clubhouse, has begun. The tank was in danger of rupturing and possibly causing an environmental hazard.

Brian Bentley, Mick Burrow and Pete Chambers have co-ordinated a re-sited concrete base and the new tank is due to be installed this month.

The cost has been shared between the Club and Charnwood Borough Council.

Funding/Grants

David Saunders has secured a grant from Charnwood Borough Council as part of the Government's package of measures to aid small businesses adversely affected by the Covid 19 pandemic.



Training and Achievements

Way back just before the pandemic hit, the club was invited to send representatives on a Markers Awareness Course, run by the English Bowls Umpires Association.

David Cooper and Debra Hardwick attended the course over two mornings at a weekend in Leicester and completed the course successfully. Certificates in hand, the Club now has two qualified Markers.

In line with Health & Safety guidelines and the clubs' updated policy, Lesley McAuliffe and Ann Burrow have successfully qualified to Level 2 Food Hygiene Standards, whilst Rosaline Riley has achieved qualification at Level 3.

The qualifications these individuals have achieved go forward to supporting the Club and ensuring policies and guidelines are followed.

Congratulations to all

The Committee will continue to keep you updated on any changes/revisions to the covid-19 pandemic advice and guidelines that affect your use of the club facilities.

We hope to bring more exciting news of further Club developments in a newsletter next month.



We can help control the virus if we all **STAY ALERT**



Stay at home as much as possible



Work from home if you can



Limit contact with other people



Keep your distance if you go out
(2 metres apart where possible)



Wash your hands regularly



And if you or anyone in your household
has symptoms, you all need to self-isolate.

STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES