

# Birstall Bowling Club Newsletter

April 2024

## Season 2024

Welcome to the 2024 outdoor season. Opening day is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April with the first friendly fixtures scheduled for later in the week, depending on the weather and condition of the green. We are looking forward to a sunny, dry season (have we had two consecutive days without any rain since the start of the year?) and hopefully not encountering the scenes following Storm Henk in early January when the green looked more like a lake, as seen here in a photo taken by a reader of the Birstall Post.



## Club Information

**Subscriptions due:** Thanks to everyone who have already paid their subscriptions for the year. Please contact our Treasurer Rick Everitt to arrange payment if you haven't done so already. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or bank transfer.

**Club fixtures:** Please help the captains out by indicating your availability for matches on the sheets on the relevant noticeboards, and by ticking off promptly when the teams are selected.

**Club competitions:** If you haven't entered this year's club competitions yet, please speak to Gary Kilbourne to get a form. The cost is £1.00 per competition and the closing date for entries is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Finals day is Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September with a contingency of Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September if necessary. Please keep these dates free if entering.

**Club website:** The club website [www.birstallbowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.birstallbowlingclub.co.uk) has news and information, and you can register on the site to receive updates by email. We also have a Facebook page.

## National and County Competition News

**Bowls England.** This year's national finals at Leamington will run from Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September. The national competition draws can be found on Bowls England's competition website [www.bowlsenglandcomps.com](http://www.bowlsenglandcomps.com)

**Bowls Leicestershire.** A new system is now in operation for county competitions. The draws can be accessed on the new website [www.bowlsleicestershire-admin.com](http://www.bowlsleicestershire-admin.com) A guide on how to use this site was emailed out on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. If you are the named entrant in a competition, you will need to add the rest of your players for the pairs, triples and fours. This can be done by clicking on Add Player on each competition and selecting the player from the drop-down menu or by entering the player's surname, depending on the competition. If you have any queries relating to the new system, please speak to Di Hurst, Rick Everitt or Andy Wye.

### Parks Matches and Competitions

Thirteen Leicester City & District Parks Association matches have been arranged this season which any member can play in. All matches are on Sundays but please note that six matches clash with our own mixed fixtures. An email was sent out in February with an availability sheet and list of fixtures. Please speak to Roger Bartlett if you would like the list sending to you again.

The Parks competition draws involving our members will be displayed in the men's changing room. Semi-finals take place w/c 15<sup>th</sup> July with finals the week after, all at South Wigston.

### League News

In our first year in the **Ladies Tuesday Morning Triples League** the first match is on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April away at Loughborough Phoenix (10.00am start). We have also entered the **Ladies Monday Aussie Pairs League** for the first time and play at home to Shepshed on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June in the first match (6.00pm start). Matches in the **Ladies Friday Triples League** start on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

Matches in the **Men's Loughborough Triples League** start on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April with Sands at home to Shepshed in Division 1 and Lighthouse away to Loughborough Phoenix in Division 2. All matches start at 2.00pm. We are in Division 1 of the **Men's Leicester League** with the first match on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May at home to Blaby. The first round of the cup is on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June against St Margarets with two rinks home and two away. Matches start at 6.15pm.

### Potters Trip

In March, 26 bowlers and guests went on a five-day all-inclusive trip to Potters Resort in Norfolk. Five teams entered the bowls tournament and congratulations go to Graham Dudley, Patsy Fawcett, John Corby and Richard Smith who finished runners up in the competition to Broomfield BC from North London. Losing semi-finalists (by just one shot to Broomfield) were Marlene and Roger Bartlett, Jan and Rick Everitt. There were 71 teams entered and Birstall were awarded the Top Club trophy for the best performing club during the week. Well done to all the bowlers and thanks to Marlene and Roger for organising the trip.

For the 28 of you who are going to Potters in November, information that was requested in the email sent earlier this month is needed by Marlene and Roger by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April.



### Presentation of Trophies

An email was sent out to members in February requesting your views on this year's presentation of trophies to the winners and runners up of the club competitions as to what celebration you would like to see. Please speak to Honorary Secretary Di Hurst by the end of this month with your thoughts if you haven't done so already, so that the committee can discuss all suggestions.