



# IBSTOCK BOWLING CLUB

Founded 1929

'Friends on and off the green'

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Access – How do I gain access to the club house?**

The club house has a security coded lock system, and you will be provided with the code, when you have signed up as a member. Normally, on match days, the club house will have been opened by someone arriving prior to you. However, you are free to use the green on your own, on any day, where it is not in use, subject to any instructions made by the green keeper, who has the sole authority on whether play is possible.

### **Affiliation – Who are we affiliated to?**

As a club, we are affiliated to Bowls England and Bowls Leicestershire.

### **Availability – How do I indicate that I am available to play in a game?**

Each of the league captains and the Saturday and Wednesday Friendly captains will pin an availability sheet for each game on the wall of the club house, at the beginning of the season. You should put a cross against all matches that you are **NOT** available for selection.

In the two weeks before a game, the captain will pin the team he has selected, on a team selection sheet, on the notice board outside the clubhouse. You should confirm your availability to play by ticking against your name on the team sheet. If circumstances have changed and you are no longer available to play, you should put a cross against your name. It is courtesy to call the team captain to tell him you cannot play.

### **Buddies – What help is there as a new member of the club?**

We operate a 'buddy system' where an experienced individual is allocated to all new members, to help them get used to being part of our club.

### **Changing Facilities – Where do I change for a game?**

We have separate male and female changing facilities. Some people prefer to come ready to play, with a change of shoes whilst others prefer to change completely at the rink.

### **Club Fees – How much is the club annual subscription fee?**

If you are a newcomer to bowls, there is no charge for your first year of playing bowls with the club. Thereafter, the annual subscription fee is £60. In addition, there is a match fee of £1 for league games or £2.50 for Saturday friendly matches, which includes a tea.. (The cost for teas on away fixtures can vary from club to club).

### **Club Handbook – How do I know when the matches are?**

We produce a club handbook each year, with all of the upcoming fixtures, as well as contact information for other club members. It also includes detail on committee members and when important club meetings take place.

### **Club Members – How many are there?**

There are approximately 30 club members (men and ladies), although we are actively recruiting new members.

### **Coaching – What help is available with my play?**

There are club coaches who are always willing to provide advice on a one to one or ad hoc basis.



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## **Competitions – What competitions do the club take place in?**

The full breadth of club and individual competitions is covered by the document listed on this web page under 'Bowling Activities, but cover a full range from league games, friendlies, internal club competitions to informal roll ups, as well as individual matches, internal to the club or at a county level. Full details of the leagues and competitions that the club participate in or run can be found on this page, as a separate document.

## **Constitution – How is the club run?**

The constitution defines the framework of how the club will be run. The full constitution and the committee members, who carry implement that constitution are detailed fully on this page, as a separate document.

## **Dietary Needs – Do you have any?**

If you have any dietary requirements then please let your captain know in advance as arrangements can be made to accommodate your needs in advance of any game.

## **Dress code – What should I wear for any game?**

Generally speaking the rule is weekday games wear grey trousers or skirts, weekend games wear white trousers or skirts. So...

- For League games wear appropriate (flat-soled) shoes, grey trousers or skirt and white/club tops.
- For Friendlies wear appropriate (flat-soled) shoes, white trousers or skirt and white/club tops.
- For Roll Ups then as long as you wear appropriate (flat-soled) shoes then the dress code is casual.

In hot weather, it is acceptable to wear tailored shorts (white or grey, as appropriate)

## **Equipment – What equipment do I need to play?**

As a minimum you probably need...

- A set of four bowls (woods) with a bag to carry them (the club can help you with a set of woods until you have an idea of what size and weight is best for you).
- A cap to keep the rain (or sun!) off one's head and glasses
- Club or white top
- Bowls towel to wipe off grass or mud from your woods
- Flat soled shoes
- White and Grey trousers
- Water proof jacket and over trousers

Non essentials (but needed as/when you act as a marker for other games)

- Chalk/Chalk spray, Pen and Bowls measure

## **Functions – What functions are there?**

Annually, in September, we hold a presentation evening at a local hotel, where club winners and runner up's are presented with a trophy. In addition, the club run a selection of social events, of which more detail can be can be found on this page, as a separate document.

## **Help – What is expected of me by way of 'help' on any match day?**

Although specific help is not expected from any individual on a match day, any help prior to a match or after completing a match is always appreciated by the team captains, and without exception, is readily provided by all club members.



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## **Meetings – What meetings are there?**

The club hold an AGM in November, with committee meetings taking place in March, July and October. Annual subscriptions are collected after the March meeting. County competition entries (for next season) are completed after the October.

## **Parking – Can I park at the club's green?**

There is ample parking at the club's home green. Although, parking is of course at each owners own risk.

## **Transport – How do I get to an away fixture?**

Normally, individuals arrange to share the responsibility of driving to an away fixture, but of course individuals can always take themselves if they prefer.

## **Volunteering – How involved can I get with the club?**

The short answer 'As involved as you like!' Like most community organisations, we rely on volunteers to undertake all of the work involved in running a successful club. This is especially true at the start or closedown of the season. Throughout the season, the Green keeping team meet on Mondays and Thursday, between 9.00am and 1.00pm (or at other times if better suited to you) and would always welcome another pair of helping hands. Alternatively, we operate a tea rota for Tuesday afternoon or Saturday matches, and any help here would be most welcome. In addition there is always the chance of helping with the running of the club, either as a committee member or for special one off events. So in short...'There are plenty of opportunities!'

## **Website – Does the club have a website?**

Yes, the club website can be found at <https://www.ibstockbowlsclub.co.uk/>. If you are 'into social media' we also run an 'Ibstock Bowls Club' Facebook page, which can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/Ibstock-Bowls-Club-109344810493249> In addition, we publish a regular newsletter.