

Ilford & District Indoor Bowls Club Ltd

Centre of excellence for indoor lawn bowls serving the people of Redbridge and surrounding areas



Newsletter 20 – 6th January 2022

As at the 08 January 2022

We find ourselves in January 2022 and with already 3 months of our indoor season gone. I looked through the list of New Year's Honours and it seems my MBE has been overlooked AGAIN.

So far, despite Covid Omicron and all its other brothers and sisters, we have managed to stay open and complete our league and friendly fixtures to date. That said, many members are testing positive for Covid and are self-isolating so we must not drop our guard. PLEASE follow all the Covid rules well documented in previous issues and if offered and not already done, get your booster jabs as soon as they are offered.

Yesterday we had our first Management Team Meeting since September so there was a lot to catch up on. There is a summary of what went on later in this Newsletter. However, our focus has to be the forthcoming GALA Day on Saturday 12th February 2022. This takes the shape of a 16 team competition of local clubs who will be playing for substantial prize money. If you are playing for an outdoor club which has not yet entered, please contact the powers that be at the club and get them to complete an entry form available from Bob Hayter by request. Details of the event are listed in the Board Room Section below.



This is our only major event of the 2021/2022 season thanks to Covid so we must **all** try to make it as successful as possible. Not only will be hosting a lucrative tournament, the day is open to ALL members and you can join us to cheer on your team or for lunch at just £5 per person. Bring a friend or family member too but please book in advance as numbers are limited and places issued on a first come first served basis. Members can even enter their own MIXED team and take on the prize hunters for a share of the spoils.

However, more importantly, we need your help in several ways. We are desperate for good quality raffle prizes or vouchers. These should be new and unused items. If you can help or can put us in touch with anyone who can support our raffle please contact Bob Hayter or Pat Brown with the details. We do have a few prizes already but we need many more to make the raffle attractive to all.

We will also be running our famous White Elephant Table. This is a stall of new or nearly new goods and brik-a-brak, a bit like you would find at a boot sale. If you have any item of interest to donate (no rubbish please), bring them to the club in good time, to be included.

We will need stewards on the day to help with meeting and greeting the teams and dignitaries and helping serving and clearing up the two lunch sessions. Also help for Darrell who will be policing the car park. More helpers needed for serving teas, coffees and drinks all available from the bar. Please let Pat or Bob know if you are available to help at all on the day. Whatever time you can devote will be much appreciated.

The day is being sponsored by Lexus Cars of Woodford and they will be bringing a couple of cars to the club to tempt you into changing that old jalopy at attractive prices.

Our guest of honour will be Councillor Roy Emmett, the Mayor of Redbridge accompanied by the Mayoress Councillor Mrs Diana Middleditch. These guests are giving up 2 hours of their valuable time so please support them and come to the club to show your appreciation.

We are hoping that Bowls Direct will be on site should you wish to purchase new bowls or equipment. This is still to be confirmed.

The Gala is not only a serious bowls competition but also a fun day for all so any help you can give us will be appreciated.

Membership Renewals

Most members have already renewed their subscription for 2022 but there are about 25 who have not. If you are one of these members, please let us have your renewal forms and fee as soon as possible. Technically you are not a member until you have paid and although we give certain amount of grace, time is running out. If you do not intend to re-join the club, please let Bob Hayter or Sandy Dron know so that we can remove you from our membership list.

We would like to thank those members who not only renewed but who gave additional voluntary contributions to aid the club's finances. We have raised $\pounds 2500$ to date this year and that is a most welcome addition to our funds.

Bar staff

As you will see in the letter below, Steve Simpson is giving up bar duties. This means that we have a vacancy for a Bar Staff Volunteers at weekends and occasional evenings to cover league matches,

friendlies and competitions. This is an unpaid position but greatly rewarding. If you can spare some time, please contact Bob at the club or on 07505 171682 for further information.

Health & Safety

Also leaving his position after many years of loyal service is our H & S Director Lou Dightmaker. This is a very important position, particularly at this time. If you have any H&S Knowledge and can help us comply with our obligations, please contact Bob as soon as possible.

Ladies Leagues

Although we have several new women members, the Ladies Leagues struggle to get teams together. If you want to join a team please contact Pat Brown or Sandra Dupuy and I feel sure they will be able to introduce you to a squad. There is a similar situation with the Wednesday afternoon Ladies Drive. If there is not better support for this competition, we might have to open the sessions to men and women for roll ups or other types of competition. It is essential that we fill as many rinks as possible at all times. Empty rinks = loss of income. Ladies, the very survival of the Ladies Section rests in your hands. Please support them as much as you can. If you are able to play, there is an entry sheet on the Ladies Notice Board. The future of these leagues is precariously balanced.

There is availability even now for mixed roll ups at 12:30 and 2:30 on Wednesdays so please consult your handbook to ensure there are free rinks and come and join us.

Anxiety Forum

Many of our members suffer quietly with anxiety or depression for a variety of reasons. Often loneliness is the main cause but anxiety can be caused in many other ways. It is widely acknowledged that talking problems through with like-minded people, often strangers, is the best way to beat the 'big black dog'. You are not alone and nor should you be embarrassed to admit that you have such problems. I myself was hospitalised in 2007 after a breakdown caused by I still do not know? Many of you know Darrell Witek and know that he suffers with anxiety. He makes no secret of this. With the backing of the club and with the help of our Welfare Director, Sandra Dupuy, he is holding a series of Anxiety Forums at the club where you can come along and informally chat through your concerns over a cuppa or a coffee. These sessions will be held 3 weekly at 10:00 on a Tuesday mornings with the first session being on Tuesday 1st February 2022. We cannot guarantee to cure you but just talking about your worries is the first step to getting better. Darrell will be on site on the 1st but if you want to know more, beforehand please call or email him on 07475 832909 email <u>Darrell12aspens@aol.com</u>. The Forum Dates are:-

1 st February 2022	22 nd February 2022	15 th March 2022	5 th April 2022
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If the response is good, further dates might be added.

As usual, please help the Club, PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD. Not everyone has access to emails or is a Facebook user!!! Word of mouth is our greatest asset.

In these days of spiralling costs, it is becoming much more difficult to stay in touch with all of our members. We have chosen to do this by **EMAIL**



rather than by post as it now costs almost £2 (including stationery and printing costs) just to send one letter. PLEASE ensure that we have your latest email address so that you do not miss out on any of our communications. If you



do not have access to your own email, maybe you have a family member or friend who can take emails on your behalf and pass the details on to you?

If you know of any member who is not receiving this Newsletter and you can deliver a copy to them without endangering yourself, please let us know.

<u>Ladies – <mark>Urgent</mark> Appeal</u>

As mentioned above, the Ladies leagues and in particular the Wednesday Afternoon Drive, are struggling for survival. Please do everything you can to support the Ladies Section or these leagues will be forced to close. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Please contact Sandra Dupuy for further information!

News from the Boardroom

1. Membership Reports

- a. Membership cards for 2022 will be prepared and will be available for collection at the club.
- b. Bob Hayter advised that as of the 7^{th} January, 257 members had re-joined bringing in £7500 in fees and a further £2500 in voluntary donations. Figures updated 7/1/22.
- c. There are 13 outstanding renewals and he thinks 10 will not re-join for various reasons. Figures updated 7/1/22.
- d. The six members who won the December Thank You Draw, will get free membership for 2022. They have been advised accordingly.
- e. Fees for 2022 are due now however, any member who does not renew by the 14th February 2022 (latest) and who is eligible for the 2021 discretionary discount, will have to pay the FULL fee of £75.
- f. Jack Matthews our Director of Membership Development was not at the meeting but advised ALAN JAYE that there was nothing positive to report.

2. Finances

- a. There will be accruals of a further £20k to provide for future expenditure based on a five year plan. This expenditure included provisions for:
 - i. New carpet in playing areas, lounge and walkways. New alarms. Three new cameras. Possible improvements to the ventilation system and external redecoration. There is also a small contingency fund for unexpected expenditure.
- b. The accounts have been prepared and will go to the accountants very soon.
- c. An investment opportunity offered by Felixstowe and Suffolk Bowls club and put forward by Ian Treleaven was voted against as it was felt that this might annoy Sport England who paid for our new green.

3. Directors and Staffing

- a. Bob Hayter announced that Steve Simpson had now relinquished all of his club duties due to personal reasons and a deterioration in his health. He will continue being a member and may help out from time to time but not on a regular basis. Thank also to Louis Dightmaker who has resigned as Health and Safety and Security Director.
- b. More weekend bar staff are needed. Bob Hayter to consider option. VERY URGENT!!

4. Events, Fundraising, Sponsorship and Charity

- a. GALA DAY Saturday 12th February 2022
 - i. The competition starts at 10:00 am and each session lasts 7 ends or 1 hour.
 - ii. Bob Hayter advised that he had agreed a three year sponsorship deal with Lexus of Woodford bringing in almost ± 1500 to the club over the next two to three years.
 - iii. They will provide posters for the club's notice boards.

- iv. They will bring Lexus Cars to the club on the Gala days and offer possible incentives to members who purchase a vehicle.
- v. Entry forms were sent to the teams who participated in the 2020 Gala competition to give them first option. So far only 5 teams have entered. Bob Hayter to send out forms to other local clubs on Monday 10th January.
- vi. There is no reason why individuals cannot enter a mixed team. They do not have to be all from the same club.
- vii. There is no reason why IIBC Members cannot be included in a team. However, we will need helpers on the day and that should take priority over playing.
- viii. The entry fee is £40 per team which includes lunch.
- ix. Clubs are obliged to enter **MIXED** teams.
- x. The prize money this year has been increased, thanks to the generosity of Lexus Woodford and the first prize will be £200, second £100 and two prizes of £25 each for the group runners up.
- xi. Catering is a major concern as we are not sure if this is something our Catering Director Carol Tresadern can deal with as she is suffering hip problems and would not be able to stand all day, we have to have alternative plans in place.
 - Steve Klein to speak with Delicacy, Sue Palmer, Brian Powell and Leanne's (his daughter's) company to get quotes to provide two, finger buffets, one at 1pm and the second at 2pm. Food should be enough for 80 covers.
 - 2. The caterer should make provisions for a vegetarian/vegan option.
 - 3. If all this fails we could revert to fish and chips.
 - 4. STEVEN KLEIN to speak with Glenn Stevens and Brian Powell about donating deserts/cakes as a second course course rather than ask the caterer to supply this.
 - 5. STEVEN KLEIN to ask his daughter Leanne if she would help out on the day with serving and clearing the tables and maybe bring a friend. If not available or interested, we will need help from members.
 - 6. Bob Hayter to arrange disposable plastic plates and cutlery.
- xii. Pat Brown will be in charge of the White Elephant Table and Raffle.
 - 1. More raffle prizes are needed.
- xiii. Pat Brown to contact Bowls Direct to see if they are available on the day.
- xiv. Darrell Witek has agreed to don the yellow jacket and take charge of the parking on the day.
 - 1. Bob Hayter to ask school if we can use their car park as an overflow on the day.
 - 2. Space should be made available for the Mayor's car and also for at least two Lexus cars.
- xv. It is essential that club members help out on the day with meeting and greeting and general duties such as selling raffle tickets.
- xvi. If members attending want lunch, the cost will be $\pounds 5$ per person.
- xvii. Gerry Gillan has agreed to take the photos on the day.
- b. There was insufficient interest in forming a bridge group.
- c. There was insufficient interest in forming a darts league.

- d. The first effort at a Promotional Video was found not to be suitable. This idea to be put on hold for now and looked at again at the end of the season.
- e. Bowlathon STEVEN KLEIN to speak to Brian Powell about progressing this idea next season.
- f. The Christmas raffle raised £450. Bob Hayter suggested that we donate some of this to King George and Whipps Cross Hospitals Wish Lists. This is a more personal way of getting the money to the doctors, nurses and medical staff who need it rather than going into an enormous fund where little benefit is felt at local level. This idea was approved and Bob Hayter will buy some goods from Costco for this purpose.

5. Publicity and Advertising

- a. Emergencies accepted, the Mayor of Redbridge will be attending the Gala along with the Mayoress and his chauffeur.
- b. STEVEN KLEIN to try to get write up in the London News and Ilford Recorder.
- c. STEVEN KLEIN to contact Bowls International about putting an article in their publication. ALAN JAYE to supply the contact details.
- d. Handbook We need to start promoting handbook advertising for the 2022 handbook. Anyone interested in advertising should contact Bob as soon as possible.
- e. We will also be reintroducing the personal members entry page. Entries will cost just £10 per person. Please give your donation to Bob if you want to be included.
- f. The scrolling advertising system has now been installed and is up and running in the lounge. Members should be encouraged to watch the notices being promoted.

6. Leagues and Match Reports

- a. Despite difficulties with Covid and players self-isolating, the leagues have been running relatively smoothly.
- b. The unfortunate death of Bernard Wanger has put increasing pressure on John Pluck in the running of the Over 60's A team. Paul Whellams has expressed an interest to help and either take over the running of the team or assist John Pluck as required.
- c. KEN SPICER advised that the Over 60's B team are not experiencing any problems.
- d. Most friendly matches are being played but there have been drop outs due to Covid.
- e. Central Park have shown an interest in playing a weekend friendly or two. Eric Brown to see if a fixture can be arranged.
- f. The Outside In league is running well but games have been affected by Covid.
- g. DARRELL WITEK suggested introducing a substitute system. If a player in a match becomes unwell or over-tired, the substitute could take his/her place. This would be ideal for older bowlers or bowlers recovering from illness. This item to be added to the Agenda for the AGM.
- h. The ladies leagues are struggling with insufficient numbers. Please contact Pat or Sandra if you are able to play.
- i. There is very little interest in the Wednesday Ladies Drive. This should be turned into a general roll up to utilise the use of all available rinks. Bob Hayter to advise on the logistics of doing this.

- j. Sandra Dupuy asked if we could introduce more Target bowls sessions. Bob Hayter advised that it takes a good hour to set this up. If another member wants to take responsibility for doing this, he has no objection.
- k. ALAN JAYE to ask members to support Wednesday 12:30 and 2:30 roll up sessions which are currently under attended. All members should check their handbooks in case of competitions or County games.
- I. It was suggested scrapping the handicap system for the ladies to make it fairer for both new and experienced players. This item to be added to the Agenda for the AGM.
- m. No progress has been made with starting a Newbies League/Competition. ALAN JAYE and STEVEN KLEIN to chase **Brian Yershon** on this.

7. Health, Safety and Security (including Covid)

- a. In accordance with EIBA recommendations, CO² monitors have been installed throughout the club to monitor air quality. The air quality will be watched and doors and windows opened when quality levels drop. Apologies if this makes it too hot or cold but it is essential to ventilate the club as best possible.
- b. Thanks to Colin Sinclair for donating the money to pay for them.
- c. We also installed additional CO (Carbon Monoxide) monitors in areas suggested by Lou Dightmaker.
- d. The Covid measures in place are all in accordance with Government and EIBA recommendations and will be kept under review as the Covid situation changes.
- e. Some lateral flow tests are available but members should self-test at home before coming to the club as it is not feasible to test everyone at the club.
- f. Bob Hayter suggested that a further 3 cameras were required to ensure proper security coverage. He will speak to Aeon about this.
- g. In the absence of an H&S Director there were no additional issues to be addressed.

8. Welfare

- a. It was reported that Ian Robertson had suffered a major stroke but is slowly recovering. Sandra Dupuy to find out how he is now? Maybe Gary Cook knows more as they are both Hainault members?
- b. Best wishes to John Pluck and Tony Seago who are both having operations or procedures in the next week or so.
- c. Best wishes to Sandra Cohen (Melvyn Cohen's wife) who is also having treatment in hospital.
- d. SANDRA DUPUY had nothing else to report on welfare matters.
- e. DARRELL WITEK suggested forming an Anxiety Forum. Members suffering with anxiety or depression or bereavement, could meet up on a regular basis to talk through their problems with like-minded members over a cup of coffee or a drink. The idea was approved by those present.
 - i. After discussion with Bob Hayter and AJ, it was decided to set aside Tuesdays at 10:00 on a three weekly cycle starting in February. ALAN JAYE to promote this to the membership in the Newsletter and via email and on the advertising screen.

f. If anyone does hear that there has been a bereavement, illness, birth, marriage, barmitzvah, anniversary etc., please let SANDRA DUPUY know.

9. Maintenance

- a. Thanks again to Ian Treleaven, Eric Brown, Melvyn Cohen and Tony Seago for helping to maintain the club in pristine condition. This saves the club considerable money over time.
- b. IAN TRELEAVEN asked if the club could buy an electronic pest deterrent as some of the bulbs had been dug up by foxes or squirrels or bears. IAN TRELEAVEN to get quotes and Bob Hayter to approve as necessary.
- c. Bob Hayter suggested that the rear wall of the club will need repainting in the summer. DARRELL WITEK and TONY SEAGO to be asked if they will do this if possible. This is a saving of approximately £1000 to the club.
- d. Bob Hayter explained the proposed changes to the lighting in the lounge, bar, toilets and corridors. More efficient LED lighting will be used and light sensors with over-riders will be installed where necessary. The cost for this work will be in the region of £1200.
 - i. Bob Hayter to get second quote.
- e. The carpet is due to be stretched again on Tuesday 11th January at 8:00am. The greens may not be available until approximately 11:00am.

10. Any other business

- a. Sandy Dron asked if we could get more pushers but it was agreed that they are a tripping hazard and more would only add to the possible problems. Also some indoor clubs do not have any at all.
- b. Bob Hayter to arrange to have the scoreboards serviced.
- c. It was agreed to carry on with Zoom Pro subscriptions until further notice as this is a useful communications tool during the Covid crisis.





Our preferred payment method for fees, food and beverages and even green fees, is by card. Payments can be made at the bar.

XXXXX

If you are not already in a league team and want to join, gents please speak to Bob Hayter and ladies to Pat Brown or Sandra Dupuy to register your interest.

XXXXX

This is YOUR Newsletter so If you have anything interesting or important you would like published in future Newsletters, please send details to Alan.

XXXXX

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

<u>CALL 020 8597 6040 or 07505 171682 or</u> <u>email Bob.Hayter@iibc.uk</u>

<u>Further notices and items of interest will be posted on</u> <u>the scrolling advertising board in the lounge. Members</u> <u>are encouraged to read these notices as some are quite</u> <u>important. These will be updated on a regular basis.</u>

Annual Meeting Dates

Please make a note of the following important meeting dates:-

Ladies General Meeting – Sunday 6th March 2022 at 10:00 at the Club

Gents Annual Meeting - Friday 11th March 2022 at 19:00 at the Club

Annual General Meeting 2022 -Sunday 10th April 2022 at 10:00 at the Club

This is your chance to voice your opinions and have your say in running the club. All items to be included must be sent by email to the Hon General Secretary by not later than Sunday 27th March 2022. Email - Secretary@iibc.UK

Important Numbers

Club Telephone Number - 020 8597 6040 Club Email address - <u>info@iibc.uk</u> Website - <u>www.iibc.uk</u> Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/groups/IlfordIBC/

Club President and Ladies Section Secretary - Pat Brown - 01708 556148

Club Chairman & Membership Secretary - Sandy Dron - 01708 347492

Club Manager, Treasurer, Competitions Secretary and League Secretary, Bar Manager - Bob Hayter - 07505 171682 - Bob.Hayter@iibc.uk

Maintenance Team - Eric Brown, Melvyn Cohen, Tony Seago, Ian Treleaven

Director of Publicity & Sponsorship - Steven Klein - 07771 720620 srk48klein@gmail.com

Director of Membership Development – Jack Matthews – 07971 748372 jackmatthews99@gmail.com

Director of Press & Communications – Gerry Gillan – 07572 616868 gerrygillan5@gmail.com

Welfare Director and Ladies Captain - Sandra Dupuy - 07545 544966

Ladies Vice-Captain - Sonia McDonald - 020 8491 9566

Health & Safety & Security Director -Vacant

General Secretary and Men's Section Secretary – Alan Jaye – 07722 240237 – Alan.Jaye@iibc.uk

Men's Captain - Ken Spicer - 07989 309114

Men's Vice-Captain - Brian Powell - 07782 636363

Club address – Ilford & District Indoor Bowls Club Ltd Perrymans Farm Road, Newbury Park, Ilford, Essex, IG2 7LX