



## Newsletter 15 - April 2021

As at the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021

As we draw close to the end another action packed season of indoor bowls and reflect in the success of our teams in the County and National leagues, we take a moment to reflect on how things could have been had we had been shut down by a dreadful 'bat fuelled' pandemic... Well that should have been the headline statement but of course it is far from the truth. Our season was indeed decimated by Covid 19 and it's nasty Kent, Brazillian and South African brothers. We managed but a few weeks of bowls in 2020 and none at all so far in 2021. Despite all our best efforts to prepare the club and make it Covid secure, those in the higher escalons of society and Government had other ideas and they took away our keys and told us all to go home and stare out of our windows for a year or so.

Our thoughts must immediately turn to our members who have been unable to participate in the sport they love or at least enjoy and I include the Board of Directors and entire Management Team in that statement. How we prayed we would be allowed to start playing again and to welcoming back our friends and fellow bowlers, but to no avail.

It is however not all bad news and the closure has given us a great opportunity to put our house in order in many ways. We occupy an aging building and after 35 years of 'misuse', it is beginning to show its age. We therefore turned our efforts from organising bowls fixtures to repairing some of the defects and in case you thought the Management Team were sitting on their hands, these are some of the things we have achieved in no particular order:-

Repairs to the road surface at the entrance of the car park.

Renewing the white lines marking out the car parking spaces.

Replacing all the car park lighting

Replacing the entire heating unit and controllers in the playing area.

Overhauling the ventilation system in the lounge and bar area.

High level deep cleaning



Replacing the benches and seating in the main hall and lounge

New vinyl coverings in changing rooms, kitchen and bar areas.

Repairing the rotting backboards surrounding the greens and replacing our worn out playing surface.



Redecorating the changing rooms, bar, and several other areas of the club.

Clearing out the attic and 25 years worth of archived files and papers with the help of some pretty large rat and spidery looking things!!

New emergency lighting and signage.

Removal of redundant extractor fans and treatment of damp and spores.

New signage at entrance.



Repairs to pot-holes in the main car park.

Replacing damaged fencing.

Replacement Saniflow system in bar.

New coffee equipment in bar area.

Revision of Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Repairing leaking roofs and gutters.

Clearing and relaying the grassy area to the front of the club and maintaining it.

Replacing the kitchen boiler and radiators serving the lounge and back of the playing area.

New till and card payment system.

New redesigned club shirts. Still available for sale.

Introduction of Covid protection methods such as sanitisers and fogging equipment.

## Work in Progress

Set up new electronic information board in bar area.

Repairing the fire escape doors and ironmongery.

Replacing the glass washer.

Replacing the aging and failing security camera system.

Redecorating the entire outside of the building.



Repairing rotting wooden frames and architraves around the building.

The list goes on. A great deal of this work has been carried out by our own maintenance team. This has saved the club thousands of pounds and our thanks go to all members who have contributed in any way and offered their services free of charge.

A special vote of thanks has to go to Diana Simpson who whilst not a member of the club, spent hours helping Steve clearing out the attic and other maintenance jobs.

# News from the Boardroom

## 1) Matters Arising from the AGM

- a) It was agreed that the AGM went well despite being held by Zoom. It was disappointing that only 37 members were able to attend. We appreciate that members have other commitments at weekends but once a year? Is that too much to ask? Thank you to everyone who did manage to log in to Zoom.
- b) The main purpose of the AGM was to vote on several important issues including the election of three new Directors. We were delighted that 93 members did vote in one of the four ways we made available. All votes received by post, email and electronically, were passed by a vast majority.
- c) Full list of officers for all committees for 2021/2022 is available on application to the General Secretary.
- d) There was a vote of thanks from Mr Michael Pace, to all the Directors, Management Team and Officers for all their hard work during the very difficult year. This was echoed by other members present.
- e) Sandy Dron welcomed our three new Directors and thanked our retiring Directors for their service to the Club.

## 2) Matters arising from meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

- a) There were no matters arising from the previous Management Team meeting.

## 3) Membership Reports

- a) New membership cards are ready and can be collected when the club re-opens in September.
- b) The question of whether these cards are still needed was raised given we have the EvePass Electronic Booking in system and a manual register. Bob Hayter advised that we had an abundance of the cards so there was no additional cost to the club.
- c) He also advised that we are looking into a new camera security system that could well include a new entry system and/or replacement of the current fob entry system. He is awaiting quotes for this.
- d) Jack Matthews mentioned that other clubs still insist on seeing proof of membership when visitors come to their club. The Membership Card satisfies that criteria.
- e) It was also suggested that sponsors might agree to sponsor the Membership Cards.
- f) It was agreed to retain the card system until any new system is in place.
- g) There will be 165 members in the thank you Draw but it was agreed to hold the draw in September when the club re-opens.

## 4) Financial and Staffing Reports

- a) Bob Hayter advised that the balance at the bank was the best for many years mainly due to the Government grants and furlough payments and the generosity of members who paid their fees and donations in advance. However, we have instructed contractors to carry out some much needed maintenance work see **10** below which will deplete that balance in the next month or two.
- b) Oaks Park School have commenced using the club's premises and have paid the fee up until the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021. There is a possibility that this could be extended further into July. The school have been asked to let us know by the end of May.

- c) **REMINDER** - During the occupation of the hall by the school, access to the club will be very limited so anyone who has not collected their bowls will have to arrange with Bob Hayter.
- d) **REMINDER** - Because of Safeguarding rules, an AUTHORISED Management Team member must accompany anyone entering the club.

## 5) Events

- a) When Covid restrictions are relaxed further, the Management Team should concentrate efforts to re-start a program of events. These are some of the ideas already suggested:-
  - i) Open the club up for birthdays/wedding receptions bridge evenings. Club members only.
  - ii) Bob Hayter to speak with John Knubley about arranging bridge sessions.
  - iii) Start a darts league
    - (1) Brian Powell to speak to Mark Newman to see if this idea is feasible.
    - (2) Bear in mind additional staffing costs, insurance utilities etc.
  - iv) Introduce short mat Bowls competition.
    - (1) It would not be worth having to buy and store specialised mats and equipment but we should be able to play across the green? Steve Simpson has measured the green out and at least six rinks are feasible.
    - (2) Bob Hayter to speak with other bowls committee members to see if this idea can be moved forward and to trial it out when possible.
  - v) David Baxter suggested having a knockout competition or OPEN league probably on a Tuesday evening.
    - (1) Players would not have to be members of Ilford, but should be a member of a recognised outdoor club.
    - (2) A charge of £25 per team to be made, so Ilford benefit. We would provide a trophy included in that price.
    - (3) There would still be a £3 green fee to pay in addition to the entry fee.
    - (4) David Baxter is the Walthamstow & District competition secretary so he has agreed to investigate the feasibility and administer it with the W&D clubs if the idea was a goer.
    - (5) We would need to keep some Tuesday nights free for club knockout and external knockout competitions.
    - (6) It may give people that do not play indoors, a chance to try it indoor bowls. If they enjoy, then they may wish to join the club.
    - (7) David Baxter advised that he will look for interest from outdoor clubs when Walthamstow & District commence their outdoor season
  - vi) Laser rifle shooting range - Colin Foster
    - (1) This was a partly flippant idea but not a bad one. Bob Hayter to speak to Colin Foster about this to see if there might be some interest.
- b) Progress report - Bob Hayter advised that we were trying to get our old TV set up in the lounge, linked to a special advertising box. That way we could program and run continuous event details on screen. This is a good way to bring club events to the attention of members whilst they sit in our lounge waiting to bowl. Bob Hayter to speak to Eric and Colin Foster about how this can be done.
- c) Gala Day 2022
  - i) The next Gala Day will be Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022.
- d) Grand Re-opening event
  - i) No date set for this event.
- e) Promotional video and photography
  - i) We are fortunate enough to have a professional photographer on our Board. Gerry Gillan (GG) suggested creating a promotional video for the club to promote the use of our bar and lounge. Whilst there was concern about this as we want to restrict usage to members and



their families, the idea of promotional videos as a sponsorship tool is very appealing and should be considered.

- ii) Alan Jaye suggested that Gerry Gillan speak with our new Sponsorship Director, Steven Klein (SK) to see if this idea can be incorporated and developed.

## 6) Fundraising and Charity

- a) It was agreed that we should not ask members to contribute a further £10 for entry onto the Members Page in the Handbook. Members who subscribed £15 or more at renewal will automatically be included.
- b) Whilst the club's charity, NHS Charities Together, for 2021/2022 has been chosen, members should be encouraged to suggest other smaller local charities for next year and a notice will be sent out nearer to the time of the next AGM.

## 7) Leagues and Match Reports

- a) All teams in the leagues for the 2021/2022 season are now in. There were no dropouts. There are still plenty of opportunities for members who are not in a league team or who wish to play on other days, to join a team or enter a team. They should contact Bob Hayter as soon as possible.
- b) There are still vacancies for new teams, particularly for the Wednesday and Friday 10:30 leagues.
- c) Bob Hayter to recirculate an invitation letter to try to attract more interest.
- d) There was no response to the introduction of Open and Mixed Leagues? Team Captains were reminded that all our leagues are open to men and women. We operate an open league policy and members should be encouraged to join any team who is struggling for members. Members should contact the Team Captains for further advice and direction.
  - i) All members should still be thinking of ideas to regenerate interest in the leagues and matches as soon as restrictions are eased. New forms of competitions, friendly matches, different formats. The Management Team to give this serious thought and to bring proposals to the next Management Team meeting for discussion.
  - ii) Newbies League or competition. (Brian Yershon?)
  - iii) Bowlathon (Brian Powell?)
  - iv) Round robin competition. This could be incorporated as a Gala Day event.
- e) NEW Suggestion from Phil Joslin
  - i) That we invite local outdoor clubs to a series of afternoon/evening roll ups. Whilst these visitors would be encouraged to join IIBC, there would be no obligation but a green fee of £5 per person would be charged.
  - ii) This idea should be developed in conjunction with 5)a)v) above.
- f) Care to be taken not to upset existing members who might be prevented from playing on certain days.

## 8) Health, Safety and Security (including Covid)

- a) Problems with our aging camera system continue. We are awaiting quotations to replace the system.
  - i) Contractor to be asked to adjust car park lighting when they install the new cameras.
  - ii) The contract for 24 hour monitoring has been cancelled. We will look into starting a new contract when the new system is installed.
  - iii) Bob Hayter to consider integrating the fob entry system if possible.
- b) Vaccine Passports - Possible introduction
  - i) The Government is still discussing vaccine passports. We will not introduce a passport system unless advised or instructed by the EIBA.
- c) Lateral Flow Testing

- i) Our thanks to Lou Dightmaker who has sourced some Lateral Flow Tests that could be used instead of a Vaccine Passport. Louis Dightmaker to expand on how these work and if they are suitable for us.

## 9) Welfare

- a) Sandra Dupuy advised that there was nothing to report in this section.
- b) If anyone does hear that there has been a bereavement, birth, marriage, barmitzvah, anniversary etc, please let Sandra Dupuy know.

## 10) Maintenance

- a) The painting of the outside of the club is progressing well. It is a very big job and weather dependant. All sides of the building are now being painted.
  - i) Replacement of boiler and radiators now completed.
  - ii) Eric Brown advised that we would also need to replace the ancient timer.
- b) Eric Brown expressed concern over the replacement (second hand) glass washer that might need to be replaced.
  - i) In the meantime, the Saniflow system has been replaced and not before time.
- c) Gardens and car park.
  - i) Replacement of exterior fence. - Quotation agreed. Work to start 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022.
- d) Carpet stretching date.
  - i) Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 08:30 am.
- e) After further examination of the fire escape doors, Tony Seago feels they can be repaired, strengthened and redecorated, **after school vacates**.
  - i) **Any work in this respect to be carried out outside of school hours.**
- f) Bob to obtain estimates to replace carpet surrounds around green when the boards have been taken up.
- g) Ventilation system - There are some serious concerns about ventilation at the club after complaints from the school.
  - i) Alan Jaye suggested that we need to get independent heating and ventilation experts to come in to the club, assess the problems and hopefully come up with an affordable solution. We should not delay doing this as there might be Covid requirements as well.
  - ii) Gerry Gillan will contact the company who installed a ventilation system at his church and ask them to contact Bob Hayter.
  - iii) Bob, Lou and Alan to try to find alternative companies and ask them to advise and quote. It will be necessary to meet on site after but not whilst the school are on site.
  - iv) The cost of a new air handling system could be very expensive. Alan Jaye to start looking for funders once he has an idea of the likely costs.
- h) Car park and weeding.
  - i) The weeds were treated last year with a very strong weed killer and we should see the benefits of this, this summer.
- i) Ian Treleaven (IT), has agreed to maintain the grassy area at the front of the club in conjunction with Eric. Our thanks for his assistance.

## 11) Any other business

- a) Sandy Dron proposed and Sandra Dupuy seconded that our President Pat Brown be made a Life Member of the Club for her service and dedication to the club over the past 30 years.
- b) The proposal was unanimously passed by all present.
- c) Alan Jaye Proposed and Phil Fagelson seconded that our Treasurer, Club Manager, Competitions Secretary, League Secretary, Bar Manager and Ladies League Secretary, Bob Hayter be made a Life Member for his sterling work running the leagues since 2005 and preparing the handbooks. For the past 3 years he has been Club Manager and Treasurer and has steered us through this awful pandemic.
- d) The proposal was passed unanimously by all present.

- e) As a member did question the validity of the Management Team being able to appoint Life Members without agreement from the entire membership, Alan Jaye and Sandy Dron felt it prudent to clarify the official position.
  - i) AD advised that there was nothing in our constitution suggesting that the appointment of life members had to be approved by the membership. The Board of Directors already have the authority to create new membership classifications and to set fees and conditions accordingly.
  - ii) Life Members are awarded this honour in two ways:-
    - (1) By payment of a one off Life Membership Fee, currently £1,000
    - (2) By being proposed and seconded by a Director, Management Team Officer or Full Club Member. The proposal is put to a vote at a future Management Team Meeting and a decision taken thereafter.
    - (3) There is no automatic entitlement to Life Membership for holding any office or position at the Club. The criteria are:-
      - (a) Outstanding service and dedication to the Club over an extended period of time.
      - (b) Exceptional, loyal and outstanding service and contribution such as fundraising, donations, unpaid work, or service that has a provided measurable benefit to the Club over an extended period of time.
- f) Alan Jaye asked Ian Treleaven if he knew where we might safely 'invest' some of our club funds effectively creating a sinking fund for future expenditure.
  - i) Ian Treleaven agreed to look into this.
- g) Alan Jaye asked Steven Klein if he would be prepared to take on the role of Director of Sponsorship and Steve graciously accepted this responsibility.
- h) Alan Jaye to meet with Jack Matthews (JM) to discuss his newly appointed role as Director of Membership Development.
  - i) Some work on this has already been done so Jack Matthews needs to know this before approaching outside bodies or organisations.
  - ii) **REMINDER** - The club has to be careful when offering its facilities to under 18 year olds. Jack Matthews to speak with Sandra Dupuy regarding the welfare and Safeguarding of minors.

## 12) Date of next Meeting

- a) **The date of the next Management Team Meeting will be Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 7:30 pm. Members will be advised if this will be by Zoom or at the Club.**



As usual please help the Club, PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD.

Not everyone has access to emails

or is a Facebook user!!!

**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.**

## Reminder

The pandemic is not over yet so continue to be vigilant, social distance, wash your hands regularly and wear a facemask and/or visor whenever you can when in the club.

If you do visit the club, don't forget to sign in using the NHS App, EvePass or the manual register and follow our Covid 19 instructions which are in place to protect you and your fellow bowlers.

Keep Safe



## A bit about the Club's history - Part 1

### Elford & District Indoor Bowls Club

#### History & Projection

The Elford Borough Indoor Bowling Club which was founded in 1934 and is amongst the earliest of ~~the~~ the Country's Indoor Bowling Clubs has had its headquarters since formation, at the Elford High Road Baths.

The First Class Bath was converted to and adapted for Indoor Bowls for the winter months (October to April) each year.

The Club has always enjoyed membership of the English Indoor Bowling Association and of the Essex County Indoor Bowling Association since the formation of both Associations.

In 1961 the Club won the prestigious National Senary Cup competition.

The Club after enjoying the Borough facilities for 48 years was dispossessed in 1981 following pressure from the swimmers for all the year round use of the Bath.

The Club is anxious to continue its activities, and the Borough of Redbridge has made available an ideally ~~sited~~ sited plot of land which the club is projecting to develop as a 4 rink purpose built Indoor Bowling Green.

The Club has retained its membership of the English Indoor Bowling Association and of the Essex County Indoor Bowling Association and is continuing to operate as a club at the moment by playing all its matches on opponents' greens and has had to restrict its activities to a minimum.

**Further instalment to follow next month**

## **Important Numbers**

**Club Telephone Number - 020 8597 6040**

**Club Email address - [info@iibc.uk](mailto:info@iibc.uk)**

**Website - [www.iibc.uk](http://www.iibc.uk)**

**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](mailto:Bob.Hayter@iibc.uk)**

**Maintenance Team - Eric Brown, Melvyn Cohen, Tony Seago, Steve Simpson**

**Welfare Director and Ladies Captain - Sandra Dupuy - 07545 544966**

**Ladies Vice Captain - Sonia McDonald - 020 8491 9566**

**Health & Safety & Security Director -  
Louis Dightmaker - 07944 274205**

**General Secretary and Men's Section Secretary -  
Alan Jaye - 07722 240237 - [Alan.Jaye@iibc.uk](mailto: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**

