



Newsletter 14 - March 2021

As at the 13th March 2021

I'm looking out of my window, much as I have been doing for the past year, and looking at the beautiful blue sky and sunshine. My son and daughter in law have just sent me a cream tea for my birthday and life feels good, the first time since last March. At last I see and feel that the end of this pandemic is in sight. I know it is early days and there are plenty of obstacles yet to overcome but a third of the population have now had at least 1 jab, the treatments are getting better and MOST



people are obeying the social distancing rules. Will things get worse now the kids are back at school? Probably but the serotonin is beginning to kick in and I reckon that we will be back in business in September.

The Club is in a good financial position thanks mainly to an assortment of grants and payments from Sport England, the Government, HMRC (furlough payments), Oaks Park School and the generosity of the members who re-joined before the 14th February. The situation could have been far worse without this influx of funds and our outgoings would have exceeded our income by as much as £25,000. The money from the school came as a real and pleasant surprise. There are no exams this year but they are hiring our hall as classrooms and will be on site until at least 2nd July, possibly longer. Officially, we might have been allowed to re-open on the 12th April but as we would have had to close anyway on the 18th and as the school were offering to hire us, there was no point in opening for just a few days.

Whilst we were closed, our admin and maintenance teams were hard at work repairing and decorating the inside of the club and effecting roof repairs. A big thank you to all involved. It is because of these members we are able to provide and sustain such good facilities. We will be doing even more extensive work to the Club in the summer. We will be repainting the outside of the building, replacing our aging security camera system, replacing the boiler serving the changing rooms, replacing or repairing the fire exit doors and repairing part of the perimeter fence. Full detail below. We have to maintain the condition of the club which is over 30 years old so unfortunately these repairs and renewals which whilst expensive, are essential.

I am really sorry to announce that our two Maintenance Directors, Steve Simpson and Eric Brown have both decided not to stand for reelection at the AGM thus reducing the number of Directors to seven out of a possible twelve. Eric is also standing down as mens's Vice Captain. Our sincere thanks to both of these guys who have agreed that they will continue working for the club albeit not on the Board.

Subject to a vote at the AGM, I am delighted to welcome 3 new Directors and 5 new Management Team members. Gerry Gillan, Jack Matthews and Steven Klein have agreed to join the Main Board. They bring with them a wealth of experience and enthusiasm and I look forward to working with them in the coming months. The Manangment Committe welcome Karen Lichkin, Brian Yershon, Ian Treleaven, Melvyn Cohen and Tony Golding. This lady and these gents are all new members who I hope will breathe new life into our Club and take us to the next level of excellence. Once they have had a chance to get their feet under the table, we will, with their cooperation, assign them responsibilities so that all areas of running and promoting the Club, are fully covered. Our thanks to Melvyn Cohen has already agreed to head up the maintenance team. Thanks also to Bernard Wanger who has agreed to stay on as Over 60's joint A team manager for another year.

As you will see from the Board room gossip below, several new ideas have been suggested for when the Club get's back on its feet. However, we are always willing to look at and consider new ideas for playing formats, leagues and Club events and functions so if you can think of anything, please let the Management Team know.

When we do re-open we will need your help to ensure that all the leagues are fully subscribed and that we fulfil all interclub and friendly matches. Please remember that the Club operates an open league policy. This means that the ladies can enter a team in a men's league and vice versa and that teams can be mixed. There are plenty of opportunities to join one of the league teams so if you want to play and do not already have a team to play in, contact the Management Team or Club Captains who will point you in the right direction.

News from the Boardroom

1) Membership and Fees for 2021 and 2022

- a) Bob Hayter advised that whilst 80% of the members did renew, 61 members did not renew by the 14th February cut off date. 41 men, 19 women and 1 social member.
- b) All members who did not re-join will be contacted in August in the hope that they will return to Ilford in September.
- c) The fee discount for the 2022 will be calculated once we know when the club will be allowed to reopen and under what restrictions.
- d) Membership cards are being reintroduced and are being prepared and will be available soon. Members will be told when and how these can be collected.
- e) There will be 168 members in the Thank you Draw but it was agreed to hold the draw in September when the club re-opens.
- f) We will be offering free coaching to members who joined the club in 2020 but did not have the opportunity to play and develop their skills.
- g) The Memorandum and Articles have been amended to allow for up to 12 Directors instead of 10.

2) Finance, Staffing and related matters

- a) Bob Hayter advised that there is a healthy balance at bank. However, there are outstanding bills amounting to £4,000 to be deducted from that.
- b) The Company Accounts have been completed and are available to members on demand. A copy will go out with the AGM Pack in March.
- c) Subsequent to discussions at the last Management Meeting, Bob Hayter contacted Oaks Park School and they have agreed to hire our hall from the 1st March to the 2nd July 2021. There is a possibility that this could be extended further into July. This generates welcome funds for the Club and is a major contributor towards our financial stability. The school will also provide their own sanitising equipment and will clean the club at the end of each day. Thanks to Bob for negotiating this unexpected arrangement.
- d) The school politely rejected Bob's offer to hire our Fogging machine to them at £100 a week. Cannot imagine why?
- e) The boards have already been laid thanks to Bob, Eric, Steve, Tony, Bob and Michael along with an increased compliment of staff from the school. Occupation commences on the 8th March.
- f) 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 make arrangements with Bob Hayter.
- g) Because of Safeguarding rules, an AUTHORISED Management Team member must accompany anyone entering the club.
- h) We continue to receive some income from the taxis parked in our car park.

3) Events for 2021 and 2022

- a) Suggestions received from Club Members were discussed
 - i) Open the club up for birthdays/ wedding receptions bridge evenings
 - (1) The lounge has always been available to club members for functions and parties. Unfortunately, the one or two events booked for 2020 had to be cancelled. The availability of the lounge will be promoted via our website, Facebook, by word of mouth, and by our new proposed TV advertising screen. (See below).

- (2) We did ask members a few years ago if they would like to have a Whist Drive. Only one positive response was received at that time.
- (3) Bob Hayter to speak with John Knubley about arranging bridge sessions.
- ii) Consider again getting a full music licence
 - (1) If we could guarantee regular functions, the club would invest in a music licence (cost circa £450). In the meantime, we would be prepared to purchase one off licences, the cost of which would be borne by the hirer.
- iii) Start a dart 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) Could we introduce short mat Bowls? BP
 - (1) There was lengthy discussion about this and the response was very positive in favour.
 - (2) It would not be worth having to buy and store specialised mats and equipment but we might be able to play across the green? Bob Hayter to measure out the areas needed to assess viability.
- 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 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/£4 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 though for club knockout competitions and external knockout competitions.
 - (6) It may give people that do not play indoors, a chance to try it out. If they enjoy then they may join the club.
- vi) Maybe just open up as a bar in the summer DW
 - (1) It was agreed that this was not viable for a variety of reasons.
- vii) Laser rifle shooting range - Colin Foster
 - (1) Bob Hayter to speak to Colin Foster about this.
- viii) Maureen Pedraza expressed concern and suggested that we do not try to plan too far ahead. This pandemic is far from over yet.
- ix) 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.

4) Charity and Fundraising

- a) A small donation of £64 was made from our charity jar on the bar to St Francis Hospice.
- b) Commercial sponsors who contributed towards the 2020/2021 Handbook will get automatic inclusion in the next handbook at no additional cost.

5) Leagues for 2021/2022

- a) Bob Hayter to contact all league captains who have not already returned their league application forms, to ask them to complete them AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- b) Team Captains to be 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 Club Captains for further advice and direction.

- c) SD expressed concern about the lack of bowling opportunities for the women.
 - i) SD was reminded that the club now have an open league policy and women can play in men's teams and vice versa and they can enter teams of their own in any of the men's leagues, and vice versa.
 - ii) AJ to remind members by email and on Facebook and Bob to post an article on our website.
- d) Bowls committee reps 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. MT to give this serious thought and to bring proposals to the next MT meeting for discussion.
 - i) Newbies League or competition.
 - ii) Bowlathon
 - iii) Round robin competition

6) Welfare Update

- a) Bereavement news
 - i) Condolences have been sent to the families of Derek Ward and Alan Knight.
- b) Get well messages have been sent to Sandra Hayter and Barbara Jaye who are both recovering from recent surgery.
- c) Congratulations were sent to Pat and Eric Gleave who have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in lockdown. They wanted to go to Majorca but tickets to Lockdown were a lot cheaper!
- d) Enquiries were made about Ricky Watson our former membership secretary. Ricky is in good spirits. He is awaiting the installation of a chair lift and also new prosthetics.

7) Health & Safety, Social Distancing and security

- a) As Louis Dightmaker was not present, there was nothing to report on Health & Safety.
- b) Problems with 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 as it had been realised the cameras were not being monitored as expected. This saves the club approximately £1000 a year. We will look into starting a new contract when the new system is installed.
- c) Vaccine Passports - **Possible** introduction
 - i) There was a lively debate on this. The majority were in favour of introducing a passport system IF the Government and/or the EIBA approve it. Some members felt it was discriminatory but Bob Hayter reminded them that a decision would be made in the interests of Health and Safety to protect its members from possible infection.
- d) Lateral Flow Testing
 - i) It was asked if any one who did not want the vaccination, would be prepared to take a lateral flow test. The member concerned has agreed to research this before making a decision.
 - ii) AJ asked LD to find out if lateral flow tests could be obtained, as they are available in schools and other government organisations. First response was that they could not be obtained yet. Further investigation is needed, as this could be a solution to the No Passport problem.

8) Club Maintenance & Gardening

- a) Further to advice from our Accountants, we will now be painting all exterior paintwork. SS will be finalising the specification and quotation in the next few days.
 - i) The work is to be carried out over the Easter holidays weather permitting, so as not to disrupt the children in the club.
- b) We are awaiting a quote to replace the boiler, pump and radiators serving changing rooms and parts of the lounge.
 - i) Work to be carried out at weekends.
- c) Gardens and car park.
 - i) Part of the exterior fence is damaged and will be replaced.
- d) Carpet stretching date
 - i) Nothing planned but will be scheduled for early September, once we know when we will be opening.
- e) After further examination of the fire escape doors, Tony Seago feels they can be repaired, strengthened and redecorated.
 - 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.

9) Any other business

- a) Sincere thanks were given to Eric Brown who is leaving the Board of Directors at the next AGM. Eric will be helping out where and whenever possible but will not be a Board Member.
- b) Sincere thanks were given to Steve Simpson who is leaving the Board of Directors at the next AGM. Steve will be helping out where and whenever possible but will not be a Board Member.
- c) Sandy Dron proposed and the motion was seconded by Bob Hayter and passed by the MT that our General Secretary Alan Jaye be given Life Membership of the Club for the contribution and efforts he has made over the past 2 years in raising over £70,000 in grants and other money. This also included funding for our beautiful new green, which will eventually be the envy of all local club when we are allowed to re-open.
 - i) AJ thanked the MT for this gesture but asked when he would be getting his new company car?

10)AGM 2021

- a) Reminder - 2021 AGM. Sunday 11th April 2021 at 10:00 by Zoom
 - i) AD reminded the team that in accordance with the Articles of Association, three Directors namely, Steve Simpson, Eric Brown and Philip Fagelson will retire by rotation and can stand for re-election.
 - (1) Steve Simpson and Eric Brown have decided not to stand for re-election.
 - (2) Phil Fagelson agreed to stand again.
 - ii) The Memorandum and Articles have been amended to allow for up to 12 Directors.
 - iii) Notice of AGM Meeting to be sent out by AJ by the 14th March 2021 along with a Nomination for Directors and Officers form.
 - iv) If anyone on the MT team wishes to stand as a Director or if they know of any member who wants to stand as a Director or officer of the club can they please encourage that member to contact Bob or Alan for further information.
 - v) Nominations for Directors received to date:-
 - (1) **Gerry Gillan**
 - (2) **Jack Matthews**
 - (3) **Steven Klein**

11) Date of Next MT Meeting

- a) The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:15 and all members were thanked for attending.

b) Date of next MT meeting will be immediately after the AGM on Sunday 11th April 2021 by Zoom or other means.



**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 face mask or visor whenever you can when in the club.



URGENT REMINDER

**The AGM will be held by Zoom on Sunday 11th
April 2021 at 10:00**

Zoom codes are – 226 461 1405

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The Bowlers' own language - how to translate

The Sport of Bowls has its very own language which can totally mystify anyone who hears it, but hasn't had the pleasure of throwing a bowl in fun or earnest. For the information of the uninitiated, here are a few terms translated into standard English.

- "Good weight!" = lousy line
- "Good line" = lousy weight
- "Good back bowl" = you were lucky you didn't put it in the ditch
- "That's in their way" = that's in my way
- "That could be useful up there" = that bowl is closer to you than it is to the jack
- "Get it next time" = you sure didn't get it this time
- "He's surprisingly good" = you're surprised he ever makes a shot
- "I'd bowl with him any day" = he always buys the first round



Important Numbers

Club Telephone Number - 020 8597 6040

Club Email address - info@iibc.uk

Website - 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 -
Bob Hayter - 07505 171682 - Bob.Hayter@iibc.uk**

Maintenance Manager - Melvyn Cohen - 07947 465027

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**

Men's Captain - Ken Spicer - 07989 309114

Men's Vice Captain - Vacant

