



Middlesex Bowling Association

Founded in 1911 and 1932 and Unified in 2012
Member of Bowls England

Patron: Eric Prior

Summer 2023 Newsletter

Please circulate this amongst your club members and put it on your notice board.

Hi, All,

Hopefully you are all playing outdoors and getting over the shock of heavy greens, the odd cold, wet game mingled with temperatures well into the 20s, the usual start to the season!

Good luck to those of you who entered the National Championships and Competitions and the Middlesex Competitions, I know some of you had an early start so good luck, to those of you who have survived the early rounds, those yet to start, and with any Club and Association competitions you are in. To all who don't enter competitions but play in club friendlies and leagues enjoy your games and to those who just want to pop down to the club for a roll-up, a cuppa and a chat, have fun.

Jacque is pleased to say Tony Waller became Men's Secretary at the December 2022 AGM, and still works full time so please don't expect him to be able to respond to a call, text or email immediately. We also welcome Paul Reynolds as Men's Competition Secretary, Paul also works full time so please don't expect him to be able to respond to a call, text or email immediately, and Keith Robinson, as Men's Fixtures and Match Secretary.



2023 PRESIDENTIAL TEAM

President: Dee Hardy (Hayes), Vice President: vacant,
Junior Vice President: Keith Robinson (Ashford),
Immediate Past President: Brian Hearn (Hendon)

Thank you, Dee, Keith and Past President Brian, we hope you enjoy your year as the Middlesex Bowling Association Team and are soon joined by a Vice President. In the absence of a Vice President, Brian other officers will take the lead whilst Keith learns the ropes. The female past presidents and officers will help Dee out as necessary.



YEARBOOKS

Hopefully you will find the 2023 Yearbook design easier to use. The price remains £4, and I still have books available to purchase if you want one. As you know we had to leave out a fair bit of historic information, but this is now on the new Association website. I'm sorry to say, once again, that despite several of us proofreading the various sections several errors

did find their way into the book. Most have by now been picked up and they are listed on the website.

Our thanks go to Laurie Gascoigne, who took over as Yearbook Secretary at the AGM last December and did a sterling job chivvyng us all on so he could collate the details in time for first proof and eventual printing.

It really is important to have at least one copy of the yearbook at your club, and those of you who have entered the National Championships and Middlesex Competitions need your own copy to make sure you are playing according to the competition rules. We're pleased to say both finalists in all National Championship disciplines, except for the Junior Pairs and Senior Fours that traditionally only have the finalist going through.

Please let Jacquie know what you think of the book, bearing in mind this was the second effort and it will be better next year.



VACANCIES

We have a unified presidential team based on that used by Bowls England (i.e., female president, male vice president, female junior vice president, male immediate past president), **but we still need a male or female** Vice President who will be the 2024 President. Having a presidential team should make each role less demanding on time and hopefully encourage more folk to come forward to be the county's figurehead. Being President doesn't have to be expensive with a fund available to help with any costs incurred whilst in the Presidential role. So, folks please give it some thought and have a chat with Jacquie to learn more about the roles of President, Vice, and Junior Vice President.

Currently we are desperate for volunteers to be:

Vice President, for 2023, who will be President in 2024, perhaps a Past President might like another "crack of the whip"!



ANNUAL LUNCHEON

We will be holding the joint Luncheon and Prizegiving on Sunday 5th November 2023, 12.30 for lunch at 13.00. Venue and price of tickets is still to be confirmed but we will let you know as soon as these have been finalised.

There is no choice on the day so you must let Jacquie have your choice of food by the 8th October and to help you remember, the menu is printed on the back of your ticket so I suggest you tick the items you have selected. That way no one should be deprived of the dishes of their choice because someone forgot what they ordered!

You don't have to be a trophy winner to attend, so please do think about coming along, with a partner and or friends, to enjoy a great end of season event. Don't forget the bumper 200+ Club draw takes place during the Luncheon.



BENEVOLENT FUNDS

Women's Benevolent Fund – The aim of the fund is to help bowlers who have fallen on hard times or need a small ray of sunshine in their lives. If you need help, please contact Cathy Taylor, Secretary/Treasurer

The Benevolent Fund Committee is:

Secretary/Treasurer & Divisions 1, 2 & 4 – Cathy Taylor – 07904 191713

Division 3 - Mrs Ann Barrett – c/o Cathy Taylor – 07904 191713

Also, get well cards are sent to ladies undergoing treatment or recovering from illness, the Benevolent Committee only need to be given information by their club or a fellow bowls club member. Christmas gifts are sent to ladies over 80 (not necessarily still bowling, or who may have moved away), who may wish to be remembered at that time of year. The Christmas Gift Form is included in the August pack sent to club secretaries and is returned to the Benevolent Fund Secretary.

Men's Benevolent Fund – Was founded in 1927 with the aim of giving financial assistance to bowlers. If you need assistance then please get in touch with or ask your club secretary to get in touch with the Fund Secretary: Mike Rosenthal, 020 8248 4610.



UNDER 25'S

If your club is lucky enough to have folk under 25 as members then please have them consider applying to be a member of the Middlesex Under 25 squad, members of which may be selected for the Amy Rose and White Rose teams, please contact:

Howard Shearing, howietime@hotmail.com, Tel. 07958 642214

Unfortunately, we have no female entries but our male entries this year amount to nine Under 25 singles and two Under 25 Pairs.



RECOGNITION CERTIFICATES

Certificates are awarded to members whose clubs consider, have given time, above just turning up to bowl, to keep the club going (such as serving as an officer, green keeping, part of the maintenance team, refreshment team, social event organiser, or someone who has always been there to get things done) for ten or more years. They must be nominated by the club so if you know of any member of your club that deserves to be nominated then get your secretary to give Jacquie a call for more details.

Certificates are presented at the County Luncheon.



MARKERS AND UMPIRES

The County needs markers and umpires so why not give some thought to attending a MAC course or upgrading to Regional Umpire. MAC courses deal with marking, Laws of the Sport and are open to all Middlesex members. It is a fun course with a lot to be learnt.

Contact County Co-ordinator – Vic Perry on 020 8841 8532

Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Fourth Edition

The 'Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Fourth Edition' came into force for outdoor play from 1st April. We encourage all participants in the sport to have a copy of the Crystal Mark Fourth Edition.

A full summary of the revisions included in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark Fourth Edition can be viewed [Changes-to-CM3-to-CM4.pdf \(worldbowls.com\)](#).

To purchase your copy of the new Laws of the Sport, please click [World Bowls - Laws of the Sport | Prontaprint | Prontaprint \(prontaprintbuyonline.com\)](#). Copies can be purchased individually or in bulk and include post and packing.

The World Bowls Board, following a recommendation from the World Bowls Laws Advisory Group, have agreed to rescind Laws 37.1.3 and 37.1.5.3 with immediate effect. See the website for further details. In August 2022 two new laws were introduced to penalise a player who deliberately displaced their own teams bowl on its original course or lifted a bowl at rest to allow one of their own team's bowls to pass. Despite clarification it has become very clear from communications that the two laws have caused a great deal of confusion and have resulted in games being forfeited incorrectly following players innocently stopping bowls from entering the ditch, hence the above laws being rescinded.



COACHING

The County still needs more coaches so if you fancy having a go and are interested in taking a coaching course then check out the Coach Bowls website www.coachbowls.org for the Coach Bowls course schedule. Bowls England offers bursaries so if you are interested ask your Secretary to send your application form to Jacquie, County Administrator, to approve prior to sending to Bowls England.

Cambridge Park is the Coaching Centre of Excellence for the South of England and Coach Bowls held a spring course there and may well hold another in the autumn. Cambridge Park is easy to get to by public transport and car so there is no excuse for not taking the plunge by signing up for the level 1 course.

We know we are repeating ourselves, but it really would be great if all our EBCS coaches would become Coach Bowls Members. That is all you need to do to be recognised and get some benefits like insurance. They just need proof of qualification and level.

Jacquie still isn't convinced her list includes all our coaches and asks all coaches to email her with their details. Some of you have already done so but she still feels there are some of you out there who haven't let her know who you are, so please email Jacquie with your name, coaching level (Coach Bowls or EBCS and if you are still actively coaching) and if you are happy to help other clubs out. We do need to know so if a club needs a coach for an event Jacquie can put you in touch with them.



SAFEGUARDING

The role of Safeguarding Officers becomes compulsory as a condition of affiliation for all clubs by 2025. This is a legal requirement, not a BE instigated one and, unfortunately, the law doesn't allow for one person to be Safeguarding Officer for a group of clubs.

Bowls England provide support with education and guidance; safeguarding officers are never alone!

Clubs safeguarding officers should have the support of their committee and membership in putting safeguards in place for all activities. They are responsible for helping club officials to be clear about their safeguarding responsibilities so that you can work as a team.

The Bowls England Insurance policy does cover officer's financial protection and therefore peace of mind in terms of personal liability, so someone volunteering for the Safeguarding roles shouldn't have that worry.

Bowls England now produce monthly Safeguarding Bulletins that they send to the registered club safeguarding officers. Each bulletin gives a recap on the policies in place, the contacts you will need and a seven-minute briefing on a key area. There have been three bulletins and three briefings (What to do in the event of a Safeguarding Issue, Adult Safeguarding, Bullying and Harassment,) so far. It is important that your Safeguarding Officer registers using this link so they receive the advice and bulletins: <https://r1.dotdigital-pages.com/p/6UDT-5CM/bowls-england-safeguarding-officers>

We urge you all to discuss this issue with your fellow club members and encourage someone to become your club's safeguarding Officer and register with Bowls England. Current information on what the job entails, courses, and the support Bowls England is building up can be found on their website: <https://www.bowlsengland.com/safeguarding/>

Having just completed two of the safeguarding courses Jacquie understands the need for every club to have a safeguarding officer even if all club members are 60 plus.



MIDDLESEX 200+ CLUB

GREAT PRIZES to be WON

The May to September Monthly Draws offer prizes of £60, £40, £30 and £20 followed by the BUMPER OCTOBER DRAW at the County Luncheon with prizes of £350, £150, £75, £50 and £25.

It is open to all affiliated clubs, their members and ex members so join today by completing the Application Form to be found in your yearbook or contact Marie Curry 0208 398 3728

Shares can be purchased throughout the season. Most of the money raised goes in prize money but the remainder of the income of the 200+ Club is used to help fund the Amy Rose and White Rose squads, the under 25s and maintenance, repair, replacement of the County flag, etc.



COUNTY TOUR

We are sorry to say that due to lack of interest the County Tour to Worcester, from Monday 11th to Friday 15th September, due to stay at the Diglis House Hotel has been cancelled.



WEBSITE

Please do checkout our website for current news, events, meeting dates and much more. Our webmasters put a lot of effort into keeping the site up to date so do please check it out.

www.mbowomenssection.weebly.com

Our Webmasters:

Kevin: casabianca@talktalk.net and Tony: tony.waller1999@gmail.com & 07866 603596, welcome your feedback and Tony is happy to receive any news for or feedback on the Facebook page.



The unified county shirt. We began the roll out last year and apart from length issues they have been well accepted. White trousers, shorts, crops or skirts can be worn with the new shirt until folk replace them with navy blue trousers, shorts, crops or skirts. You can purchase them from the Bowls England supplier Aciet, or find tailored navy trousers, shorts, crops from other outlets (high street or sports). I'm afraid that the skirt will have to be of the regulation two pleats front and back, which may be a problem for those who still prefer to wear a skirt. Contact Dee Hardy: ☎ 07855 742374 or email: burgler@aol.com for a county shirt.

We have run out of the previous styles of men's and women's county shirts.



As always Jacquie and Tony are at the end of a telephone or checking their e-mails, so if you have any questions or need further information on the above topics, please don't hesitate to contact one or other of us.



And Last But Not Least

We are happy to announce that at the April Club Delegates Meeting, a Life Membership certificate was presented to Brian Hearn for his term as Men's President, Andy Knott for all his hard work as Competition Secretary (2013 to 2022), and Chris Yelland, Men's Secretary (2012 to 2022) will be presented with his certificate at a suitable event at his club, Cambridge Park.

All the very best of wishes to you and yours, have fun

Jacquie Elkin and Tony Waller

County Administrator / Women's Honorary Secretary and Men's Honorary Secretary

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