



BRIDGEWATER BOWLING CLUB NEWSLETTER December 2020



Dear Member

First of all, we hope this newsletter finds you well, especially this year, as we have been living in unprecedented times and very difficult circumstances, which none of us would have imagined this time last year. As a result of the pandemic, we have not seen any league bowling this year, which has been a great shame for everybody. Bridgewater did however open the greens for people to at least get some practice and some exercise as soon as it was allowed, and we set everything up so that we were following all the guidelines set out by the British Crown Green Bowling Association. An online booking system was set up so that we could follow the track and trace guidelines and we are pleased to report that almost half of the bowling members that we have took the opportunity to go up to the greens and have a go. Some people went quite regularly, others only a couple of times, but in comparison to most other clubs in the Whitchurch and Drayton leagues (some of which have never opened) we had a good turnout.

We also took the opportunity to see if we could attract some new members during the downtime that we had and some of the club coaches, ably assisted by some club members ran a number of sessions during August and September. We were really pleased with the turnout and as a result of this we have managed to sign up 3 new Junior and 3 new adult members, who will be joining us next season – or as soon as we are allowed to bowl again.

Some members have also been busy doing some work at the club and we are in the process of creating a new concrete pathway between the small green and the far side hedge which we can put some seating on. It will also be far easier to maintain for the groundsmen. Talking of the groundsmen, thanks once again must go to Andy and Chris Pearce who have carried on working throughout the summer, cutting and treating the greens and keeping the surrounding areas in good order. They were rewarded for their hard work, when our 'big green' was awarded 5th place in the best kept green competition run by the Whitchurch league.

We had to cancel a number of events this year but fingers crossed we will be able to run them in 2021. We sincerely hope that we can get back to bowling and some sort of normality next year and hope that you are looking forward to playing for Bridgewater again next season.

Best wishes & stay safe

Bridgewater Committee

Update from Whitchurch and Market Drayton Leagues

1. You may or may not be aware that the Market Drayton Bowling League has been looking for a new secretary to take over for next season and both the Whitchurch and Drayton leagues are looking for a competitions secretary as Jamie Brookes is standing down for personal reasons. As a result of this, the Whitchurch League have put a proposal together suggesting that the Whitchurch League and the Drayton League join forces from an administrative point of view. The leagues would continue to run separately in terms of the bowling, but there would be one treasurer looking after both leagues & 1 secretary etc. Clubs will be asked to vote on whether they think this a good idea or not at the MDBL AGM in January. If anybody has any strong views on this, then please let our secretary Isobel know so that she can represent the clubs views at the meeting.

2. The Whitchurch League is asking clubs whether they would prefer to have 12 players or 10 players in each of their teams if/when the league commences next year. We must have our response to the Whitchurch League before their AGM which is scheduled for 26th January 2021. So that we can gather your views the Captains will contact you in the new year so that we can put your views forward. They will also ask you whether after a year off you are still happy to bowl for Bridgewater in 2021 (we hope you are) as we also have to decide how many teams we are able to enter into the various leagues.



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AGM 2021

Our AGM is normally held at the club in January, however as we are unlikely to be able to get together in person due to COVID we are going to hold the meeting over a ZOOM call. This is not ideal; however it is probably the best way in the circumstances. If you would like to join the AGM on Monday 18th January at 7.30 please let Chris Sayers know (casayers@yahoo.com) so that an invite containing a link to the meeting can be sent to you. The meeting invite will come from GRSayers@sky.com



2 Meters



We wish you all a socially distanced Happy Xmas & Happy New year and look forward to seeing you all next season

