



Newsletter April 2021

Hello everyone,

The new season is nearly upon us. The club has been spruced up. Hedges cut, pavilion & changing rooms painted and the green ready to go. Bowls England have given us advice on Covid playing rules. Bristol & District have given us a timetable for league and cup matches. Mo Fagan is organising Friday triples league. Our internal competitions will go ahead as planned and Ken Willcox has arranged our friendly games. Colin Dark has had a good response to our membership letters. You should all be receiving availability sheets and fixture lists shortly.

That's the good news. However, the early part of the season will be truncated to allow social distancing and sanitization. If you feel a bit of practise is required, the rink is open for use. A booking system is in place as per last year. Please ring Val at the prescribed times or email her. Please observe the safety protocols in place from last year, which are also displayed at the club.

Regarding club matches, a committee member will be on hand prior to each game to explain the safety protocols in place.

Our first **organised events** at the club start this Saturday:

- Sat 10th April 2.00pm Introduction and training
- Sun 11th April 2.00pm Personal coaching
- Tues 13th April 6.00pm First Live Wire

Dates for **our men's B&D league match**:

- Thurs 15th April 6.00pm League coaching
- Sat 17th April 2.00pm Team coaching
- Thurs 29th April 6.00p A team vs Henleaze A Home
 - B team vs Henleaze B Away

Dates for **Friday triples league** start:

- Fri 16th April 2.15pm Knowle Home
- Fri 23rd April 2.15pm Greenbank Away

As far as **friendly matches** are concerned, the committee have decided:

1. We shall honour all our fixtures from the start of the season up until 16th May subject to the usual caveats i.e. finding sufficient available players, new

government regulations etc., and the limits imposed by Bowls England. We shall review the situation going forward when we hope we may be able to relax the rules further.

2. We propose to play alternate rinks of "fours". This will give the opportunity for 12 players from each club the chance to play.
3. During this period, the changing room toilets will be available, but not the changing rooms. We therefore intend to play in greys.
4. We shall not be providing refreshments at our home games and politely suggest players make their own arrangements.
5. We shall play with two jacks, one white and one yellow so that only one person from each team touches the equipment.
6. We shall play either 18 or 21 ends decided by the captains on the day. The captains will decide whether to play straight through or have a break midway.
7. Hand sanitizer will be available. The equipment will be cleansed before and after use.
8. Our first fixtures are:
 - Sun 18th April Keynsham Home 2.30pm
 - Sat 24th April Bradley Stoke Away 2.00pm
 - Sun 25th April Victoria Park Away 2.30pm

It is with regret, we have had to withdraw the women's team from their league for this season due to a lack of players.

Bristol CC will continue to maintain the green this year, but it is highly likely we shall be left to fend for ourselves next year. The committee have therefore decided to increase in our rink fees to cover our expenses for last year and prepare for the increase in green maintenance in the future. Therefore, we propose to levy £3 per game, previously £2, which has been in place for many years. Club night will remain at £1 but will be charged for all players whether or not they participate in the livewire.

Finally, we have been advised of the timetable for delivery of the Bristol Parks Initiative as follows:-

*Throughout April 2021 we will assess the submissions and draw up a shortlist that matches our requirements. We will contact you to let you know if your Expression of Interest has been shortlisted or not. **BGBC are the sole applicants to run our facility.***

Between May and August 2021, we will invite all shortlisted applicants to submit a business case.

From September until November 2021 we will agree business cases and/or request further information in order to support the development of business cases.

Between September 2021 and February 2022 we will finalise legal agreements for the transfer of assets to the chosen operator.

Investment in sites will only be agreed after the legal agreements have been finalised.

John S.

7/04/2021