

DESBOROUGH BOWLING CLUB

NEWSLETTER

The Prime Minister's statement to Parliament in February outlined a "roadmap" for the easing of the current lockdown over the coming weeks and months.

Based on the current advice given in the "Roadmap out of Lockdown" the following key dates are to be adopted at Desborough Bowling Club (Indoor and Outdoor) for 2021.

26th April – *Opening of DBC's Outdoor Rinks. N.B. Indoor Bowls allowed to re-open BUT only for individuals or members of the same household playing on the same rink. Club Bar and restaurant can serve people outside only.*

2nd May – *Start of Friendly Match Fixtures*

10th May – *KL, KL and TVL Leagues – new start dates to be confirmed.*

17th May – *INDOOR rinks allowed to open with 6 bowlers per rink. Club Bar and Restaurant service allowed with groups of 6 and table service.*

21st June – *It is hoped that all limits on social contact are removed and Indoor and Outdoor Bowls can return to normal.*

The new guidelines, agreed with Bowls England (BE) and the English Indoor Bowling Association (EIBA), outline all measures that must be taken before and after the re-opening of any bowling and associated facilities, to mitigate any potential risk to our members from the spread of the virus.

MARCH 2021

With the above dates now being advised, it will not be possible to complete the rest of the current Indoor Season 2020/21. It is therefore proposed that we will have a fresh start to next year's Indoor Season, commencing in October 21. Any outstanding issues, regarding relegation and competitions will be decided by the Management Committee after further consultation with all members and teams affected.

The Outdoors Friendly Match Fixture schedule for 2021 has been completed and Club handbooks will be available as from the middle of April 2021.

Regarding the KL, KLV and TVL all details of the forthcoming outdoor matches have been issued to the squad Captains who have contacted their members accordingly.

Since contacting our members the KL Committee have now decided, this year there will only be a "half-season" with matches not commencing until the 28th June.

To fill the void Desborough plan to create new local league with KL and KLV squads playing each other (and other local clubs possibly?) to play using the KLV and KL reserved fixture slots up to the 28th June. Members to be advised as to proposed details over the next 14 days.

We will be issuing Internal Competition Forms (Outdoors) plus Last-Ditch Trophy forms over the next few weeks.

County competition entries have been submitted and the draws made (see Berkshire County Bowls website).

Catering will re-commence on April 26th and it is intended that meals will be served post-match for all Friendly matches.

A new social calendar has now been prepared and full details will be issued to members over the next few weeks.

Provisionally, we are planning to hold our first Social event – Bingo Night, on Friday 25th June, followed by Quiz Night on Saturday 10th July.

Cabaret Night, “The Tom Jones Tribute” has been rearranged for the 13th and 14th August.

For all those members who have paid for previous events, which were then postponed, please be assured any payments already made will be carried forward and credited for the next event you attend.

All dates for forthcoming events are subject to COVID regulations and further confirmation nearer the time.

Commercial bookings re-start as from June and we have already managed two bookings –filming of the SKY TV quiz “A League of Their Own” completed on 1st February and the letting of areas of the club for use as a Polling Station, for the local elections, due on the 6th May 2021.

It was sad to hear that the Stoke Poges Bowls Club is no more, however, it is our pleasure to welcome all new members from Stoke Poges who have now joined Desborough and hope you continue to enjoy your bowls at your new home.

Likewise, a warm welcome to ALL our new members who are joining for their first season outdoors – may the weather be kind to us all!!

On a positive note, it’s great to hear that the vaccine has now been given to many of our members, allowing them to hopefully return to bowling confident that they are protected against contracting the virus.

Your Management Committee would like to assure all members that we plan to when allowed however we will only do so when we can ensure it is safe to do so and we have mitigated any risk to our members from the spread of the virus.

We would respectfully request that all members comply with the COVID Guidelines whilst on the Club premises.

Finally, we are very aware that the latest virus has affected several of our members and their families and we wish everyone a speedy recovery.

Roger Wyatt
General Secretary 29th March 2021