

DESBOROUGH BOWLING CLUB

(A Member of Bowls England and English Indoor Bowling Association Ltd)

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Website: www.desboroughbc.com

Date: August 2021

Dear Member

It is usual at this time of the year for the Club President and myself to write to all members giving a brief summary of the events over the last 12 months, together with an update as to the Club's plans for the forthcoming year, 2021/22.

A. THE YEAR TO DATE.

The Covid 19 Coronavirus Pandemic has continuously affected our bowling, social and commercial activities over the last 18 months, with the club premises being ordered initially to close by the Government, on March 17th 2020. Subsequently further closures occurred at various intervals throughout the year.

The closures resulted in the 2020/21 Indoor season starting on October 1st 2020, however, further restrictions were introduced, which curtailed our indoor bowling activities over the winter.

We were unable to open the Club green for outdoor bowling until 1st June 2021. This meant some of the friendly inter-club matches, the County Kennet Leagues (KL and KLV) matches and the Ladies TVL league matches were either cancelled or played on a reduced fixture capacity for the whole of the current outdoor season.

The situation has improved over the summer and we have been able to run a full schedule of internal Club competitions, together with a continued participation in the County Leagues and Competitions over the summer months. Regrettably, the Friendly fixtures have been somewhat reduced, mainly it appears, due to other clubs being unable to field teams due to their members continuing concerns regarding Covid.

This last 12 months have been a very difficult time for everyone and the Club, as many other similar organisations, have had to work extremely hard to ensure we minimized any financial losses. We were fortunate in being able to mitigate some of the losses with the receipt of Local Authority Grants and income support from the Furlough scheme

The loss of "profit/surplus" on commercial and social activities, cancelled from March to September 2020, is subject to a claim for "Business Interruption" from our insurers

We are glad to report that we have been successful in encouraging several corporate clients and local charity organisations to return to Desborough this coming year and we are now on target to achieve the forecast commercial income necessary to support our bowling activities.

We are very grateful to all committee members, management and staff who helped continue the Club operations and maintain the club premises and grounds (particularly the green) over the last 18 months. This has entailed many meetings on the balcony in somewhat less than clement weather!

President: John Bucknell

General Secretary: Roger Wyatt

Treasurer: Ross Wilson

VAT Registration No: 207 7898 26. **Affiliated to:** Royal County of Berkshire B.A. Berkshire County Women' B.A. and London and Southern Counties B.A

B. THE FUTURE

1) GENERALLY

With the lifting of “all Covid restrictions”, as from 19th July 2021, we have now re-opened all our bowling, social and commercial activities, with the proviso that we would continue to follow all Government and Bowls England/English Indoor Bowling Association COVID Recommendations and Guidelines going forward.

A new Indoor Friendly Fixture list is being compiled and will shortly be confirmed with the other clubs. The Indoor League Fixtures and Club Competitions for 2021/22 are currently being devised and will be published in September/October 2021.

We are happy to report that Desborough has been confirmed as the National Training Centre for the Bowls England Elite Squad and also as a Regional Centre of Excellence for the new Bowls England Coaching organization.

We are actively reviewing the catering contract and hope to introduce changes/improvements in both the quality of service, availability and the choice of menus over the next few months.

We will be encouraging members to help with the day-to-day management of the Club and have been gratified to see how many members are currently willing to help out on a voluntary basis to ensure we have the club running successfully however, even more volunteers are needed going forward. I attach a brief schedule of tasks (Appendix “2”) and if you are interested in becoming involved with any of these then please let us know.

2) MEMBERSHIP

2.1 SUBSCRIPTIONS 2021/22

As many of you will be aware, due to the Coronavirus situation and the ensuing intermittent closure of the club facilities over the last 18 months, our income over this period has been substantially reduced.

To ensure our financial position remains stable, with sufficient cash reserves maintained for future essential expenditure, the Management Committee have agreed to introduce a small increase in Subscriptions for 2021/22, as outlined below.

Please note, the Management Committee agreed earlier this year that, in acknowledgement of the disruption caused to last year’ indoor season, members, who paid fees for last year, would receive a £20.00 discount for the forthcoming season i.e. they would pay a subscription of £100.00 for the 2021/22 Indoor Season. This discount will not apply to new members who will pay the full £120,00

THE PROPOSED CLUB ANNUAL MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2021/22 ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS – (FULL DETAILS SEE APPENDIX “1”)

Category	Subscription (per annum)
Full Member	£240.00
Outdoor Member Only	£120.00
Indoor Member Only	£120.00
12 Month Indoor Member	£170.00
Junior Member	£25.00
Social Member	£40.00

THE ABOVE FEES ARE DUE FOR PAYMENT ON OCTOBER 1ST 2021 PLEASE

2.2 MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Whilst appreciating there may well be a loss of membership numbers, due to the virus and its aftermath, we are still actively seeking new members and will be holding further open days and coaching sessions later in the year to encourage those interested to join.

We are pleased to report that our outdoor membership has remained constant in numbers overall with several new members joining. Regarding Indoor Membership, we are unable to give exact membership numbers at this time, however we are very hopeful that we shall maintain the majority of last year's membership and are planning to start the Leagues and the Competitions again as from October 1st 2021.

3) KEY DATES

SEPTEMBER 4th & 5th – Desborough Outdoor Finals Weekend
SEPTEMBER 17th – End of Outdoor Season
SEPTEMBER 20th –Indoor bowling will start – Roll-ups
OCTOBER 5TH – Start of 2021/22 Indoor Bowling Season

We are still awaiting further advice from the EIBA as to guidance in relation to hosting Inter Club and County Matches along with hosting bowls events such as Open Singles Circuit/PBA.

4) SOCIAL EVENTS

I would give a big vote of thanks to our Social Committee and Social Chairman who, between them, have completed a very successful number of social functions over the year. The provisional programme for 2021/22 is:

Day	Date	Time	Event	Notes
Fri	25 Jun	1830	Bingo	
Sat	10 Jul	1830	Quiz Night (TBC)	
Fri	30 Jul	1830	Bingo	
Sat	14 Aug	1830	Elvis Tribute Act	Cabaret Night
Fri	27 Aug	1830	Bingo	
Sat/Sun	4/5 Sep		Finals Weekend	
Sat	11 Sep	1800	End of Season Bash	
Fri	17 Sept	1630	Singalong	
Fri	24 Sep	1830	Bingo	
Fri	Oct	1200	Welcome Back Buffet	Welcome back Indoor Members
Sat	16 Oct	1830	Kylie Cabaret Night	
Fri	29 Oct	1830	Bingo	
Fri	12 Nov	TBC	Full Members AGM	
Sat	13 Nov	1830	Race Night	
Fri	26 Nov	1830	Bingo	
Sun	5 Dec	TBC	Outdoor AGM	
Fri	10 Dec	1800	Christmas Carols	
Fri	28 Jan 2022	1830	Bingo	
Fri	25 Feb	1830	Bingo	
Fri	25 Mar	1830	Bingo	

5) MARKETING AND MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

An Open Day was held on Sunday 25th August, it was well attended and resulted in 24 new prospective members who have all enrolled in the new coaching programme,

Our website has now been replaced with a new version (www.desboroughbc.com).

Members will now be able to access a far more accurate and informative level of updated information regarding both bowling and social events. You may also follow the Club's activities through its Facebook page. (www.facebook.com/Desborough-Bowling-Club)

6) CURRENT AND FUTURE EVENTS,

(i) CLUB OPENING HOURS:		
The Club Indoor Opening hours remain unchanged as follows:-		
Monday to Friday	-	0830 to 2200 hours.
Saturday	-	0830 to 2200 hours (unless league game or other prearranged event when closing time will be extended)
Sunday	-	0930 to 2000 hours (or earlier if no events taking place)

(Bar opening hours are scheduled as 10:30 am to 10:30pm however times will vary to reflect and compliment times of matches and other events)

(ii) INDOOR PROGRAMME 2021/22
THE INDOOR SEASON WILL COMMENCE ON MONDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2021 - ROLL-UPS
THE "NEW" INDOOR SEASON 2021/22 WILL COMMENCE ON 5th OCTOBER 2021

(iii) INDOOR LEAGUE PROGRAMME 2020/21
The league fixtures have been programmed for the forthcoming indoor season.
If you wish to play or wish to enter a new team, this would be most welcome. Please contact Mark Peachey or the Reception if you require any further advice as to how you register a team.
(iv) COMPETITIONS
Club competition entry forms will be available from the office for both men and women and I would encourage all to enter.
Entry fees for competitions should be paid, either, by cheque / cash/credit or debit card and NOT as part of any on-line payment for membership subscription fees.

THE OUTDOOR SEASON FOR 2022 WILL COMMENCE ON MONDAY 18TH APRIL

7) CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

I would advise that the date for the Desborough Bowling Club Annual General meeting (Full Members only) has now been scheduled for **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH 2021, AT 7:00PM**. To be held in the Club Lounge.

Once again, I would reassure all members that your health and well-being are of paramount importance and we are doing everything necessary to ensure that when you return to the Club you will be in a safe environment with measures in place to mitigate against any risk of infection from the virus.

I hope you are well and look forward to your continued support.

Kind Regards

Roger Wyatt
General Secretary

August 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT AUGUST 2021

Dear Member

Welcome to the start of the 2021/22 indoor bowling season. We have now passed "Freedom Day" and this will enable us to get back to normal and enjoy doing things that were not permitted during lockdown and at the same time, always respecting and taking care of yourself and others.

Unfortunately, the virus affected some of our members and I hope that everyone has now made a full recovery and also been fully vaccinated.

Most outdoor clubs have now re-opened although not all have been able to complete their fixtures due reportedly to a lack of players.

Whilst we were closed the Club managed to reduce its running costs/overheads to a minimum however, these essential costs, combined with the enforced cancellation of all our social and commercial activities, inevitably resulted in a financial loss overall.

Last year, when we were closed, Roger and Mark continued to look after the Club premises, visiting on a daily basis, to ensure everything was secure and properly maintained. Not only the buildings but also the gardens and the outside green – many thanks to them for their efforts during a difficult period. I would also like to thank all our committee members who have been meeting over the lockdown periods (socially distanced of course, outside on the balcony with overcoats a must during the winter months).

Since re-opening we have been able to hold several social evenings and many thanks to Brian Harris, our Social Chairman and his committee members, for all the hard work they have put in to making the events successful. Your continued support for these events will be much appreciated.

Our new Treasurer, Ross Wilson, together with Zoe Helmuth (Wilson Partners) have settled into the club very well and are now producing detailed monthly management accounts.

Many thanks to Peter Laban, our Treasurer for the last 15 years, for his many years of dedicated work. Peter decided to retire and hopefully he can now play more golf! Also, thanks to our Receptionist, Nicola, who has manned the front desk very efficiently and to Brian Jones who is now back looking after the bar in his usual manner.

We are also very lucky to have so many members who are always prepared to help with the day-to-day running of the Club and to do the various jobs needed – thank you all.

Finally, I hope you all have a very good indoor season and that we will complete the season with no further interruptions.

I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Yours sincerely

John Bucknell,

President
August 2021

APPENDIX “1”

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND GREEN FEES 2021/2022:

With the losses incurred over the last year, due to the Coronavirus epidemic, the Management Committee have agreed that there will have to be a small increase in subscriptions for 2021/22, to ensure our financial position remains viable and the services and facilities on offer are sustainable.

The aforementioned increase of subs for 2021/22 **WILL NOT APPLY** to Indoor members who paid for last year’s indoor season (2020/21). They will be entitled to a discounted subscription payment of **£100.00 for the Indoor Season 2021/22**, to reflect the disruption caused to last year’s indoor fixture programme due to Covid restrictions. New Indoor members to pay full subscription fee.

THE NEW ANNUAL FEES PAYABLE, EFFECTIVE AS FROM OCTOBER 1ST 2021, ARE

CATEGORY	2020/21 ANNUAL SUBS/FEE	2021/22 ANNUAL SUBS/FEE	NOTES
FULL MEMBERSHIP	£230.00	£240.00*	**A one-off (2021 only) subs payment of £220.00 for all existing Indoor members who paid in full last October (2020)
OUTDOOR MEMBERSHIP	£115.00	£120.00	
INDOOR MEMBERSHIP	£115.00	£120.00 **	**A one-off (2021 only) subs payment of £100.00 for all existing Indoor members who paid in full last October (2020)
12 MONTH INDOOR MEMBERSHIP	£165.00	£170.00	
SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP	£40.00	£40.00	No change
JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP	£25.00	£25.00	No change
GREEN FEES INDOORS	£3.00 – 1 hour £4.00 – 2 hours £6.00 – 3 hours	£3.00 – 1 hour £4.00 – 2 hours £6.00 – 3 hours	No change
MATCH FEES (INDOORS)	£11.00	£11.00	No change
MATCH FEES (OUTDOORS)	£7.00	£7.00	No change
NATIONAL COMPETITION FEES	£5.00	£5.00	No change
KENNET LEAGUE & KLV TEAMS	£3.00	£3.00	No change

(N.B. Locker rental £5.00 p.a. as existing – not included in above fees)

APPENDIX “1” Cont’d

YOU MAY PAY USING ANY OF THE OPTIONS LISTED BELOW:

- a) **PAYMENT IN FULL BY CASH OR CHEQUE.**
- b) **PAYMENT ON-LINE BY BANK TRANSFER TO:-**

DESBOROUGH BOWLING CLUB,

LLOYDS BANK, MAIDENHEAD

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 34331168

SORT CODE: 30 -95- 36

(If you pay by bank transfer it is essential that you add your name to the transfer instructions (both names if you are paying for two people).

- c) **PAYMENT BY CREDIT/DEBIT CARD**
- d) **PAYMENT BY MONTHLY STANDING ORDER** – If you are paying by this method then please contact the Club Treasurer, Peter Laban, who will then provide you with a suitable Standing Order form

APPENDIX “2”

Potential Member Volunteer Task Schedule –17th August 2021

Following the recent pandemic, Desborough Bowling Club is now fully open and operational.

In order to help run our fantastic Club, to even higher standards going forward, we are seeking a contribution from members to help, by ‘volunteering’, to do one small task which will benefit the Club and all the members.

Helping can be very rewarding and will be much appreciated by everyone.

If you would like to get involved and join your management team in helping with any of the items tabled below then please let me know.

Full training will be arranged as required.

TASKS

1	Desborough Website	Bruce Adams
2	Handyman	David Smith
3	Coffee Machine Cleanliness and Stock	John and Trish Skinner
4	Monthly Bar Stock-take	Jim Macpherson
5	Small Kitchen Cleanliness and Hygiene	2 people
6	Window and Wall Noticeboards	2 people
7	Maidenhead Advertiser Reporting	1 person
8	Coaching Bowls Session organisation	2 people
9	Club Trophy Cabinets	Val Wyatt +1
10	Table and Chair management for events	6 people
11	Club Shirts	Jim Macpherson
12	After Match Teas etc	Pool of 8 people
13	Bin Shed Hygiene	2 people
14	Balcony and Ramp Cleaning	2 people
15	Car Park Garden Plots	10 Plots/People
16	Equipment Store management and cleanliness	2 people
17	Bar Staff	Pool of 10 people
18	Coaching	10 people
19	First Aiders	4 people
20	Fire Wardens	4 people
21	Health and Safety Officers	2 people

Roger Wyatt
General Secretary