

# Newsletter – April 2019



Welcome to the second Gullane Bowling Club newsletter for 2019.

As we approach the opening day of the new season, I and the Committee want to thank you again for your tremendous support.

It is just over 4 months since we took over responsibility for the Club and so much has happened in that time. Our Clubhouse has undergone significant refurbishment, funded through generous donations, and is now ready for the season ahead. We hope you like the new look and our new logo.

Since the last newsletter, we had an excellent attendance at the AGM on 4<sup>th</sup> March and a great turnout at the Come and Try Day on 10<sup>th</sup> March. Many thanks to all who supported these events.

## Membership

As of 8<sup>th</sup> April, we have 159 members, 30 of whom are social members. The male to female ratio is close to 50/50. This is such a great foundation for the Club and we look forward to welcoming you all.

## Advertising Boards

In addition, we have secured 12 corporate sponsors – namely; Architecturejf, Forth Blinds, Capital Glazing, Chris Ness Wealth Management Ltd, Joel Mason, McGlone & Co, Kiln Garage Longniddry, The Old Clubhouse, Morin Builders, Gratebuild, G & A Cochrane Carpet & Gullane Golf Club Pro Shop. Their advertising boards will be set on the west boundary wall, together with a composite board in the main hall. All are local businesses and we are grateful for their support.

## The Green

Over the winter months Kevin Mitchell, our greenkeeper, has put in a power of work to bring the green up to competitive standard again. We have invested in a new mower which is already delivering significant results. Kevin is clear that one of the best ways to improve the overall quality of the green is for it to be used as much as possible; we hope that you will keep him happy in this respect!

## Opening Day

The official opening of the green will take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April. All members are welcome. Registration will start at 1pm with the first jack rolled at approx. 2pm. There is no formal dress code for this occasion. However, if you do not have your own bowls or shoes, please bring flat-soled shoes and spare bowls will be available. Club shirts will be available to order on the day.

## Clubhouse Access

Access to the Clubhouse is via a key in the secure box situated to the right of the main door. The following procedure must be followed if you are first to open the Clubhouse on any day or last to leave. There is a fob on the key and this activates and deactivates the alarm. On entering the Clubhouse hold the fob against the pad at the right-hand side inside the main door and the alarm will be deactivated. On leaving, hold the fob against the pad and the alarm will be activated, after locking the door, put the key back in the secure box. For additional security purposes the alarm system will be operated by a separate code between the hours of 10.30pm and 7am.

A tea/coffee/hot chocolate machine has been installed in the entrance hall for your convenience at a charge of £1 per cup. There is an honesty box beside the machine.

## Lockers

New lockers have been installed in the Men's and Ladies' changing rooms. These are available on a first come first served basis at a cost of £5 per year. Please see Lorna Scott on the Opening day, along with payment, or email her on [bowlsforgullane@gmail.com](mailto:bowlsforgullane@gmail.com) if you would like a locker for the forthcoming season.

## Club Competitions

Notice boards have been placed in the entrance hall. All details of Club competitions will be placed there including entry sheets and draws. Hat nights open to members and visitors will be held every Monday from 6.30pm start.

## League Matches

Gullane Bowling Club has rejoined the East Lothian Bowling Leagues. The schedules of Ladies' and Mens' matches will be posted on the notice boards. Anyone wishing to play in any of the fixtures should put their names on the sheets, ideally 2 weeks in advance. We are very keen to ensure as many as possible put their names up for these matches, experienced and those new to the game. David Saunders and Irene Cunningham will be responsible for selection for the Mens' and Ladies teams respectively.

## Informal Games

As noted above, it is important that we all use the green as that will improve its quality. Please arrange informal games with your friends and get to know other members. The only requirements are that you wear flat soled shoes and adhere to the security arrangements for access. If there is a scheduled league match, whether it be Men, Women or Seniors, the green will not be available for play. Please check the diary for these dates.

If you do not have your own bowls, there is a selection of sizes available in the reception area. Please return them at the end of your game.

## Coaching

Coaching for both beginners & existing players will be arranged soon with Scotland Internationalist Billy Mellors. Add your name to the lists on the boards if you are interested in attending.

## Availability of the Clubhouse for other uses

Should you wish to use the clubhouse for a meeting, group or event this can be done by prior arrangement.

Finally, I and the Committee urge you to make use of the facilities as much as possible. We want to see the Club become a real community hub for friends to meet as well as play bowls.

**We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for the Opening Day on 13<sup>th</sup> April.**

*Kevin Thomson - President*

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