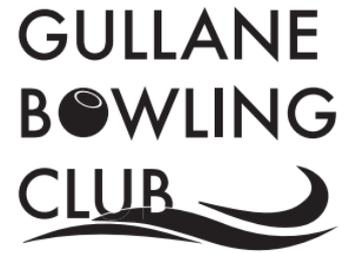




# Newsletter – September 2019



Welcome to Gullane Bowling Club's September newsletter. As the end of the season approaches, it is appropriate for the Committee and I to record our appreciation again to you all for making the 2019 season more successful than we could ever have hoped for and exceeding our expectations on every level.

## Thank You

To those who were members before, thank you for staying with the Club and playing your part in its revival. To those who joined and have embraced the game so enthusiastically, we hope you have enjoyed informal games, league games, hat nights and club competitions. To those social members who have come along to support the Club, we have greatly appreciated your presence and we hope you have enjoyed the friendly ambience in the Clubhouse.

Equally importantly, thank you to those who joined simply to support our efforts to save the Club. We would love to see you at the Club, and we hope you feel you can continue to support us in the future.

## Our Champions

Congratulations to our Ladies' team who are champions of the Division 1 Wednesday league. This is a tremendous achievement, thanks to all who played in the matches, both the experienced players and those new to the game. Particular thanks go to Irene Cunningham for all she did throughout the season. As winners, GBC hosted the other East Lothian Ladies clubs on 28<sup>th</sup> August for a very enjoyable & successful day.



*Courtesy of Joyce Hunnam*

David Saunders won the Men's Championship and Lorna Thomson won the Ladies' Championship. They now go through to the East Lothian Champion of Champions competition along with Ben Everett who will represent the Club in the under 25s category.

As President, I am very proud of the Club's achievements this year. Unlike some other clubs, we have fulfilled all our fixtures; the number of members willing to be selected has increased as the season has gone on; and the support we have received from all those who came along to watch has been greatly appreciated. I firmly believe we can build on this strong foundation next season and hopefully enjoy more success.



## Flower Planters

I hope you agree that the flower planters have added a very colourful touch around the green over the summer. Our thanks to Gus and Maureen Hunter for making and maintaining them.

## Gullane Games Bowling Night

We were very happy to reintroduce the open bowling night as part of Gullane Games Week. We thought we were well organised but nothing could have prepared us for the amazing turnout. Over 180 adults and children came along, some to bowl, some to watch and a heroic effort by Gary Hitchen and others ensured everyone who wanted got a chance to play.



We are delighted to welcome so many children with their parents and grandparents to the Club. But as it was a bit overcrowded, we will have a word with the Gullane Games Committee about a possible restructuring with, perhaps, a junior and senior event next year.

## Sponsors & Donors Thank you Lunch



It was a great pleasure to host our sponsors and donors at the Club on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August. Their generous financial support enabled us to carry out the essential refurbishment required to the Clubhouse, as well as a comprehensive programme of green maintenance. I am sure

everyone will agree that their generosity and support has had a transformational effect on our facilities.

## Green Keeping Arrangements

After significant investment the Green has shown continuous improvement and receives praise from members and visiting teams alike. Thanks go to Kevin Mitchell for his past efforts and now to Liam Nicholson, Paul Hay and Gullane Golf Club for their practical input and professional expertise going forward. We intend to continue this through the winter in preparation for the 2020 season.

## Closing Day Event – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – 1pm

The Committee and I want this to be a real celebration of what has been achieved this year. We would like as many members as possible to come along, whether you have been regular attendees or not, to enjoy an afternoon at the Club. Light refreshments & bar available. Details to follow.

We hope the green will be available for informal games until early October, but we will be guided by Liam, so please check the notice board in the Clubhouse.

## Looking Ahead

We have made clear from the start that we want Gullane Bowling Club to be a key part of the community and, to that end, part of the refurbishment included installing a heating system. We now have a year-round facility for members' use, and we would welcome other local groups enquiring about using it as a base for their activities. We already have bookings for a Bridge Club and a Craft Group.

## Social Afternoons with Bingo

These will be held every second Tuesday from 2 - 4pm commencing 15<sup>th</sup> October. Details will shortly be on the noticeboard in the Clubhouse, please put your name up if you are interested. We think this is a great way to meet up over the off season for a chat.



## Fundraising Autumn Shopping Fair – Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October

We plan to hold a fundraising fair in the Clubhouse with local small traders invited to set out their goods. Revenue from the sale of the stall sites will go directly to Club funds. Further details will be posted on the Club's website, Facebook page and on posters around the village.

## Other Events

We now have a TV in the Clubhouse, many thanks to Stewart Maxwell. We think this is a great addition and hope to make best use of this around significant public occasions and sporting events. Details will be emailed to all members.

## Bring on 2020!

We have already turned our attention to next season. It is so important that the success of 2019 is the foundation for an even stronger future for the Club. We want you to stay with us as we develop the Club's facilities. We have therefore decided to set our rates now for 2020 membership as follows:



**(until end January) Adult membership - £75.00.**

**1<sup>st</sup> February 2020 onwards - £90.00**

**Social membership remains at £10**

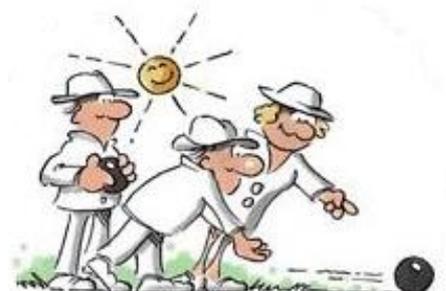
**Children under 16 free**

## Finally ...

Thanks again for all your support in its many forms throughout the season. I hope to see as many of you as possible on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

*Kevin Thomson - President*

- **Facebook page:** Gullane Bowling Club
- **Email:** bowlsforgullane@gmail.com
- **Post:** 14A Hall Crescent, Gullane EH31 2HA



# MEMBERSHIP FORM 2020

For existing members:

Forms will be available on the Closing Day – happy to accept cheques on the day if not paying by BACs.



**(until end January) Adult membership - £75.00**

**1<sup>st</sup> February 2020 onwards - £90.00**

**Non-playing Social membership - £10**

**Children under 16 free**

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Gender:</b>	
<b>Age:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>E-Mail:</b>	
<b>Mobile &amp; Home Tel:</b>	
<b>Category of Membership:</b> Full / Social / Junior	
<b>Do you require a locker?</b>	

**Please complete and return the form to:**

**Caroline Hitchen, Club Secretary**

Gullane Bowling Club, 14A Hall Crescent, Gullane, EH31 2HA

BACs details: Bank of Scotland | Sort Code: 80-08-22 | Account No. 00452235

Email: [bowlsgullane@gmail.com](mailto:bowlsgullane@gmail.com)