

Oak Hill Bowls Club

August 2024 newsletter



A busy summer for Oak Hill

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Club status

At a recent extra-ordinary meeting of club members we presented a proposal that the club should apply to the Charities Commission to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The proposal was accepted by an overwhelming majority of those members present.

Being a CIO has two major advantages for the future of the club –

- The club will be a legal entity. This means that our new lease can be taken out between the borough of Barnet and the club itself, rather than with named trustees of the club;
- The club will have limited liability and the trustees of the club will no longer be potentially liable for any future debts of the club.

In addition to these two main advantages, having charitable status has tax advantages (we can claim gift aid tax relief on donations made by individual members who are tax-payers, and on cash donations). We also feel that being a charity will give the club a more favourable position within our local community, with the council and with potential sponsors or fund providers.



Dates for the diary

The next few weeks are very busy for our club, with over 20 different bowling activities, including seven ladies' matches. We are very short of fit lady bowlers, so your support over the period would be greatly appreciated.

Club activities include:

- Saturday 10th August - rearranged date for club mixed triples competition
- Sunday 11th August – Progressive Bowls (see details below)
- Saturday 17th August – Finchley and North London finals at Finchley BC

Club nights

We are trying to ensure a full programme of club-night food and activities on Thursday evenings throughout the season. So far we have managed to arrange food on every Thursday, being hugely indebted to Mike Marques for his various menus, including a terrific Chinese evening and a delicious Lamb Shank night.

On 8th August Ian Wilson will be arranging fish and chips.

We desperately need other members to volunteer as cooks for an evening.

The price for club-night meals is £8, with occasional exceptions when we need to charge more to cover the cost of the food.

Club competitions

Most of the club competitions are progressing well, although it is disappointing that the only ladies competition that has been held is the championship singles, with just four entries.

The weather on the original date for the mixed triples was poor, so the competition has been re-scheduled for Saturday 10th August.

The Aussie pairs competition was completed on the 20th July, with Rob Petty and John Abson the final winners.

The finals of all other competitions, apart from the Bob Sawyer trophy, will be played on finals weekend – the 14th and 15th September.





Leagues and external competitions

All of the leagues in which we play are well in progress. As at the end of July our men playing in the Vets league are well placed, but our next two matches – against Bush Hill Park on the 8th August and Broomfield on the 21st August – are against the two clubs that have won the league in the last two years, so those matches could well determine our standing at the end of the season. In the Henry Rose Cup (the knock-out version of the Vets league) we have qualified for the semi-final, to be played against Cockfosters on the 15th August.

In the Prentice Cup our team lost to Muswell Hill in the quarter-final. In the Herts County league our men had excellent wins against Harpenden and Welwyn & District. We have been given a “walk-over” against Harperbury so - with just one match against North Mymms on the 12th August – we have a good chance of qualifying for the South area finals on the 1st September.

Margaret and Pauline are struggling against the odds to get full teams out for our various ladies’ fixtures, so your support, particularly in the next couple of weeks, is urgently required. So far, we have managed to fulfil all our Brigg League fixtures.

Our teams in the Enfield & district Sunday league have performed well so far, and the team are currently placed second in the league with 2 matches in hand on our nearest rivals.

Many thanks to all members who have played in all our matches and also to those who support the club by coming to watch many of our home games.

Progressive bowls

Tom Hobden will be organising this day on Sunday 11th August, starting at 10am. Participating members will play four short games, playing in the same team position, but with different colleagues and opponents for each match. There will be prizes for the winning players from each team position.

This has proved to be a fun competition of a different nature, so we encourage members to take part.

Please put your details – name and preferred team position – on the sheet on the notice board in the corridor leading to the toilets.

Please bring your own lunch!

Property

We are very grateful to Alan Nicholls who has carried out recent repairs to the concrete edge of the green and the paving slabs from the green to the equipment shed. Our new dishwasher has been installed and instructions for its use are on the cupboard above the machine. We are happy to give instructions to members wanting to know how to use the dishwasher.

We also need at least 2 more members to be able to operate the watering system. Volunteers should contact Terry Doe or John Abson.