

# Oak Hill Bowls Club

July 2025



*Bowls lined up for new members to try out*

## A warm welcome to our new members

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We are pleased to welcome a number of new members to Oak Hill since the beginning of the season – Sian Allen, who had previously had coaching with Rhys at Glebelands, and has already had a number of notable successes in club competitions – John Allen, Sian's husband, who has joined as an Associate member as he is still working – Louise Mackie, a friend of Sian – Sarah Beaumont, one of the Oak Hill park runners who has joined the club – Richard Brandon, a friend of Rhys – Chris Burvill and Lynn Wallis, both of whom were introduced to the club through a mutual friend of Sian.

Sian is acting as a very active recruiter for the club and, as long as they continue as members of the club, she will earn a much-reduced subscription for next season. This serves as a reminder to all members – if you introduce a new bowler who joins the club, you can earn a 25% reduction in your subscription the following season for each member introduced.

We have been coaching a number of other potential members, so are hopeful that we will soon be able to welcome other new bowlers.

At the beginning of the season we were also fortunate to welcome some experienced bowlers to Oak Hill – Frank Dryer and his wife Marsha – Antonio del Vasto – Matthew Tang – so I'm sure they will add to the overall playing strength of the club and I hope you will all make them feel at home.



## Club-nights

The programme for the next few Thursday evening club-nights is –

- 10<sup>th</sup> July Barbecue
- 17<sup>th</sup> July Quiz Night
- 24<sup>th</sup> July Barbecue
- 31<sup>st</sup> July Annika's Spanish Night

The sign-up sheets will be shown on the notice board outside the kitchen, so please put your name on the relevant sheet by the Tuesday of the week, so that we know how many to cater for.

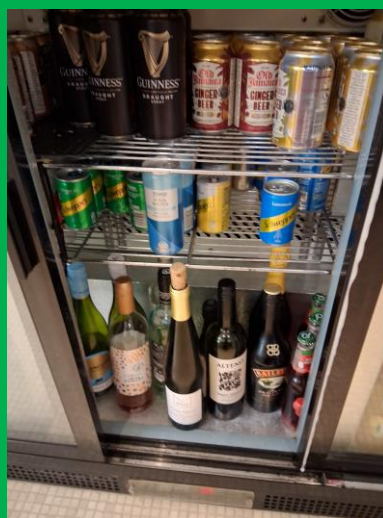
One of the “characters” that we have met through our co-operation with the Oak Hill park run does the run most weeks dressed as Superman. He is a really interesting character, has done lots of marathons, and raised loads of money for the North London Hospice, where he also helps. We are hoping to persuade him to come to one of our club-nights to talk about his experiences and the work he does for the hospice, our club charity. We'll let you know if and when this happens.



## Charitable Incorporated Organisation Application

We have recently heard from the Charity Commission that our CIO application has been rejected. Applications are submitted under a number of different categories, with our application being submitted under the category of “amateur sports club”.

The commission indicated that they were happy with the main part of our application, but they were concerned that the social activities of the club did not entirely fit in with charitable status. The commission also has reasonably strict guidelines that, where a club has a bar, that activity should be organised under a separate entity from the sports club.



We are therefore considering and seeking advice about the way forward. The commission hinted that, if the social activities and bar were organised under a separate entity, e.g. Oak Hill Social Club, an application for charitable status for Oak Hill Bowls Club would almost certainly be accepted. This is one of the options we will be considering. We will keep you informed about future progress.



## External leagues

Our ladies and men have both played their first matches in the Hertfordshire County League, resulting in defeats at Welwyn Garden City, one of the strongest clubs in the south division. In the Prentice Cup we have also been drawn in a very strong group and have suffered defeats against Muswell Hill, Bounds Green and Grovelands.

In the Enfield and District Sunday league we have had better results, with wins in our first two matches. We are currently second in the league, with a game in hand on the top club.

Our Vets league teams have also had more success, winning 7 of our first 8 matches, with the only defeat being against a strong team from Potters Bar. At the end of June we are top of the league, but our last 5 matches are all away from home, so we are not getting too excited yet.

In knock-out competitions our men lost in the Herts Top Club competition in an away match at Bovingdon, played on an all-weather surface where home advantage was a key factor. In the Herts Top Ten competition we won our first match against Northaw and Cuffley, then were given a walk-over against St Ippolytes on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June when one of their teams had to withdraw in very warm conditions. In the next round, the county quarter-final, we will be at home on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July, against Buntingford.

We are very grateful to those members who come to support our teams in the various leagues and competitions.

## Club competitions



Yin Man and Paulette  
before their Junior Singles match

Most of the men's and mixed competitions seem to be progressing well, but we would remind members that they should play their matches by the specified play-by dates. The men's 2-wood singles competition was played to the semi-final stage on the 26<sup>th</sup> May, with Jim Moss and Antonio del Vasto qualifying for the final which will be played on the finals weekend in September.

The 2-wood pairs competition was played on the 14<sup>th</sup> June, with Kay Comer and Terry Lovell, and Junior Brewster and Wing Yuen qualifying for the final. The finalists from the mixed triples competition played on the 28<sup>th</sup> June are Diane Poletti, Yin Man and Terry Doe, and Sian Allen, Brian Davidson and David Conway.

Congratulations to all the players who have qualified for the various finals and many thanks to Rob Petty for his organisation of the competitions.

The next fixed-date competition is the Aussie Pairs, scheduled to be played on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July, so look out for the entry sheet and put your name down if you would like to play in this slightly different format of the game.



## Open League

16 teams have been competing in our very popular Open league on Tuesday mornings with a high standard of bowling and competition.

The first set of round-robin matches will be completed on the 5<sup>th</sup> August, after which the league will be split into 2 divisions according to placings at that date. After the matches on the 1<sup>st</sup> July the league is very competitive, with three teams – “The Rock and Bowlers” managed by Colin Pink from Broomfield – “Scorpions” managed by Terry Doe – and “Bushy Oak” managed by Gavin McKay from Bush Hill Park – all within a single point at the top of the table.



Two groups of year-7 pupils from East Barnet school have been coming to the club on Monday mornings for instruction as part of their PE curriculum.

The sessions went very well and we are hopeful that a couple of the girls may well join the club as junior members.

## Finchley Bowls Week

The Finchley Bowls Week competitions will be held in the week beginning the 8<sup>th</sup> September and the closing date for entries is the 31<sup>st</sup> August. Individuals from Oak Hill have achieved many successes in recent years, so if you would like to enter, please put your names on the relevant forms which are on the competitions notice board.

## The Green

Amenity Sports Management (ASM) have asked that we reserve a day for them to apply granular feed to the green. As well as applying the feed, the green will be cut and then require watering. We have suggested Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July, so the green will not be available for play that day.

## Norman Kelly

We are extremely sad to hear of the recent death of Norman Kelly, Josie’s husband. Although not able to bowl due to his mobility issues, Norman was a staunch and positive supporter of our club for many years and he will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are with Josie at this difficult time.

Norman’s funeral will be on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm at New Southgate crematorium, with refreshments at Glebelands afterwards.