



JACK HIGH
OCTOBER
2024

Lounge and Club Improvements

We are delighted that we have been able to deliver our promised maintenance plan over the last 8 weeks. Despite an incredibly tight schedule, we have managed to complete the work, and we are an incredibly proud of the new look lounge. The roof replacement phase 1 project has been completed running from the Dining Room to the outer bar cellar. The lounge has been completed re-painted, all booths and seating have been re-upholstered, repaired and polished. New flooring has been laid from the dining room to the end of the lounge and new carpet fitted. We have replaced all the signage in the club for the food fairies and all of the club winners' pictures have been put on to canvas to create a more modern and uniformed section. All of the blinds have been replaced in the dining room and lounge area. We have also had a custom-built bookcase section for us to sell our puzzles and books from in a new section of the club. We hope the members enjoy the new look and this continues to enhance the membership experience in the club.

Taster Days

We will be having three Taster Days this season.

Sunday 6th October 2024. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Sunday 13th October 2024. 10.00am - 2.30pm

Sunday 5th January 2025. 2.30pm - 6.30pm.

This is a great opportunity for you to bring a family member, friend, colleague from work or a neighbour, recruitment to the club is crucial and this is a great opportunity to introduce new people to our fantastic club. We have flyers available for members to give out as well as club business cards to use. We have worked hard on our advertising this year with improved marketing materials. A huge thank you to Alis Butten for her support in the designing of these materials.

Taster Sessions

To supplement the Taster Days this season we will be running Taster Sessions; which will be available for potential new members to book and have a short session with an experienced member.

These must be booked through John McKenzie and will be available every Thursday morning 9.30am - 12.30pm. These may be organised outside of these slots by agreement. To book call John on 07817729117.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank John for developing a booklet available to members called "Helping to improve your bowling" for this season. This will be available from the front desk or bar.

Webbers and Next Summer Season

A huge thank you to all those who have played in the Summer Webber. We had a great summer season with **160 members** playing in the competition. This was our first season of having two sessions and we are delighted with the response we have had; our record day was 82 which would have meant turning 26 people away previously. We are seeing the summer season grow for us and we are now working on plans to grow this with the bowling group working on ideas for next season. We will keep you all updated.

Congratulations to the Summer Winners-

Winner- Aileen Harding

Top Male- Robin Harding

Top Female- Doreen Beames

Top Points- Geoff Pulman

Whiteknights in the Community

We continue to raise our profile in the community and will be supporting the following organisations this season; Wokingham Blind bowlers, Caversham Blind Bowlers, Ravenswood, Link Charity, Daisy's Dream, NHS, Woodley Scouts, Emmbrook Scouts and Woodley Townswomen.

As part of our commitment to making our club a hub of the community we will also be forging new relationships – we have started to work with the Wokingham volunteers' scheme and Readibus to try and assist members who are having difficulty in travelling to and from the club; we will be looking to release more information over the forthcoming weeks regarding these partnerships.

We also hope to attract more commercial bookings to the club and will keep you informed.

Club Charity

This season our club charity will be Daisy's Dream - <https://www.daisysdream.org.uk/>. We can help raise awareness and as much money as possible for them this season.

Joanne Somner, Community Fundraiser said,

'Daisy's Dream are really delighted to have been chosen by the club and its members to be their chosen charity for the coming season. We're looking forward to lots of events and having plenty of fun while we raise much needed funds for our charity.'

Friendly Fixtures

Please get behind the captains and support them by putting your name down for as many friendly matches as possible. This is a great opportunity to meet players from other clubs and experience competitive games in a friendly and supportive environment. As we have no permanent Captains this season, we will be operating a "Captain of the day" system, I will contact members in advance to discuss them covering some of these games. If you feel you could Captain a game, please get in touch. All the friendly fixtures are now published on the website

Member Experience Officer

We are delighted to announce we will have a new Member Experience Officer this season - Mark Barefoot will be heading up this position. He has a wealth of experience in similar roles in a commercial environment and will be available to discuss ideas and challenges for members. Mark will be working closely with the various groups under the Board to help deliver on the members requests.

We will be using the suggestion box outside of the Managers office for suggestions to Mark. You can also contact direct via email clubadmin@whiteknightsibc.co.uk

Meet the Team

We will be holding several "Meet the Team" events. These will entail meeting the various members of the groups in the club working with the Board of Directors. The sessions will be advertised via email and in the club newsletter, please take the opportunity to come down to the club and meet the team.

The first session will be on **Wednesday 2nd October at 10.00am - 12 noon**, where you will have the opportunity to meet with Malcolm Giles (Chairman) and Mark Barefoot (Membership Experience Officer) in the dining room.

Social Events

A huge thank you to Edna and Julia for organising a fantastic calendar of events for the 2024-25 season. Please see the website link for more details.

A huge thank you to all the members who have supported our first two events with the Quiz Night and the Abba tribute evening, both SOLD OUT!

One Day events

We will be running several one-day competitions this year, played in varying formats. The first two are played as triples, both will be drawn in advance of the day. The entry sheets are now displayed in the club for you to add your names to.

Club Handbook

We have re-launched the club handbook for the 2024-25 season. The yellow booklet will be available for you to collect from the bar or front desk. We have added more information for you to make it more useful. These are free and for all members to take.

Payment of your Subscriptions (Closing date: 16th October 2024)

<u>Annual Subscriptions</u>	
- Annual Bowling Membership	£165(no change)
- Social Membership	£40(no change)
- Membership Summer Only (Webbers)	£40(no change)
- Junior Annual Membership (under 16)	£0
- Late Payment of Subs -additional amount	£25(no change)
- Locker Annual Rental	£5(no change)
- Access/Locker Keys for new members	£5(no change)
- Replacement of access/locker cards	£5(no change)

How to pay your annual subs:

By Internet Banking

Payment is made to Sort Code 40-38-04, Account No 91014641 (**please note change of account number from previous years**).

The payment reference should contain your membership number (obtainable from the Club Manager) and your post code.

Please e-mail the Club Manager (clubmanager@whiteknightsibc.co.uk) when you have made the payment giving full details (i.e., date of payment, membership number and amount). This is to ensure we can tie up entries appearing on our bank statement.

By Credit or Debit Card

Please complete a payment form (available at bar and front desk) with full details (name, date, amounts) and hand it to the Club Manager or staff, at the Front Desk or Bar along with your card.

By cheque

Made payable to: Whiteknights Indoor Bowls Club Ltd. Please write Membership number and locker number (if applicable) on the back of the cheque and place in an envelope available from the front desk and leave in the box provided.

By cash – preferably not

To be paid to the Club manager or bar staff in a sealed envelope. Name, membership number or postcode to be written on the envelope.