

ANGEL IBC NEWSLETTER. August 2026.

angelnews338@gmail.com

From the Board.

Laura

The board was pleased, on your behalf, to provide the food for Laura's wake. It was a beautiful service and, as she would have wanted, a sea of red with everyone recognising her love for Liverpool FC. We are glad that her family have felt welcomed and have called in several times before they returned to South Africa.

Membership Renewal 2026/27

A reminder that subscriptions are due for renewal on September 1st

May we please remind members that your renewal payment is due on September first, not October, or Christmas. Our finances and budgets are finely tuned to the anticipated renewal numbers allowing for those who have moved away, sadly died, or indicated that they will be moving to another club. The percentages are roughly similar each year, but late payments effect our ability to accurately predict the club's income and skews our budget predictions. Please help us by making timely payments.

In line with our policy of increasing subscriptions and rink fees in alternate years, the rink fees for 2026/27 remain the same.

The new subscription rates are listed below:

	Existing	New Rate
Full Bowling Membership	£100.00	£105.00
Assisted Bowlers (incl social)	£ 36.00	£ 38.00
Social Membership	£ 36.00	£ 38.00
Social + Summer Bowling	£ 40.00	£ 42.00
Junior Membership	£ 21.00	£ 22.00
Full Family Membership **	£ 210.00	£220.00
Locker (Annual) Maintenance	£ 5.00	£ 5.00

Is your emergency contact correct?

If we are made aware of a member who is in hospital, we will usually contact the emergency number that we hold for the member to enquire and send our wishes for a speedy recovery. We recently tried to do that and discovered that the emergency contact number we hold is very out of date, obviously in this situation it wasn't an emergency, but we do need to know who to contact if you are taken ill or have an accident at the club. Please check the number we hold for you and make sure it's up to date

Bowling News

From President Gwen

President's Day took place on 18th July and was by any measure a great success. There was fun and laughter on every rink and fierce concentration too (or not!)

There are so many people to thank that I fear I will miss someone out but first and foremost I want to thank everyone who played. Many helped to organise and run the day and very generous donations were received from every quarter of the club.

The game was played Men v Women on this occasion. The Men did win on more rinks on this occasion but it was clear that every rink enjoyed their game, win or lose, and every section of the players were represented from Juniors to (very) seniors or new players to experienced and champion bowlers and all levels in between.

The bar remained open and the meal was splendid and, thanks to some superb prizes donated to the raffle, the Grand Total for the day, including late contributions, was

£498.70

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A magnificent total everyone and does not even include cash put into the collection tins.

There will be another President's Day in the latter part of the winter season, early 2027, and this time the Men can be the home side and the Women can win!

Thank you all again.

From Luke, Competition secretary.

Reminder that the summer finals are on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September. Of course, who and when you play has not yet been decided, but the event is fast approaching.

The trophies are currently being engraved, with six years of backdated winners being added. We hope to have them all completed within the next few weeks.

Engraving of the boards will commence after the summer finals. We will also be installing new boards, and our pennants will finally be displayed behind the bar for everyone to see.

Regarding our winners and runners up medals, unfortunately the company we have previously used is no longer available. I have tried several times to contact them; however, there has been no response. Therefore, we will be using new medals going forward.

As there are no results to post this month, I'm posting this which has been received from EIBA and may interest you.

Proposed amalgamation of the EIBA and Bowls England to create a single governing body for indoor and outdoor flat green bowls, England Bowls.

England Bowls Regional Delivery Hubs: Bringing Support Closer to Clubs, County Associations and Communities

Bowls has always been at its best when it brings people together: players, volunteers, clubs, county associations and communities all contributing to a sport that is welcoming, social and full of potential. As the bowls landscape evolves, we have an opportunity to strengthen that shared effort by making support simpler, more consistent and closer to where it is needed most.

That is the purpose behind the proposed introduction of England Bowls' Regional Delivery Hubs (RDHs), should the merger of indoor and outdoor flat green bowls be supported. The RDHs are designed to help the bowls ecosystem work more effectively by connecting national direction with local delivery. They would not replace clubs or county Associations. Instead, they would add capacity, provide practical support and help reduce the operational pressure that many volunteers currently carry.

Why change is needed

Across recent discussions, a consistent message has emerged: the current system is passionate and committed, but it can also feel complex and ineffective. Responsibilities sometimes overlap, important work can fall between gaps, and clubs and county associations are often being asked to do more with limited time, capacity and specialist expertise.

At the same time, the ambition for the sport is clear. Bowls needs a modern, sustainable operating model that supports participation, strengthens inclusion, develops volunteers, improves facilities, builds partnerships and gives clubs the confidence to thrive. National strategy can set the direction, but growth happens locally - on greens, in clubhouses, through volunteers and within communities. Bowls needs clearer support for membership growth, participation activation, and sharing of best practice, all of which is essential for our future.

What the Regional Delivery Hubs would do

Regional Delivery Hubs (RDHs) would act as a bridge between England Bowls HQ, clubs and county associations. HQ would lead on national strategy, policy, regulation and assurance. County Associations would retain their vital role in representation, competitions, liaison and escalation. Clubs would remain the heartbeat of day-to-day delivery, liaison and escalation.

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The RDH would focus on the development activity that benefits from regional coordination and hands-on support. This includes helping clubs navigate facility issues, activate national participation and inclusion programmes, build local partnerships, support communications, coordinate workforce development, provide safeguarding signposting, gather local insight and bring clubs together to share ideas and good practice. They will coordinate regional disciplinary panels where independence is required and support a single coaching system.

The benefits for clubs, county associations and volunteers

- More practical support for clubs: the RDH would provide a clearer route to advice on facilities, operations, local authority relationships, funding opportunities, community partnerships and club development.
- Less duplication and greater clarity: By defining who leads, who delivers and who assures, the system can reduce overlap and make it easier for volunteers to know where to go for help.
- Stronger local delivery of national priorities: Participation, inclusion, workforce and partnership programmes can be adapted to regional needs while staying aligned to the national vision.
- Better use of local insight: the RDH would help gather and share information from clubs and county associations, ensuring national decisions are informed by what is happening on the ground.
- More connected communities: Building on Sport England's placed-based approach, our regional networks can help clubs learn from one another, celebrate success and build relationships with schools, colleges, community groups, health partners and local government.
- Reduced pressure on volunteers: By adding specialist capacity and coordination, the RDH can help volunteers focus more of their energy on the parts of the sport they enjoy most.
- Peer learning across counties: Identifying, sharing and celebrating best practice that is already happening in our clubs, communities and county associations.

What the RDHs would not do

It is important to be clear about the boundaries. The RDH would not replace the role of clubs and county associations or become another layer of bureaucracy and governance. They would not take over competitions or representative matches unless specifically asked to support. They would not design national policy, rules, programmes or standards. Their role would be to strengthen delivery, not centralise control.

A positive step towards a stronger bowls ecosystem

The introduction of the Regional Delivery Hubs is an opportunity to create a more joined-up, responsive and sustainable bowls system. It recognises the importance of national leadership, respects the role of counties, celebrates the central place of clubs and provides additional support where it can make the greatest difference.

For the model to succeed, it will need thoughtful discussion, honest feedback and careful transition planning. Questions around funding, location, number of hubs, and the different needs of indoor and outdoor bowls will all need to be worked through. But the direction is positive: clearer responsibilities, stronger support, better connections and more time focused on growing and enjoying the sport.

Ultimately, the RDH is about helping bowls do what it does best: bring people together, create great experiences and build vibrant clubs at the heart of local communities. By placing practical support closer to clubs and volunteers, the RDH could become an important part of a brighter, more confident future for bowls.

Next steps

There is more work to do on establishing the optimal number and size of the regions, as well as exploring how they would be resourced and funded. We are in discussion with the Bowls Development Alliance about how this model would complement the support that they provide to Bowls England and EIBA affiliated clubs, and how our sport might make a case for Sport England funding to support this model.

If you have any thoughts on this, please email ourfuture@bowlsengland.com or info@eiba.co.uk

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In other news

Save the date



Our annual MacMillan big Coffee morning will be on Friday September 25th from 10.30 to 12. If you have items for the bring and buy please hold onto them until the beginning of September when they will be welcomed. Small items only please.

There will be cake!!

Chris Parker

100 Club

This month's winners are:

Each win £12

Nigel Matthews: John Barnes: Gail Barnes

From the Editor

**Deadline for the next Newsletter
is strictly 5pm on August 26th**

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