

ANGEL IBC NEWSLETTER



GOD SAVE THE KING

SUMMER SEASON IS HERE AGAIN.

Happy Summer to all of our outdoor bowlers, stay dry and we will see you again in September.

Bowls Committee AGM

The Bowls Committee AGM took place on Friday, March 24th where the officers' reports were read out and new officers elected.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to serve on the Committee for the 22 / 23 season. We had a great winter of bowling and are all set for a great summer too (more on this below!).

Thank you also to those volunteering to serve on the committee for the coming season.

The Committee has one vacancy remaining, that of League Secretary. If you feel able to volunteer for this role please speak with any of the new (or previous!) Committee.

Your new Committee is ...

Chair: Barry Tomlin
Treasurer: Malcolm Yates
Men's Captain: Trevor London
Ladies Captain: Mary London
Fixtures Secretary: Christine Spencer

Club Secretary: Babs Tomlin
Competitions Secretary: David Young
League Secretary: vacant

Kent League Final Positions

The Men are currently sitting 4th in the Kent League (only 2 points behind the third place team) and the Ladies 4th (only 0.2 points behind the third place team). The men have 20 points potentially still to be awarded. Which would place us 3rd.

Well done to everyone who played for the Club this season - especially those who made their debuts. We hope to have lots of new debuts next winter.

Thanks especially to the mens and ladies Captains; Trevor London and Mary London. It is thanks to the efforts of our Captains and all their deputies / supporters that we are able to field quality sides on a regular basis, bring in new players, and still finish in very respectable league positions.

2022 / 23 County Finalists

Very well done to all the Angels who made it to the County Finals this season. We had finalists in the Ladies Singles, Mens Unbadged Singles, Mens Rinks and Mens over 55 Pairs. Great achievement all.

Especial mention to Gail Barnes, reaching the Ladies Singles Final in her first year with the Angel, and to David Young, reaching the Mens Unbadged Final at his first attempt.

Summer Opening Times

We expect a busy summer, with the usual program of roll-ups, leagues (including Summer Singles League), inter club matches, club competitions, National individual competitions and Fantastic 5s.

The Club is again open 7 days a week, with the only difference to winter opening times being that the club closes early on Sundays - at 3pm. **The Club will be closed for each of the scheduled Bank Holidays.**

Summer Bowling

We have a great summer of bowling coming up, including:

Individual National Competitions

This year sees the first ever summer EIBA National Competitions (men's singles, ladies singles, open pairs, and open triples). Good luck to all our members who have entered these new competitions.

These competitions are open to any members to enter. And whilst entry is now closed for this summer's competitions, just head over to the EIBA website if you want to see what's involved in entering for the 23 / 24 Winter Competitions or next year's Summer Competitions.

Internal Club Leagues

We have 5 "regular" club leagues running this summer, plus our now well established summer Singles League.

Entry dates for all of the above club leagues has now passed. But if you wish to, you can join a 'stand-by' list should any team struggle to field a team and need a one-off substitute or indeed an additional permanent player. A 'sign up' list will be put up on the club Noticeboard in due course. Just add your name to that list.

If you have entered the "regular" club leagues you will have been, or soon will be, approached by your team captain. Do keep an eye on your club pigeonhole. Leagues are due to start first week of May (except Mon eve league which starts 15 May due to bank holidays).

We have 57 entrants to the 2023 Summer Singles League. Entrants have been allocated to one of seven divisions, based on their performance in previous Singles Leagues and experience. If you have entered this competition, you will receive an email from Tony Morez very soon. Entrants will broadly need to play one game a week to fulfil their allocated fixtures.

Internal Club Knockout Competitions

Thank you to David Young for organising our summer 'knockout' competitions. We will have the usual competitions running – men's singles, ladies singles, handicap open singles, open pairs and open triples.

Keep an eye on the usual club Noticeboard for the customary 'sign up' sheets.

Fantastic 5s

We have a record four Fantastic 5s teams entered this year. Fantastic 5s is the EIBA National summer team competition.

We have 9 or 10 players in each squad, with 5 playing in each match. The first stage will be a league format with local clubs. The top teams in each league will then enter the knockout stages, which culminates in a National Final (fingers crossed!). Good luck to all our teams. And if you haven't signed up to join in why not come down and watch a match and see what it's all about.

Roll Ups

The usual 'turn up and play' roll ups will be running through the summer, so ...

Monday 12pm

Thursday 12pm

Thursday 2.30pm **New Bowlers only**

Friday 7.15pm

Sunday 11.30am

External Club Matches

The summer inter-club fixtures are all on your website. You can find them here ...

<https://www.angelibc.co.uk/bowling/club-fixtures/summer-fixtures>

These summer matches are great for new bowlers to get some exposure to match play. Do speak with any of the coaches or Club Captains if you want more information on joining in with these matches.

We wish everyone a great summer of bowling.

National Comps Finals Round Up

We had one team representing Angel at the 2023 EIBA Nottingham Finals - Paul Gent, Gary McIlravey and Neil Ramage, who qualified in the Over 50 Triples. Paul and team won their first match but unfortunately got pipped in their quarter final against an experienced triple from Hartlepool, who then went on to win the National Title.

Club Finals



The Club Finals were held through the last weekend of our winter season.

There were some great matches and well done to everyone who got to a final.

We have some new names to go up on the honours boards this year!

If you want to see the results of all the matches just head over to our website here ... <https://www.angelibc.co.uk/article/winter-22-23-competition-results>

Thanks to our organisers ... Gary McIlravey, David Young and Gwen Smithies.

Social Club

Our Club Social Club needs volunteers to get up and running again! If you, or a group of members, would like to organise some social activities why not have a go! Just speak with a Club Steward or Director and we will make sure you get all the support you need to get something up and running.

Club Suggestion Box

We now have a suggestion box within the Club. We have already received a number of suggestions and thought it would be best to respond to them through this Newsletter. The relevant club volunteer will reply to each suggestion as frankly and openly as possible. Suggestions will be consolidated where appropriate (same topic).

Suggestion - New members to get a white collared shirt on joining (to make it easier to adhere to the dress code).

Response - We presume this is in response to white collared or bowling shirts being required for league games. The Club does have a supply of club shirts for sale - available from behind the bar. A selection of bowling shirts are also available from John Forsay - the shop that visits the club every few months. Whether these should be provided free (or at a discount) to new members will be discussed firstly within the bowling Committee. Of course all such additional expense ultimately adds to the costs of running the club and thus increased subs and / or rink fees, but the idea of new joiners being presented with a club shirt on joining is for sure an idea that merits fuller discussion. Thank you for the suggestion.

Suggestion - Club Coaches should be rewarded for their time and expenses (eg petrol)

Response - Our coaches do an amazing job. And we are very grateful for all the time they give to help visitors sample our sport and to get our new joiners up and running in the club. They do this alongside many many other volunteers in the club, who all give lots of their time and energy to enable our club to run, including our directors, our bowling Committee officers, the guy who hoovers our carpet, the members who maintain the car park and grounds, the members who organise and administer our roll up sessions, the volunteers who unlock and open the club each

morning, the person who maintains the website and social media, the person who sets up rink diary and leagues on Bowlr, and ... and many many others! Without these volunteers, who provide their time and energy freely for the benefit of their fellow members, the cost of our bowling would be much increased, and potentially unaffordable! As such, the directors thank the member for their suggestion but have decided to maintain the current position of all club volunteers being treated equally and not financially rewarded.

Suggestion - Jeans should be allowed within the bowling hall, especially as this was the deal when we joined

Response - Interesting topic! And thank you for raising.

Firstly, the club dress code is part of our Byelaws and can be found on the club website here...

<https://www.angelibc.co.uk/about/club-notices/club-bye-laws>

As you will see, the current club Byelaws require grey or black trousers for league matches, but for roll ups allow any dress that is also considered appropriate to wear within the bar area. As such, jeans are currently not disallowed if you feel they are appropriate for inside the bar area. That said, there a number of members who don't like jeans being worn in the bowling hall (as it's a sports hall) and would like the Byelaws amended. This was discussed at the most recent bowling Committee AGM. But no change to Byelaws have yet been made. Differences of opinions on topics like this are of course inevitable in a club our size. These discussions happen at the AGMs. If you feel strongly about a topic like this please attend the AGM and have your say. It's your club. We are sure it will be a further topic of discussion at the next AGM. And in the meantime please ensure you are in line with the latest club Byelaws. Any changes to Byelaws are always shared on the club website and within this Newsletter.

Suggestion - There should be a financial incentive scheme for bringing in new members

Response - We do operate such a scheme around our Open Weekend. Consideration will be given by the directors to making this a permanent feature. Thank you for your suggestion.

Suggestion - New bowlers are taught mat etiquette but frequently it's the more experienced bowlers who fail to comply. Can something be done?

Response - This is an ongoing topic in all bowling clubs, as we all forget about our etiquette from time to time, especially when in the heat of a game. The Bowling Committee have recently put out etiquette reminders at the head of every rink. It is also frequently mentioned in these Newsletters. At the end of the day in a members based club such as ours the onus must be on all members to provide friendly reminders to their fellow members where needed; we cannot rely on our volunteers to police this for us.

Suggestion - It would be helpful if the 'laws of the game' were available on each rink.

Response - This is with the Bowling Committee to consider if additional material should be made available within the club. In the meantime, helpful leaflets for our newer members have been placed on the desk to the left of the bar. And your club website provides a link to laws of the game here <https://www.angelibc.co.uk/new-members/new-members-welcome>

100 Club April's winners are:

Mrs P Ellis, Mrs R Burke, and Mrs J Campbell. Each win £12

News items for our newsletter, which will be published at the end of each month, should be emailed to the editor angelenews338@gmail.com by 15th of the month at the latest. You can also leave news items with the bar staff, in an envelope clearly marked Newsletter editor and include your name and a telephone number. Anything received after the 15th will be published the following month.