



# CLUB UPDATE

## An Update to members from your Board

### Best Wishes

The Directors once again wish all our members and staff well as we gradually emerge from lock-down.

### Indoor Bowling News

There is still no news from Kent regarding next seasons competition entries. The latest statement from EIBA is that they still intend to run next season's competitions as normal and indeed to complete the 19/20 competitions this Autumn.

### 2020/21 Renewals

Just a reminder that the Directors have decided to defer this year's membership renewals until the situation regarding re-opening the Club and it's facilities is clearer.

### Revised Opening Times

We envisage initially opening the Club 4 days a week (Tue, Thu, Sat to 6pm / Juniors end and Sun to 3pm).

Both the bar and restaurant will be open on all these days.

This will be reviewed as it becomes clearer how many and how quickly members will be returning to utilise the Club. Our hope would be to move to normal summer time opening hours as soon as we can.

## Ready and Waiting...

### *So when will we be allowed to bowl again?*

It's great to see everything beginning to open up again but when Indoor Bowling Halls will be allowed to open is still unknown. There is some expectation that this could be late July but at this stage we can all only wait and see.

### *What will it be like when we do re-open?*

What we do know is that when finally allowed to re-open things will be a little different, at least initially.

Under current guidance from both the EIBA and our Insurers, we can expect our air-conditioning to be switched off, changing rooms closed, lockers out of bounds and only our 'accessible' toilets available for use.

### *What about the bar & restaurant?*

Per last week's email we are now working towards having the bar re-open in 2 or 3 weeks time irrespective of whether or not we can open the bowling hall by then.

This would initially be with restricted opening (see left) and various safety changes such as perspex guards at the bar, a contactless payment option and of course social distancing throughout... so strictly seated only drinking and limited numbers per table.

As a result there will inevitably be a limit on the numbers who can safely be in the Club at any one time.

We are also delighted that Carl & Sam, our caterers, will have the restaurant ready to re-open at the same time.

***If contacting us please use the website messaging service or usual club email. Updates will be posted on the website twice weekly from now.***

## Dry Run

As soon as we have a bowls re-opening date we will be contacting a number of members to participate in a full 'dry-run'.

We will then be able to make any required tweaks to our safety arrangements.

With so many changes and restrictions in and around the Club we need to be sure that everything still runs smoothly and safely before opening the bowling hall to general booking.

## First Week Feedback

Volunteers will also be contacting every member accessing the Club in the first week of re-opening to get further feedback on the safety measures in place. We will again then adjust as needed.

## Find Us

### Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Angel-Indoor-Bowls-Centre-Tonbridge-1213591888802221/>

### Twitter

<http://www.twitter.com/angelibc>

### Instagram

<http://www.instagram.com/angelindoorbowlsclub>

## *What else will be different on the actual bowling side?*

Once the bowling hall is finally allowed to open we initially expect to be restricted to games of pairs or singles. Hopefully moving on to be able to play triples if all goes well.

Current EIBA guidance also suggests slightly modified 'laws of the game' including 'placed jacks' and jacks 're-centred' if moved during play. For those not wishing to handle the mat there will be an option of playing without a mat at fixed points. And of course no hand-shaking!

You will be asked to pre-book your rink before accessing the Club and with changing rooms closed arrive ready to bowl.

As per the bar arrangements we expect to have the option of paying for rink fees by way of contact-less debit card.

## *But will it be safe?*

The safety of our volunteers and members on re-opening is of course our first and foremost consideration. And whilst the above changes will be strange for all of us at first we believe they will make for a safe environment for everyone involved.

We appreciate that some members will be anxious about the safety of returning to bowling. We will thus provide all the support we can to make it a safe environment for you.

## *Are you able to Volunteer?*

Thankyou to everyone who has already volunteered to help with all this. With the majority staff remaining furloughed for now, we would still welcome more volunteers. Please send us a message if you can help, even if for just an hour a week.

In the meantime, we again wish all our members well and hope to see you all soon.

Bernard, Matthew, Neil and Paul



*Ps We have received a number of messages of thanks from members for all the volunteers who are looking after the Club whilst closed and preparing it for our members safe return. These are appreciated.*