



## Fairfield 'Jack'

### Fairfield Bowls Club Newsletter – June 2025



## To All Members of Fairfield Bowls Club

### 2025 Season – Great Expectations

Firstly a warm welcome to all new members who have joined Fairfield Bowls Club this season. We hope you will have a long and enjoyable association with our club.

At this time of year friendly, league, county, national and internal competitions come thick and fast. Once again we have increased our participation in county and national competitions so we wish all our participants good luck and prolonged involvement.



Traditional Opening of the Green – Captain v Chairman 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## Headlines

Congratulations to Steve Muir for his inclusion in the county team playing in the Balcomb Trophy last month when they had an excellent win against Huntingdonshire. Steve is the first member of Fairfield to play at a county level for at least 15 years which is a great achievement and an indication of our continued growth and development.

Congratulations also to Elaine Blyth who was selected for the county team in the Walker Cup which is the ladies equivalent to the Balcomb Trophy.

Another headline is the selection of three of our junior members playing for Bedfordshire in the White Rose national competition. This is great achievement for them and our club.



Fairfield Junior Members Playing for Bedfordshire in the White Rose Trophy  
Front Left Noah Rogers, Front Right Josh McInerney, Back Right Josh Shelley

The White Rose Trophy is one of the events at the annual Bowls England National Championships played across two days, Saturday 31st May and Sunday 1st June at Royston Bowls Club. This prestigious Under 24 event brought together the most promising young bowlers in a vital stage of their development pathway. For many, this is a springboard toward national recognition, with eight teams from each competition qualifying for the final stages at the Aviva National Bowls Finals in August.



# **Men's Captains Mid-Season Report (Paul Anderson)**

## **County 2 Rink League:-**

A difficult start in the league with the first five games producing two wins and three losses, however in each of the games lost a valuable point was gained for winning on one rink. With a little luck there could have been a better outcome.

We are now past the halfway stage in this competition needing three wins and a maximum of seven points in each of the remaining matches if we want to be near the top of the league.

So far we have used 12 players including Josh McInerney from the Juniors. Well done Josh

## **East Beds Triples League:-**

### **A-Team (Division 2)**

So far five games played and have lost only once to current table toppers Maulden A (only by four shots). We are currently sitting top of the table with Maulden on 8 points, however they have a better shot difference.

The A-team won the first round of the Knock Out Cup against Maulden E. We play Sandy Con B in next round on 12<sup>th</sup> June.

The team won the preliminary round of the Champion of Champions Cup (qualified for entry by making the final last year), against Great Barford; we now await our second round opponents.

We started the season with only seven players but John Colby joined to make eight, however at present we are without Terry Blyth but we are still managing to fulfill all our games.

### **B-Team (Division 4)**

So far played five games, won three and lost two, so currently sitting in fourth position in the table on the same points as second and third placed teams, so very tight. However with a poor shot difference we need to keep winning to achieve our objective of retaining our place in Division 4, after gaining promotion last year.

The team lost to Henlow C in the Knockout Cup but have the Champion of Champions Cup to come against Maulden E.

The team has used eight players so far this season

## **C-Team (Division 6)**

Our newest team in the East Beds League has had a tough start with one win from four, which was at home to Flitwick. However it is still early in the season with plenty of time to turn it around. There has been some tough opposition in the matches played so far with players from Division 1 dropping down into Division 6 to play for new teams in their club.

So far nine players have been given the opportunity to play in this league. Our Junior player, Noah Rogers, has stepped up and captain Roy Dallas has stated he is looking as good, if not better than any other player. Well done Noah.

The team has still to play their first round Knock Out Cup game against Maulden A; not a good draw but beating the best is the only way forward.

## **Other Club Representative County & National Games**

### **National Top Club**

Fairfield won first match against Kempston Hammers away from home and play Linslade at home in the next round - 6.30pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> June

### **Tony Allcock 2 x mixed fours**

We won the first round match against Potton then played Flitwick in the next round where we lost on the extra end after the scores were level after 18 ends.

### **National Club 2 x Fours**

We lost to local rivals, Stotfold in the first round of this competition

So far 11 players have competed in these county/national competitions

## **Individual Success in the County and National Competitions**

Various players are through the early rounds in both County and National competitions; let's hope we have some members making it through to the Quarter finals and beyond.

There have been far more entrants this season which is a good indication of the progress we are making as a club, long may it continue.

## **Club Internal Competitions**

The various internal competitions are underway so please ensure matches are played before the date limit – keep an eye on the club notice board and remember you will find all members contact details on the ***bowlr*** system when arranging individual games

## Men's East Beds League Summary 2025 ( as at 12th June)

## Division 2

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	For	Against	Diff	Pts
1	Maulden 'A'	5	4	1	0	183	127	56	8
2	Fairfield 'A'	5	4	1	0	186	138	48	8
3	Gt Barford 'A'	5	3	2	0	186	164	22	6
4	Henlow 'A'	5	3	2	0	171	185	-14	6
5	Ampthill 'A'	5	2	3	0	160	174	-14	4
6	Shefford 'B'	5	2	3	0	156	174	-18	4
7	Maulden 'B'	5	2	3	0	161	182	-21	4
8	Henlow 'B'	5	0	5	0	132	191	-59	0

## Division 4

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	For	Against	Diff	Pts
1	Holwell	5	4	1	0	168	129	39	8
2	Flitwick 'A'	5	3	2	0	171	139	32	6
3	St Andrews 'B'	5	3	2	0	174	144	30	6
4	Fairfield 'B'	5	3	2	0	156	179	-23	6
5	Stotfold 'C'	5	2	3	0	155	163	-8	4
6	Ampthill 'B'	5	2	3	0	145	156	-11	4
7	Riverain	5	2	3	0	139	161	-22	4
8	St Andrews 'C'	5	1	4	0	142	179	-37	2

## Division 6

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## Ladies Captains Report – Teresa Hazelwood

The ladies have had a very good start to the 2025 season. They opened the annual friendlies against Shefford and Sandy Conservative Club, winning both games convincingly.

Both the A team and The B team have started well in the East Beds League and of the four games played each team has won two and lost two.

This year a record number of ladies have entered county and national competitions. Currently one team, led by Di Parry, is through to the quarter finals of the county triples. This is a great achievement and we wish Di and her team good luck in the next game.

The doubles and singles competitions are now underway and Fairfield Ladies are represented in both.

## Club Friendly Matches

Once again friendly matches are very well supported this season. More often than not we were oversubscribed with members wishing to play. The results so far are summarised as follows:

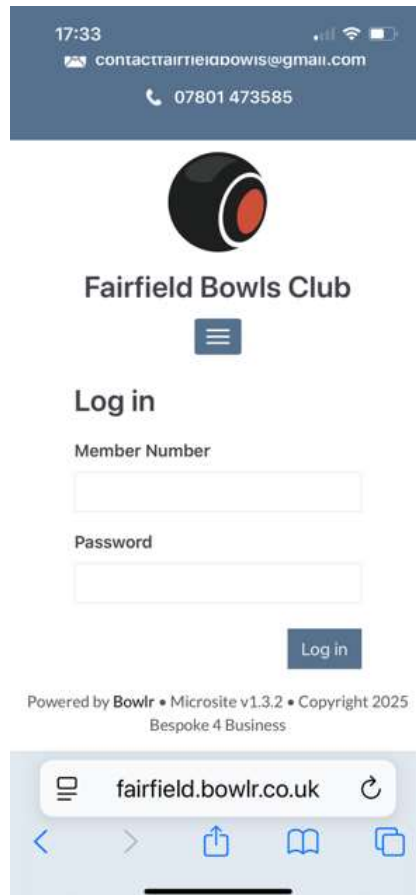
19/04/2025	26/04/2025	03/05/2025	10/05/2025	15/05/2025	17/05/2025
Langford	Potton	Maulden	Sandy Town	Stotfold	Biggleswade
Draw 84 - 84	Won 100 - 86	Lost 64 - 69	Won 76 - 54	Won 106 - 76	Lost 106 - 94

24/05/2025	28/05/2025	31/05/2025	07/06/2025
Shefford	Baldock T.	Langford	Letch Con
Won 131 - 77	Lost 68 - 94	Won 84 - 69	Won 58 - 45

We keep a record of all members selected to play in friendly matches in order to ensure fairness and everyone gets to play a game as often as possible, as long as your name is on the list.

Unfortunately we had to cancel the Fun Day which was due to take place on 8<sup>th</sup> June. Hopefully this will take place later in the season, details to be confirmed.

# **bowlr** Rink Management System



## **What is *bowlr* ?**

***bowlr*** is in essence an app (software application) which provides the opportunity to manage the use of rinks on the green. With more members than in recent seasons entering County and National Competitions, as well as internal club competitions and friendly matches, ***bowlr*** enables us to maintain an online rinks/green diary that all members have access to without the need to visit the clubhouse.

***bowlr*** can be accessed using a PC, tablet, laptop or mobile phone. Every member can login using their membership number and password. The diary is then available to book a rink for all competitions. Each day displays six rinks, divided into three sessions: 10:00 - 14:00, 14:00 - 18:00, 18:00 - 22:00 and rinks may be pre-booked in any available slots. Regular sessions such as green maintenance, friendlies and EBL fixtures are already pre-allocated.

Initially there were expected 'teething' problems but the system seems to be working reasonably well. Clearly some members are using it frequently and this is the best way to become familiar with how it works.

In addition to rink bookings **bowlr** has a membership section, accessible to all members, listing the names and contact details of all members – invaluable for arranging competition dates prior to booking your rink or simply to get in touch with someone. The membership section also enables us to hold names and details for emergency contacts. If you would like us to have these, just in case, please contact our club secretary, Bob Robinson (bob.a.robinson@gmail.com) or 07801 473585 or look it up on **bowlr**

There is an extensive 'Help' section on the app and we encourage you to login and have a look around if you haven't already.

## **Social Matters**

### **St Georges Day**

Our annual St George's Day celebration was held in April with fine food and entertainment served up. A great evening was enjoyed by all with special thanks to all the catering team, led by Chris Johnston and Lindsey Hodgson, and also John and Julia Clench for organising the event.

### **Forthcoming Events**

Following on from the last successful karaoke evening another one is planned for October 17<sup>th</sup>. Also a disco is planned for December 6<sup>th</sup>. More details on these events to follow.

### **Coffee Mornings**

Coffee mornings continue to take place every second Thursday of every month at 11.00am. Why not pop along to the clubhouse and enjoy freshly brewed coffee, home-made cakes and friendly banter!

## **Junior Section**

We continue to sing the praises of our young members. As previously mentioned our juniors are representing our club with distinction, some of whom are breaking into senior competitions and making a great contribution.

There are internal competitions for our junior members so you should check the competitions notice board in the clubhouse to ensure matches are arranged in time.



## Green Team

The Green Team work hard on the green three days a week cutting, spiking, treating with various fertilisers, watering and many other things besides. It has been a difficult few weeks trying to keep on top of things so we are grateful for the volunteers who give us their valuable time maintaining the green.

Many clubs in our area have suffered with various problems, as no doubt some of our members can testify. The very dry spring didn't help, exacerbated by problems with our water sprinkler system. Fortunately Alan Fowle came to the rescue and modified the level control system in the water storage tank and repaired the sprinkler control system – thank you Alan.

## Finally

We give Elaine and Terry Blyth our best wishes as Elaine recovers from her recent illness.

Also, we send our condolences to our member and good friend Gill Allen and her family for the loss of her beloved husband Peter.

*That's All Folks*