



NEWARK INDOOR BOWLS & BOCCIA CLUB

THE SHOWGROUND, LINCOLN ROAD, NEWARK,
NOTTS, NG24 2NY

Telephone: (01636) 640202

E-mail: enquiries@newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

www.newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

Facebook: Newark Indoor Bowls & Boccia Club



Welcome Booklet

Introduction for new members



NEWARK INDOOR BOWLS & BOCCIA CLUB

THE SHOWGROUND, LINCOLN ROAD, NEWARK,
NOTTS, NG24 2NY

Telephone: (01636) 640202

E-mail: enquiries@newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

www.newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

Facebook: Newark Indoor Bowls & Boccia Club



350 CLUB INFORMATION BOOKLETS

Information Booklet 1: Welcome Booklet

Information Booklet 2: New to the Game of Indoor Bowls

Information Booklet 3: Key Laws of the Sport of Indoor Bowls

You can download these booklets by visiting the club website – www.newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk
“Members” menu.

Newark Indoor Bowls & Boccia Club aims to make your introduction to Indoor Bowls to be as simple and pleasurable as possible. We welcome/need your feedback on your overall experience as a new member in order to help us continue to improve the welcoming package.

Your feedback will help us to lead the way on recruiting and retaining new members into the sport of Indoor Bowls here at NIBBC.



NEWARK INDOOR BOWLS & BOCCIA CLUB

THE SHOWGROUND, LINCOLN ROAD, NEWARK,
NOTTS, NG24 2NY

Telephone: (01636) 640202

E-mail: enquiries@newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

www.newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

Facebook: Newark Indoor Bowls & Boccia Club



CONGRATULATIONS

Welcome. You have taken the first big step towards a new and fun pastime. Whether you are looking for a new, social, no pressure hobby, or want to become an accomplished league player, we will help you enjoy your time at the club. We hope you will take a few minutes to look through this brief summary of facts about the club and the game, which will ease your first few weeks as you settle into the sport. As part of your pre-membership introduction to the club, you will be given an introduce a friend card with 3 free sessions and coaching. These are to give you a chance to decide whether you really like the game, and the club, before having to commit to any financial outlay. Hopefully you will decide to stay, and as a further bonus you will then be able to take advantage of a reduced club subscription for your first membership year. Once you have decided to join and become a member, you will be given a membership form to fill in.

First the Golden Rules

The Bowling Green Area. The carpet playing area is 39 metres wide, 44 metres long and consists of 8 rinks covering 1716m² of the hall. The playing carpet surface is the biggest asset of the club, costing over £40,000 to replace, and is not something that can be patch repaired.

For that reason;

1. Food and drink is strictly **NOT** allowed on the carpet.
2. Your outdoor shoes **MUST NOT** be worn on the rinks – only flat-soled (no tread) recognised bowls shoes, kept clean for the game is allowed.
3. Bowls shoes must not be worn outside the building.

Emergency Exits. Please take a moment to look around the hall and bar areas, and note where the emergency exits are. We do have emergency lighting should it be necessary, and these exits will be lit so they are easy to find.

What is “350 club”? Quite simply we are a group of voluntary members given the responsibility to attract new members to the club, and then help them to learn and settle into the game. The club tries to maintain 350 members in order to keep costs at a reasonable level. The “New & Improvers” sessions have both coaches and players who will help you learn the basics of the game.



NEWARK INDOOR BOWLS & BOCCIA CLUB

THE SHOWGROUND, LINCOLN ROAD, NEWARK,
NOTTS, NG24 2NY

Telephone: (01636) 640202

E-mail: enquiries@newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

www.newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

Facebook: Newark Indoor Bowls & Boccia Club



What happens next? It is recommended that you spend at least two or three sessions with a coach to learn the basic skills. Coaches attend all the “New & Improvers” sessions during the week (no cost to you) – see “When can I play” later. You turn up at the club 15 minutes before the allotted time, put on a pair of bowls shoes, select a set of woods and have a go. The loan of woods is free, but eventually you will probably want your own. There is no need to dash out and buy anything, and experience says that your preferences may change as your game improves – so early purchases may not suit your needs after the first few months.

Some very basic terminology. In simple terms you are going to bowl a wood (i.e. a bowl) from a position on a mat at one end of the carpet at a jack (the smaller yellow ball) at the other end of the same rink (i.e. marked “lane”). The wood is not a perfect sphere, and it has what is called a bias. This means that you don’t bowl in a straight line to the jack, but out to one side and the wood curves round back to the centre line target.

What “equipment” is needed? Like many sports, this game does have a recognised “kit”, and the club does have a dress code. Unlike many sports, this is not massively expensive. From your first visit to the club, you will notice that players wear a white collared (polo) shirt (no T-shirts please) and grey slacks, trousers or skirts. It is accepted that temporary members may not play in the appropriate kit during their trial period until they decide to join the club. When you decide to buy your own flat-soled shoes (no tread), the choice is varied, and specialist suppliers (both local shops and on-line) can be found easily. They are even stocked by some of the larger Sports Shops, e.g. Sports Direct. They can cost from £25 per pair upwards.

A new set of 4 woods can cost from £220 upwards even more reason for not dashing into a purchase. Many players start with second hand woods, and often there are adverts for used woods on the club notice boards. The main manufacturers can produce up to six different biases, in two weights and up to seven sizes. You may need to try several woods before settling on the right size and bias for you. You will notice shirts with green & blue design worn around the club, this is our club shirt and available for anybody to purchase

. A word of advice. Woods are heavy and can travel at quite a pace. Try to stop woods, and even jacks, only with your foot, as it has been known for fingers to get damaged. In exceptional circumstances, new players have been allowed to play in stockinged feet if no suitable shoes have been available – under no circumstances stop a moving wood with an un-shoed foot.

What rules of etiquette should I remember? This Booklet will only deal with the etiquette associated with players in and around the rinks. The second Booklet, which the coaches will point you to during your first few sessions, will expand the rules of etiquette associated with the game in play.

The coaches will cover this fully, but suffice it to say that you should try and avoid distracting players already in-game (even as you walk around the rinks) by talking to them as they bowl, moving across their line of vision or straying into their rink. Please ensure that your mobile phones are switched off or set to silent near the rinks, they should not be used during play.

When can I play? Whenever there is a rink available. A standard session is two hours long. To book a rink, consult with the steward at the bar and advise the number of players requesting to play on the rink. You pay the £3.70 per person fee at the bar when you turn up, and before you play. (N.B. the fee for non-members is £5 per 2-hour session or alternatively £2.50 for 1-hour session.) As advised earlier, it is recommended that your first sessions are with club coaches in the “New & Improvers” sessions. As your confidence improves, you will be encouraged to join in with the other “social” bowling sessions, e.g. social bowling and friendly games in order to learn from playing with more experienced players. All friendly games can be found in the club hand book that you receive upon payment for membership.



NEWARK INDOOR BOWLS & BOCCIA CLUB

THE SHOWGROUND, LINCOLN ROAD, NEWARK,
NOTTS, NG24 2NY

Telephone: (01636) 640202

E-mail: enquiries@newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

www.newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

Facebook: Newark Indoor Bowls & Boccia Club



At the moment these are the times of recommended sessions;

Winter social bowling:

- Tuesday's 12.30 - 2.15pm** New members coaching
- Tuesday's 12.30 - 2.30pm** Open session players of all abilities welcome
- Friday's 6.30 – 8.30pm** Open session players of all abilities welcome

Summer social bowling:

- Mondays 10.30 – 12.30pm:** New members coaching
Open session for players of all abilities welcome
- Wednesday 13.00 – 21.30:** Casual bowling
- Thursday 10.00 – 21.30:** Casual bowling

Useful Coaching Contact Details:

350 Committee

Gail Donnison 01636 893389

New & Improvers Coaches

Steve Ayling 07970259777

Junior Section

Steve Ablewhite 07804 745530

**Please treat this information with respect as all of the above are volunteers,
not employees of the Club.**



NEWARK INDOOR BOWLS & BOCCIA CLUB

THE SHOWGROUND, LINCOLN ROAD, NEWARK,
NOTTS, NG24 2NY

Telephone: (01636) 640202

E-mail: enquiries@newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

www.newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk

Facebook: Newark Indoor Bowls & Boccia Club



Who can join? The club is happy to see you join whether you are aged 8 or 80+, male or female, alone or in a group. There are sessions on Saturday mornings for Junior players (Under- 18's). Players with disabilities are welcome, but we would ask that you contact the steward ahead of your first session so that any necessary equipment and coaches can be made available.

How do I get full membership? Fill in the application form in your pack, one of the coaches will sign as a seconder (they will also find other members to sign too) and finally by paying the appropriate membership fee at the bar. If you want a locker (you will see these in front of Rink 1 & 8), then tick the box on the form and add the appropriate fee to your membership payment. There is no need to have a locker straight away as you can apply for a locker at a later date. Your completed form and attached receipt then goes to the Office to be processed. On payment you will be issued with the present season's fixtures book signed by the steward, members name and membership fee amount paid.

What happens as I improve as a player? Well, that is up to you! You may decide that you just want to continue as a "social" player, and continue to attend the Tuesday & Friday social bowling sessions during the winter and Mondays during the summer; you will be encouraged to join or even form league teams and to play in club competitions. Between the months of September to April inclusive, winter leagues from Pairs to Triples run on each day of the week during the year. During the summer period leagues run on Wednesday night 7pm, Thursday 10.00 – 12.00pm and 7pm. There are also club knock-out competitions, these include both open and restricted (e.g. Novice, Over-60, Ladies, Men, Mixed, etc.) competitions. Juniors have competitions too!

Please note that as you progress in your playing experience, the club coaches will be happy to supply individual coaching sessions for players keen to improve their play.

What facilities are available at the Club? This is a Members club. This means that if you bring non-members with you to the clubhouse then you should sign them in the Visitors Book at the bar.

Please ensure that all members and their guests comply with the no smoking rules on the club premises.

The clubhouse has a bar offering a range of soft and alcoholic drinks at very competitive prices. There are also hot drinks available for those wanting something in a cup! There is also a function room available with catering available if required to hire at a reduced cost for members or a set rate for non members. This function room is ideal to hold a wedding, party, family event, meetings, quiz nights etc. If you are interested in hiring the function room please enquire with the steward.

The changing rooms and toilets are at the end of the bar lounge.

How do I find out about Club activities? The Club does have a website – www.newarkindoorbowlscentre.org.uk – which has drop-down menus listing many of the Club activities and you can also find the club on facebook. When you are in the clubhouse, you will see adverts for coming events on the notice board and on the TV screen in the bar lounge.

Enough reading, let's get in there and play! Enjoy yourself.