

Welcome to

HASLEMERE BOWLING CLUB

*This booklet introduces you to all that the Club offers.
We hope that you will spare a minute to read it and
that you will then decide to join us as a new Member.*



The team who won
The prestigious Holbrook
Cup in 2017

PLAYBOWLS4FUN



Everyone will be welcome at our yearly open days

OUR CLUB OFFICERS

President

president@haslemere-bowling.org.uk

Vice-President

Captain

captain@haslemere-bowling.org.uk

Vice-Captain

Hon. Secretary

secretary@haslemere-bowling.org.uk

Hon. Treasurer

Membership Secretary

Match Secretary

match@haslemere-bowling.org.uk

Competitions Secretary

Three Counties Representative

three_counties@haslemere-bowling.org.uk

See our website for Full contact information

Our website is: www.haslemere-bowling.org.uk

Here you can see a list of our fixtures, an application form to join the Club and lots of other useful information.

Our green is located at -

Haslemere Recreation Ground, Old Haslemere Road, Haslemere, GU27 2NN

Sir Francis Drake 'set the ball rolling' in 1588



Club History

In 1660, Thomas Mayne, a butcher by trade, laid out and levelled a bowling green at the top of Shepherd's Hill in Haslemere.

Our present Club was founded 250 years later in 1911 and has been located on the Recreation Ground since 1921. In 1994 we built our new pavilion.



**Judy Rix our 2022
Club President**

About Us

The Club celebrated its Centenary in 2011. We are delighted to welcome new members, whether beginners or experienced players. We play to a good standard. In 2017 we were successful in winning both the Holbrook Cup and the Three Counties Presidents Cup.

We play matches from April until the end of September. Thursday tends to be our main club roll-up afternoon starting at 2.00pm and players may stay on for an informal social.

We like to keep our membership numbers around 40. You can join as a full playing member or as a Social Member. For the first year there is a reduced subscription.

We do not at present have a Junior Section but welcome players from teenage upwards. We are always on the look-out for new members and each year we have a special open day when anyone can come and have a go and “play for Fun”.

Social Events

We like to organise a number of social events for you to join in, and we have a well-stocked bar.

Our website and Application Form

Full details about how to join the Club can be found on our Application Form. This can be downloaded from the website or sent to you.

Our website is full of useful and interesting information. The website is particularly useful once you are a member as it provides maps and directions for all the Clubs that we play against. Some of these are hidden down small side-roads and you really do need help to find them.

Club Etiquette

Unsurprisingly, the Club exists to play bowls well. There is a certain etiquette about playing bowls, and the main thing is to be friendly and courteous to other players. We always shake hands with opponents whether we win or lose. A few other do's and don'ts are listed on the final page of this booklet. Some Clubs have a list twice as long which sounds quite daunting! We don't.

Dress Code

It does not cost a lot to play bowls. Your biggest outlay may be for clothes and a set of bowls. In Haslemere Bowling Club we like to look smart when we play, but not overly so.

Some bowling terms -

Shot bowl

The bowl closest to the jack.

We're holding shot

Our team currently holds the shot bowl.'

Wick

When a bowl bounces off another.

Draw shot

A shot aimed at a particular place in the head.

Drive

A bowl delivered with force to disturb the head.

Promoting a bowl

Pushing one of your team's bowls to a better position.

Touchers

Bowls that touch the Jack. They remain live even in the Ditch.

For matches and competitions we wear either grey tailored trousers, shorts or skirts, together with a white and blue Club shirt. The shirts can be ordered direct, or you may be able to purchase one via a committee member.

When on occasions Whites are specified for a particular match, our trousers and skirts are also white.

You must always wear flat- soled shoes on the green.

Our Thursday roll-up and social events are less formal.

We do not often play when it is raining heavily, but League matches do tend to keep going. Wet weather gear is available from bowls shops and internet sites.

Don't forget a cap or hat to protect your head when its sunny.

Our fixtures

Once you have joined the Club you will be given or have access to a Fixture List for matches with other clubs. This information can also be found on our website. The fixture list shows all our matches and club events.

We play about 40 so-called 'Friendly' matches against other local clubs. Taking part in these is one of the best ways to make friends with other members and to gain experience.



At our Club events we start off by bowling towards a spider in the centre of the green. The winner is presented with a bottle of wine.

In the Clubhouse there is a large notice board. This is where you can sign up for matches and events which interest you. Here you will see half a dozen blue clipboards. These contain sheets a month ahead for all our inter-club matches, some 40 in all. These are open to all members.

The Captain selects the teams ensuring everyone has a fair opportunity to play in these home or away matches during the clubs season.

Please note that even if your name is first on the list, it does not guarantee you a place, but there is a good chance that it will do so. Please sign up for a dozen or more friendlies during the season. Have a word with the Captain if you are unsure.

Club Competitions

On a board in the pavilion you will also find information about Club competitions which start in May and go on until August. The closing date for entries is shortly after the years enrolment day. You may find yourself drawn against a previous Club champion but don't worry as our Competition Secretary endeavours to match members playing skills were possible. As a beginner in the handicap singles you may well start with a high handicap number, so you are already at the start of play well on your way to the finish score of 21. You will have been given an entry form – so give it a go if you join the Club in April or May.

Three Counties League

On the far right of the notice-board you will find information on the Three Counties League which we enter. During the season we play 14 matches on Tuesday evenings against strong competition. Our best players are invited to play in these league matches.



Club Barbecue

Getting to know you

We want you to make friends and feel welcome in the Club. Immediately inside the Club entrance is a list of all current members with addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses. There should be a spare copy for you to take away. If you have given us an email address, this list will be emailed to you to print out. We are a friendly club so other members will welcome your call.

When can you play?

Members can play on weekdays from noon until dusk. On Saturdays and Sundays you can play from sunrise to sunset providing that the greens are not all occupied by an inter club match or a club competition.

You can come alone for practice or you can play another member. It's up to you. If you are first to arrive at the Club you will need to use your key to open the pavilion and the equipment shed. You should always use a mat on the green even for a roll-up on your own.

There are instructions in the pavilion and the equipment shed telling you which way to play, along or across the green. Please try to get this right.

Club events for all

There are several events at the Club each season which are open to all members. First is Green Opening Day at the end of April. Second is 'Memorial Charity Day', typically at the end of June.

In July we hold what we call a Spoon Drive.

These events are all fun and where bowls are played, you will play in different positions including Skip. It is not mandatory to join in, but most members like to take part.

To end the season there is a Captain vs President match for all members to play and is traditionally followed by a fish and chip supper. This is usually the same day that the green closes in late September.

After the bowling season is finished we have our annual Lunch or Dinner open to all members their partners and our main club sponsor. At the end of an enjoyable meal and good company, we invite a sponsor representative to present our trophies to the winners of the seasons club competitions.

Winter activities

What do you do during the winter? Some members only thrive on fresh air and sunshine and do not play during the winter. But here are some ideas as to where you can play and keep fit.

Midhurst Indoor Bowling Club organises matches against other bowling clubs. Which plays at the Grange Leisure Centre in Midhurst. MIDC

Chawton Park Indoor Bowls Club in Alton play bowls all year round.

Wey Valley Indoor Bowls Club in Guildford. Both play to a good level. See their websites for more information.

Other playing opportunities

Haslemere Bowling Club is affiliated to Surrey Bowls Association, Bowls England, and the Three Counties Bowls Fellowship, Surrey County Bowls Association and Bowls England.

This is the upwards route to good quality bowls. Our men's Club Champion is automatically entered into the Surrey Bowls competitions in November each year. If he wins, he will become 'Badged'.

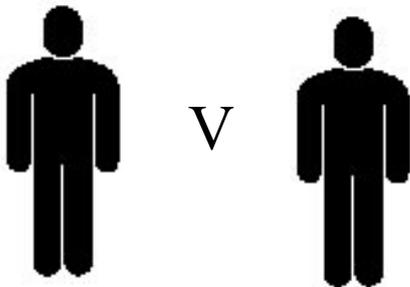
Each year there are competitions of a high standard and you do not need to be Badged to enter. The Club Captain can assist you in entering. Lady members can participate in the Surrey Women's County Bowls Association.

Bowls England also organises matches which are open to all good players. However, these are extremely competitive and are only for the talented who might be chosen to play for England.

The Three Counties League is well known to most members. Playing is by invitation of the Club's Selection Committee. There is a programme of League competitions which any club team may enter. Information is on the pavilion notice board.

How matches are played and who does what

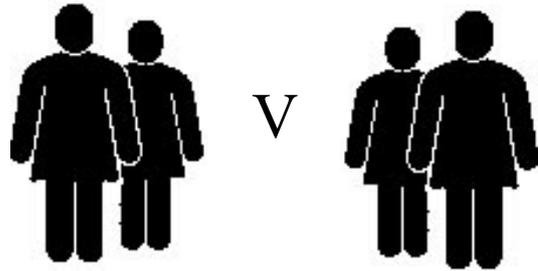
SINGLES



FIRST PLAYER TO REACH 21 SHOTS WINS MATCH

A Marker is needed to keep the score and places the 'jack'

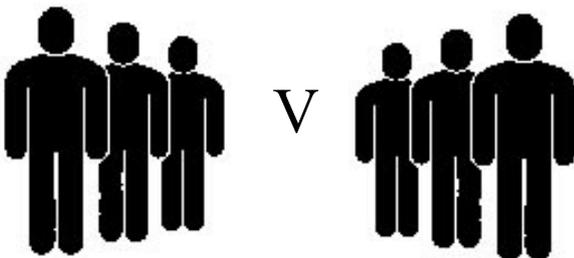
PAIRS



HIGHEST SCORE AFTER 21 ENDS WINS MATCH

*Lead
Places mat & Delivers 'jack'
Measures if necessary
Confirms score for the end
Skip keeps score and places the 'jack'*

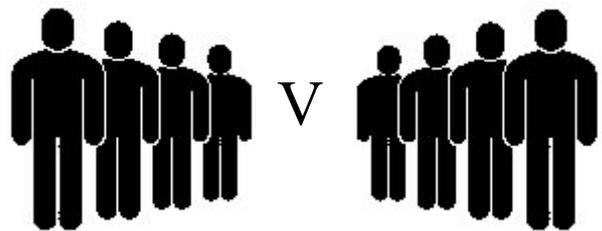
TRIPLES



HIGHEST SCORE AFTER 18 ENDS WINS MATCH

*Lead
Places mat & Delivers 'jack'
Number Two
Measures if necessary
Confirms score for the end
Skip
Places 'jack' & Keeps score*

RINKS (or Fours)



HIGHEST SCORE AFTER 21 ENDS WINS MATCH

*Lead
Places mat
Delivers "Jack"
Two if in Home team
Assists Skip
Measures if needed
Confirms scores
Skip Control game*

Social events

COVID permitting as well as our Thursday roll-ups and Special Events, the Club holds a Christmas party in December and a winter social in which in the past has included a well supported Valentines Day Party. Please do take advantage of these enjoyable events.

Privacy Policy

The Club has a strict Privacy Policy and when you apply to join or re-join the Club you are asked to sign-up to receive communications from us. Normally these are by mail or email. The policy allows you to opt out of having your name listed in the Clubhouse and only to be sent communications by blind copy.

Communications

Please note that the Club expects all members to stay in touch.

First - please visit the Pavilion regularly and look at the notice- board.

Second - look at your emails daily as this is the primary way of keeping contact with members.

Third - make use of the website. Just Google 'Haslemere Bowling'. It has photographs of club activities, a news page, lots of other interesting information including very useful links to maps and directions when planning a visit to another club for a match.

FINALLY Bowling etiquette

Bowling etiquette just means being considerate to other players but here are a few very important points.

1. **Do not talk** when another player is about to bowl.
2. **Stand behind the mat** until it's your turn to bowl.
3. **Do not move about** when a player is bowling towards you.
4. **Do not rush up to the head** whilst the last bowl is still moving.
5. **Stand behind the head** when you are at the head end.
6. **In sunshine**, be careful that your shadow is not near the jack.
7. **Roll-up and shut-up** is good advice when playing as lead which you will soon get used to and appreciate.
8. **Remember in Triples** that the skip determines his first shot.

If the head is displaced, he may then seek the help of the number 2 to decide his next shot. The skip is entitled to visit the head to look for himself before bowling.

9. **Do not argue** with the skip. Try to make the shots which he/she asks for.
10. **In Triples** if you are playing lead and you lose an end, it's your job to round up the bowls with a pusher.