



SIBC NEWS

December 2022

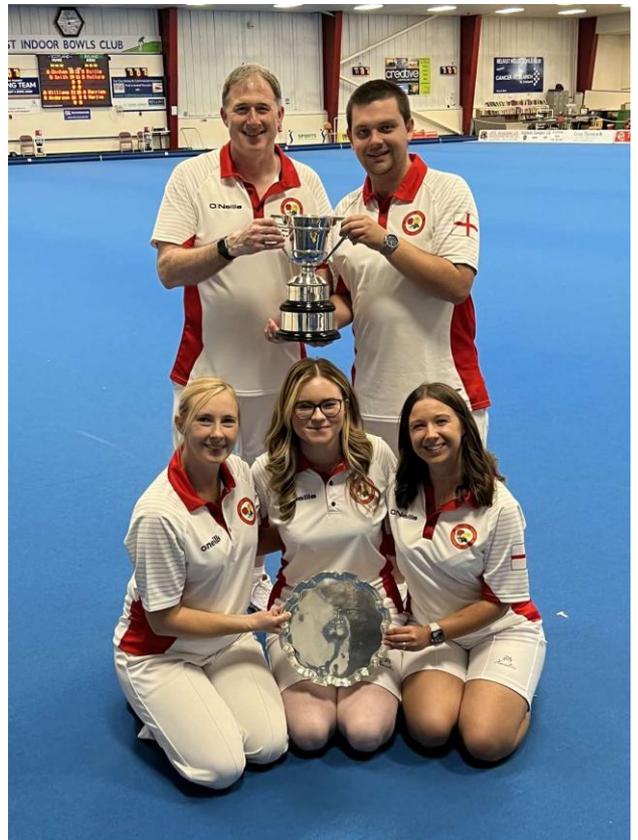
Welcome to the second edition of the SIBC newsletter for the 2022/23 season.

If there is anything you would like to see included in future newsletters, or news items for the website or local press, please contact me (Martin Spencer) either via e-mail: martinspencer1988@gmail.com or mobile telephone: 07540 066241.

British Isles Championships Glory

We were well represented at the British Isles Championships which were held in Belfast on Tuesday 11th, Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th October 2022. After winning the English national title in October 2021, Stephen Harris and Graham Smith were England representatives in the men's pairs and Ruby Hill, Chelsea Spencer and Annie Dunham in the ladies triples. Ruby was also in the junior singles. It proved to be another great few days for the club.

Starting with the boys, Stephen and Graham beat representatives from Channel Islands 28-8 before winning a much closer contest against Wales, 16-10. The final saw them face Scott Kennedy and Billy Mellors from Scotland. In an exceptionally high-quality final, Stephen and Graham won 14-11 and with it, the British Isles pairs title. The girls had an equally impressive couple of days. Unfortunately, Ruby lost in the quarter final of the ladies junior singles, 13-21 against Wales. Ruby, Chelsea and Annie fared better in the triples though. With wins against Scotland, 19-10 and Wales, 17-6, they booked their place in the final against Ireland who play for the host club in Belfast. Not phased by the occasions, our girls raced into a 10-0 lead and although the Irish trio fought back, Ruby, Chelsea and Annie won 14-11 and lifted the British Isles triples trophy.



Henselite
CLUB CLOTHING

SPALDING IBC GENTS POLO SHIRT

www.clubclothingshop.co.uk

We are pleased to report that we have made excellent progress so far in the national team competitions. We have been playing under the new name of Spalding Lightning with amazing new shirts. Thank you to our sponsors Bridgestone Tyres and Roythornes Solicitors for their fantastic support, along with Henselite UK and Team Henselite player, Mathew Orrey. Our northern friends, South Shields Vipers rebranded a few years ago and we hope that with our innovative thinking, we can continue to modernise the game and make it more appealing to the younger generation. We hope other clubs will join us in this journey.

National and County Team Competition Round Up

Spalding Lightning continue their defence of the Denny Cup and have progressed nicely into the last 32 where they will play Barwell on Saturday 10th December 2022. Our ladies are through to the same stage in the Yetton Trophy where they will play Leicester on the same date. On Sunday 11th December, we will play Lincoln in the last 16 of the Egham Trophy. In the Top Club, we are also through to the last 16 where we have a home tie against Nottingham on Sunday 8th January 2023. Our talented under 30s double triples team are already through as far as the quarter finals where they will play South Shields Vipers on Saturday 4th February 2023.

Although not played a round yet, our Mason ladies play their first round against Peterborough on Friday 9th December 2022. Unfortunately, our men's over 60s inter-club double team lost in the first round against Grantham.

The club has also played many county league fixtures in the south division. Although lingering mid-table in the men's county league, there have certainly been plenty of positives, especially recently as we have been complimented on our juniors on their determination and passion for the game. They are certainly an asset to our wonderful club. Our mixed county league team have started well and are top of the league after three games, with the same points as Grantham, but we have a game in hand. Our over 60s county league team are finding it tough as they are second from bottom after four games, a strong Lincoln team currently top of the pile. Last but certainly not least, our Trudy Bates team have started well and are also top of the table after wins against Boston, Stamford and Grantham.

Thank you to all our captains and players and all the best for the rest of the season!

Forthcoming Social Events

We would like to take this opportunity to give our forthcoming race night on Friday 9th December 2022 one final push which will be held at the Tulip Club which is within the grounds of the Sir Halley Stewart Football Stadium in Spalding.



There will be eight races, plus an auction race. All horses have been sold and each race has been kindly sponsored by local businesses. For the auction race, those in attendance will bid against each other to be the owner of a horse in the said race. 50% of the money raised will go to the winning owner and the other 50% into the fundraising pot. You can all place a small bet on each race throughout the evening if you wish to do so.

Entry is free and whilst you can just turn up on the evening, please feel free to add your name to the list on the notice board near the coffee machine. Royal Mail Cart BC held a similar event during the summer and raised over £1,000 for their club so this makes for an excellent fund-raising opportunity, as well as an enjoyable evening for all.

As a club, we plan to continue to bring the club together and offer more social evenings for everyone to get involved. This will likely include a crown bowls night in January and a quiz night in February. The crown bowls night will be run by our expert, Dominic McVittie who played crown green bowls at a good level in Lancashire and let's face it, who doesn't love a quiz night.

In March, we intend on holding another event and we are open to suggestions by our members. An interesting format that was mentioned at a recent committee meeting was bowls cricket. This combines both drawing and running shots to score your runs and take wickets respectively and is a fun twist on both bowls and cricket. This is only one suggestion but please do get in touch with a member of our management committee to express your views. We look forward to hearing from you.



Successful Week at Potters Enjoyed By All

Members and friends of Spalding Indoor Bowls Club travelled to Potters Leisure Resort, Hopton-On-Sea between 14th and 18th November 2022 to enjoy the excellent facilities and take part in the bowls competition which started with 72 teams from across the country. We had ten teams taking part with eight still in contention at the last 16 stage. Four teams progressed to the quarter finals, and we made up three of the four semi-finalists.

Our semi-finalists were made up of Tim Rogers, Petrine Ault, Doris Rawding and John Rawding, Hazel Searson, Cliff Searson, Betty Deaton and George Deaton and finally, Carole Nunney, David Nunney, Chris Stagles and Ann Newbury. We did make up the two finalists but there could only be one winner. After a highly entertaining final, Hazel, Cliff, Betty and George were victorious. We also won the award for "top club" which was decided by the highest team percentage to make the last 16. Trophies were presented by former world champion and current England captain, Greg Harlow.

A good time was had by all with the non-bowlers taking part in the onsite activities and one even winning over £600 at bingo. Everyone really enjoyed the excellent food, service and all inclusive drinks.



Dates For Your Diary

Friday 9th December 2022 – Race Night
Thursday 15th December 2022 (10am-12pm) – Casual Roll Up – Everyone Welcome
Saturday 17th December 2022 – Christmas Party
Thursday 29th (pm) and Friday 30th December 2022 – Spalding Open
January 2023 – Crown Bowls Night one Friday evening – Please keep an eye on the notice board for more details
Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd January 2023 – National Men's & Ladies U25 Singles Finals
February 2023 – Quiz Night
Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th February 2023 – Open Taster Days
March – Event TBA – Suggestions Welcome
Tuesday 14th March 2023 – Men's -v- Ladies Presidents Match
Tuesday 21st March 2023 – LWIBA Presidents Match
Sunday 16th April 2023 – 50th Anniversary Celebration Match -v- EIBA
Saturday 22nd April 2023 – Joint LIBA County Finals at SIBC
Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th April 2023 – Club Finals Weekend



Spalding Open



On Thursday 29th (pm) and Friday 30th December 2022, we host the Spalding Open which has attracted many top players and this season is no exception. Current men's and ladies world indoor singles champions Les Gillett and Katherine Rednall will be competing for the title, as well as fellow world top 16 players, Nicky Brett and Wayne Willgress.

Remember, this is an event of the highest quality and the best part is, it is free to watch. We appreciate that you may still be recovering from eating all that Christmas turkey and Christmas pudding, but please come out and show your support to some of the best players in the world. You will also get to see our club's finest internationals taking part against some of the best that the country has to offer.

I would just like to add a personal touch here and remind everyone that the trophy is also in memory of Bryan Thorold. For those of you that knew Bryan, he had a great enthusiasm for the game and for a long time, was one of the game's best players. He encouraged me a lot as a junior and have no doubt that he will be up there watching down on the event and enjoying the talent that will be on show.



National Under 25 Singles Finals



Over the weekend of Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd January 2023, we will again be the proud hosts of the national under 25 singles finals. We have prided ourselves on our junior section over the years and have had several young men and women represent England so to host such a prestigious event again is quite an honour for the club. We have previously hosted the event which was well run and a great success. The defending champions are Harry Goodwin from Swale and our very own Ruby Hill who won the men's and ladies events respectively.

Unfortunately, we don't have any qualifiers in the ladies event this year as the qualifiers have already taken place, but Ollie Jeapes is still in contention to qualify for the men's event.

The event has been well supported previously so please come and show your support again to some of the best young bowlers the country has to offer.

Club Competitions

Club competition entries are now open and are due in by Christmas. Entry forms can be found on the competition notice board. The club needs your support so please give them a go. They will run after New Year right the way through to April.

After much feedback over the last couple of seasons, two club competitions, the men's fours and family pairs, are handicapped. These competitions have been run on a handicap basis over the last two seasons however, even after the feedback, still received disappointing entries. Our club captain and competition secretary, Graham Smith works extremely hard to put on club competitions and would even like to extend the number of competitions that are handicapped however, without your support, club competitions will slowly die away.

For the first time ever, entries are FREE and we are bringing back prize money this season so please check out the competition notice board for further details on different competitions to enter.





The activities we put on at the club are only limited by the support and help we get from our members. Do you have time on your hands? An hour or even more if you have the capacity? We all have a skill that we can offer to the club.

Your support could include making sure the water cups do not run out, taking photos at club events and competitions, supporting club captains at game which could include taking rink fees, helping with refreshments, raffle, etc.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Pauline Day on 07834 871622 or by e-mail at paulineday36@gmail.com.

We are also working hard behind the scenes to re-open the food and refreshments hatch and with that in mind, we would like to welcome anyone who is interested to come forward and do a food safety certificate. For the hatch to be open, we need one person on site with the food safety qualification therefore, the more people who have this certificate, it extends the opportunities for the hatch to be open more often. Your expenses would obviously be paid by the club to do the certificate so please do contact a member of the management committee if this is of interest to you.

In addition, we are also looking for volunteers to help with our junior section to offer coaching and guidance on a Saturday morning. Our junior section has been an excellent springboard for many of our internationals over the years so this really does need the support it deserves. If this is of interest, please contact our club under 25 co-ordinator Colin Wilson.

Community Lottery



We have recently registered to the South & East Lincolnshire Community Lottery. This is an excellent way to support your club and gives you a chance to win a cash prize. Our congratulations go out to two lucky club supporters who were winners in the recent first draw. Draws are now weekly and the link to buy tickets and find out about extra prizes that will feature in future draws can be found on our Facebook page or website.

It's certainly worth checking it out as on Saturday 17th December 2022, one lucky supporter will win a fantastic £1,000 John Lewis eGift Card. With Christmas on the horizon, this could be the perfect prize for you and you would be supporting the club at the same time.

Important Notice – League Times

Following a recent meeting with Lex Leisure, it has been brought to our attention that they continue to have problems with our members insisting that afternoon leagues start at 2pm and not 2.15pm. This is causing frustration with the complex staff and other bowlers following or preceding the games. Whilst we understand that our members are keen and look forward to their game of bowls, please can we stick to the league times so that the complex can run a smooth successful leisure centre for all users and potential new customers.



For the avoidance of doubt, the league times are as follows:

Morning – 10am-12pm

Lunchtime – 12.10pm-2.10pm

Afternoon – 2.15pm-4.15pm

Please note, this excludes weekend and evening games. The complex will not implement any changes to sessions after 4.15pm. This can still be at the discretion of the club and will not apply to nationals. The complex appreciates that these times give tight turnarounds between games therefore, please ensure that consideration is given to all players at the start and end of games.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation!

Cake Stall

Thank you to our ladies who recently held a cake stall which was extremely successful and raised £249.60 which will be donated to our club charity, the Tulip Suite at Johnson Community Hospital in Spalding. This is a charity close to our hearts as the suite has cared for many of our members over the years and will no doubt continue to do so. Thank you ladies for your hard work and for raising money for such a worthy cause.

Christmas Greetings

The management committee would like to wish all members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

