

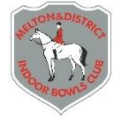


MELTON & DISTRICT INDOOR BOWLS CLUB LTD

Bowling Green, Leicester Road, Melton Mowbray, LE13 0LR



Newsletter – March 2026



The View from the Chair



Dear members,

Electrical work, the major electrical work continues, with around 50% of the prep work completed ready for the main switchover week in April, and I just wanted to thank you for your patience and support during this busy time.

Club questionnaire, we have now started to review all the information and already started to reach out to members seeking further information or interested in learning more about committees and coaching. Over the next few weeks, we shall start responding to some of the ideas, suggestions and comments put forward by yourselves.

The Movies, as some members are already aware, the Club has been selected as the location and backdrop for a new movie being made to exhibit at the various future international film festivals. A 6-day schedule for filming inside the Club and in the car park is currently being finalised, which includes some days when extras will be requested, details will be circulated once sorted. The schedule plans to hopefully keep disruption to a minimum but, there will be some restrictions to parking on 2 days, when the Church have offered the car park if required. Members support as always is appreciated.

Phoenix Project, planting will resume soon with new trees and plants recently donated, and mowing, rolling and scarifying of the lefthand green space is planned.

We are now actively looking for grant opportunities for the old clubhouse replacement.

The sponsored benches will have the plaques fitted early March and re-sited and fixed.

The Pétanque terrain has attracted interest, and we expect to be able to enter a team in the summer pétanque league, if you are interested in playing, please contact Nigel & Jane May,

Chairman's Birdbox challenge continues into the Spring and now stands at £580 as of today, thank you.

Regards

Martin Cooke

Winter Competitions

Competition Final's rinks booked with/by David Pick will be free of any rink fees. If you book the Final rink yourself, then you will be charged double-session rink fees for all players. Just a reminder – **it is no longer a requirement for you to wear 'Whites', i.e. white trousers and shirts, in Club Finals.**

Les Hall Trophy 2026

Nominations for this award **will now close on Monday, 9 March**. The locked Nomination box, is on the Reception Desk along with blank nomination forms.

Junior Vice President Election 2026

Nominations for this post will close on 2nd April 2026. Please see Hazel Armstrong for details. The election will be held at the Club AGM on Monday, 27 April 2026.

Izzy Pymm plays for England



Izzy Pymm was in the England team that won all three matches against the other Home Nations at the BIIBC Women's U-25 International Tournament held at Desborough, Maidenhead, on 7/8 February. Izzy played with Carly Thompson, Jorja Jackson and Alison Lovatt. Congratulations must go to Izzy and all the squad.

Club Team Match Reports (For full reports, and other news about Club players in their National Competition results please see the Club website.)

Men's Inter-League (Bradley Trophy)

Saturday, 14th February: Melton away to Barwell. Melton lost 90-103 shots.

MOSIL League

Division 1

Friday 6th February: Melton Mavericks v Market Harborough Mercenaries Melton Mavericks had their first win of the season, with all of the team (Paul Wells, Phil Hopkinson, Dave Ward and Peter Kipling) performing well against a Market Harborough team that had

beaten the league leaders on their previous outing. A two to the Mavericks on the last end meant that they finished with a very pleasing 30-16 scoreline.

Friday 6th February: Melton Torpedoes vs Leicester Bravehearts. Melton lost 9-27.

Monday 9th February: Melton Mavericks (Mel Bass, Malcolm Lomax, Dave H and Mike Greatorex) lost their away match against Barwell Buccaneers by 11-24 shots.

Friday, 13th February: Melton Torpedoes (Nigel May, Mick Curtis, Colin Stacey and Jim Tyers) lost their home match against Leicester Foxes by 15-19 shots.

Friday, 20th February: Melton Torpedoes (Dave Pick, John Robinson, Nigel May and Skip Jim Tyers) beat Mkt Harbororo' Hawks 27-13.

Tuesday 24th February: Melton Torpedoes (Nigel May, Geoff Turner, Mick Lawrence and Skip Mick Curtis) won their away match at League leaders Carlton A. After a good start, and despite dropping a 4 on the 9th end, they held onto their lead to finish 22-14. Well done!!

Friday 27th February: Melton Mavericks vs Mkt Harboro Hawks at home. Mavericks (Terry Halliday, Phil Hopkinson, Bob Jackson and Skip Ray Casey) lost 10- 16 in a tight game until losing a four in the 16th end.

Division 2

Friday 13th February: Melton Bandits (Nick Stubbs, Mike Northing, Ken Renshaw and Trevor Main) won their home match against Leicester Sandhouse by 34-7 shots.

Friday 20th February: Melton Bandits lost away to Market Harborough Scorpions 16-17

MOSIL CUP Quarter-Final.

Wednesday, 18th February Melton Mavericks had a victory in the quarter-final round beating Charnwood Challengers by 5 shots. **Mavericks (Bob Jackson, Dave Hill, Dave Ward and Skip Peter Kipling)** got off to a strong start and established a 7 shot lead by the 7th end. They were then pulled back just before the break, but steadily re-established their lead to take the match 19-14. This was a good game against some strong Lead and Skip players on the opposition side. The semi-final is against Church Gresley Miners.

Ladies Inter-Club

Saturday, 7th February: Ladies' IL v Church Gresley away:

The game was down to the wire with a team win of 57 shots to 55. Our rinks were Hazel Armstrong, Kate Toon, Tricia Harris and Pauline Wells who did so well to reduce the deficit losing by just 6 shots 24 - 18. Glenise Marshall, Jenny McConnell, Sue Lemon and Sheila Tyers, who held the opposition most of the afternoon but not by many shots and finished four shots ahead 12 - 16. Laura Hickin Vanessa Watling, Evelyn Underwood and Rita James led significantly during the afternoon and were 10 shots ahead on the 15th end when their opposition got a 5. to bring them right back into the game, however the end result saw Melton winning by four shots 19 - 23 giving the Melton team a win of 8pts to 2pts

Wednesday, 11th February: Ladies' IL v Church Gresley home: Gresley nearly got their revenge, but lost to Melton by 47-46 shots.

Wednesday, 25th February: Ladies' IL v Carlton away: our final game of the season. A heavy carpet and a much improved Carlton side led to a home win by 8 pts to 2pts and 53 shots to our 45. Our rinks did so well to pull back in the second half of the game. The squad as a whole has given everything this season and on behalf of the selectors we want to give you all a big thank you. We sincerely hope that when the availability sheet for the 26/27 season arrives in your mailbox you will once again give your support to the Club and to the selectors. We have our annual lunch on Wednesday, 11th March. The list is up on our board so please add your name and menu selection.

[EIBA National Competitions 2025-6](#)

4th February: Open Pairs: Paul Warrington and Kyle Warrington lost their 4th round match against Les Gillett by 0-2 sets (set scores: 4-10, 6-11).

3rd February: Novice Singles: Jamie Deakin won his Round 4 match against **Paul Lonsdale** by 21-17 shots over 20 ends. He will now go forward to play Rhys Taylor (Charnwood) in the Area Final at Leicester on the 7th March.

Club Friendlies

8 February - Melton v Lincoln VPs

The match was five rinks with 40 players. The beginning saw Lincoln moving ahead, but Melton caught up after one hour of play and then continued to be a very close game until Melton gradually pulled ahead with winning by a respectable score of 104 - 63. Melton winning on four rinks out of the five. Melton's best winning rink was **Mick Lawrence, Chris Fleckney & Laura Hickin** – the one losing rink was **Peter Kipling, David Armstong, Evelyn Underwood & Syliva Donovan**. An enjoyable meal was had afterwards with thanks given to Medhi, restaurant and bar staff.

20 February – Melton vs Durham VPs

Melton won this annual friendly against our friends from Durham 109 – 99. Durham had brought a slightly reduced contingent under the leadership of their President Alan Bridgewater. Melton took four of the six rinks. Our best rink was skipped with Peter Breeze (with Nigel and Jane May and Nick Stubbs) whilst Jim Tyers (with Ray and Joan Casey and Mick Parker) had the wrong end of the result for match with the Durham four skipped by the ever-combative and now sheep-holder, Stuart Clarke. The after-dinner entertainment was provided by the usual award of the Duck to their worst rink, and the speeches from Arthur Broadberry and replied by Keith Hartley.

Presidents Day

Sixty-four bowlers turned out to play in the annual Presidents Day Gala. Hazel and David would sincerely like to thank everyone who came and played in our gala or joined us for a lovely carvery afterwards. The theme was wear something brightly coloured, which, as you can see from the photo was embraced by everyone. The winning home rink was Neil Hughes, Sue Bailey, Carol Pick and Nigel May. The winning away rink was Gail Staples, Yvonne Kent, Bob Lee and Mel Burgess. Kate Toon won the best dressed award and was presented with a signed Potters shirt. The afternoon ended with a game of Heads & Tails which was won by Paul Smith. A variation on a tombola was also played with many prizes given. A good time was had by all.



Quiz Night

Great to see 16 teams with members and guests enjoying the quiz night on Sunday 22nd. February, more details will be in the April newsletter.

A Trip to Dorset

Yvonne and Steve Kent, Hazel and Dave Armstrong recently enjoyed a 4-night stay at the Dorset Bowls Resort. The programme of bowling was very well organised and enjoyable, playing against other clubs. They were very pleased to finish runners up on their first visit - the photo is of the presentation evening. They are thinking of booking again next year, if any one would like more information, please ask one of them for details.



Open Coaching Session

We remind you, and back by popular demand, so please turn up

OPEN COACHING SESSION

MONDAY 9TH MARCH

4.30 – 6.30PM

The signing-up sheet on the Midweek Noticeboard by Rink1 is full – thank you all.

Petanque

Can You Help?

When the weather improves next month, we hope to start our Saturday Petanque sessions. We are short of boules so if you have any at home that you no longer use and would be willing to donate them to the Club, we would be most grateful. You can hand them in at the bar or contact Nigel or Jane May.



Come and try a new sport, keep your eyes on noticeboards and Facebook as to when the sessions will start. Follow us on Facebook at Pétanque Melton Indoor Bowls Club.

Events in March

Planned rink closures, Sunday 1st, Sunday 8th, Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th for Short Mat National Competitions.

Carpet being stretched 23rd March 6:30am to 9:00am



We have been asked to publish some of the feedback issues from the recent Questionnaire.

But first a couple of questions raised after a recent internal League match.

Q. Are we allowed to visit the head in an internal League match. **A.** The quick answer is **NO**. Visits to the head are not allowed in any of our Club two-hour timed League matches.

Q. What are the rules about following your delivery part way down the rink? **A.** When you deliver a bowl you are in charge of the mat/rink until such time that your bowl comes to a halt. (Crystal mark Law 13.1). Players not delivering a bowl must be at least one metre behind the mat (Crystal Mark Law 12.1.1). It is therefore a rule that, if you follow your bowl down the green, you must ensure that you have returned to a position behind the mat **before** your bowl has come to a stop (unless you are one of the players changing ends to proceed to the head).

The Questionnaire raised many questions and complaints on items of Bowls Etiquette.

- **People are not walking down the middle of the rink.** You should try and stay as close as possible to your centre line, and be aware of bowlers behind you on adjacent rinks.
- **Walking on the green with no bowls shoes.** You should be wearing approved bowling shoes on the green, which have not been worn outside. Wearing stockinged feet is both dangerous if any bowl is in motion and not advised.
- **Walking around the green when not playing.** Please comply with the etiquette that you stop moving across the end or side of a rink when you will be in the eye-line of a player delivering a bowl.

- **Players not waiting for Skips instructions.** This is not a rule, but surely commonsense. If they are nearer the jack, then they are in a better position.
- **Bowlers not waiting for bowlers on the next rink who were on the mat first.** This is accepted etiquette. If a facing player has already stood on the mat, you should allow them to play their delivery before you deliver your bowl.
- **Swearing.** This is not allowed anywhere within the Club building, if you persist and a complaint is made to the Club, will be liable to have a formal warning.
- **Jack being cast after buzzer.** The rules are different depending on the game. **Internal leagues** – the jack must be set before the buzzer. **In external Leagues and Competitions** the jack and end will be played if it has left the hand of the initial owner of the mat before the buzzer sounds (no matter if the delivery and/or subsequent deliveries commit a foul).
- **When do leads and 2nds get involved in the head.** The old saying was, 'the Leads should put up and shut up', in other words in Rinks should not join in with the management/measuring of the head, and if on the losing side just collect together the bowls after scoring has been agreed.
- **Pushers not being returned.** At the scoreboard end, safe parking spaces have been identified by notices on the wall. At the bar end, please place the pushers between the two rinks sharing with the 'horns' against the wooden gutter. Please do not block the handrails.
- **Mobile Phones.** These should either be switched off or on silent at the rinkside tables, and not carried onto the green. **You must not use your phones on the green.**
- **No-one polices any breaches of Etiquette.** Etiquette is best practice. But if a written complaint is made, then the Club will follow up the complaint .

A number of other comments made are being addressed individually and we will contact the Member, if they included their name.

Find Us on Facebook



Another way to keep up to date with the Club is to follow us on Facebook – why not share us with friends and family. Take a look – but remember to use 'Indoor Bowls Melton Mowbray'.

If you know of a Club Member who does not have access to the internet, please ring them and tell them about the items in this Newsletter.

Raising Funds

Hi, we're now registered with **easyfundraising**, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at

no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/melton-and-district-indoor-bowls-club/>

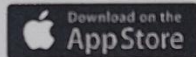
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2 Sign up and search for us 'Melton & District Indoor Bowls Club'

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