



MELTON & DISTRICT INDOOR BOWLS CLUB LTD

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



Newsletter – July 2026



The View from the Chair



Dear Members,

The Green: We are delighted that Chris Moore managed to install the replacement underlay from Greengauge during June, and feedback has been very positive with the green notably running truer and consistent, albeit slightly slower. This should change once stretched again in September.

Because of the proposed stretch, limited spots have been fixed as these will move so, a full set of spots will be fixed in September.

Infrastructure: The electrical work has finally been concluded with certification and new structure plans expected during July. Following the recent installation of two new air-con units we are now experiencing problems with another pair of old units and are closely monitoring the situation as we may have to consider how we finance another upgrade.

Advertising: the new advertising boards have been slightly delayed due to artwork and manufacturing issues, but will hopefully be fitted by mid-August. Members will also have noticed a new screen behind the reception desk, which has been installed to promote club events, notices and sponsorship support.

Coffee Mornings: Due to the holiday season, ***there will only be one coffee morning in July (the 2nd)*** they will then recommence on August 6th, and then continue twice monthly on the first and third Thursday of each month starting from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Please come along and have a chat over complimentary tea & biscuits and meet other Club members, members of the community and local support groups.



Chairman's Bird Box challenge: I have decided to suspend this until next spring but wanted to thank everyone who has purchased a box, which has so far raised £700 for club funds. There were several boxes left over which we have fitted around the site to hopefully encourage more birds next year.

Regards

Martin Cooke

Phoenix Project

The Phoenix Pavilion main structure is now up with the new windows & doors installed and the roof being completed shortly. During the first two weeks of July the electrics, lighting, alarm systems, and internal units should be fitted, leaving the internal painting and carpet fitting to be organised for late July. Once dates have been confirmed we shall be asking for volunteers to help with the indoor painting. One benefit from the underlay exchange is that the excess new underlay can be used in the new pavilion, we are just looking for a carpet fitter to offer their service to help with the installation.



We already have some local community groups interested in using the new pavilion and we are currently finalising arrangements with the Melton Lions to host their “Party on the Green” on the Pheonix area on the 8th August, more details to follow.

Sad News

We are sure that many of you will have already heard the sad news that Sue Fleckney has decided to resign from the post of Senior Vice President as a result of a marked deterioration of her health over the last six months. Sue now faces a number of joint operations over the next year which will prevent her from completing the challenging programme of duties involved in the President’s role. We are sure that you will join the Club in thanking Sue for the work she has done in supporting Phil Hopkinson in the last year, and wishing Sue a speedy and trouble-free recuperation from the various operations. Sue will continue on the Company Board of Directors, a role which she can support on-line during her recuperation. We will look forward to seeing her back at the Club as soon as possible.



Sue Fleckney

The Board will announce their plans for dealing with this unexpected situation, and the role of President 2027/28 as soon as possible.

Ladies Summer Drawn Pairs

The first matches of this popular competition are now under way. Please complete the arrangements for your matches promptly once you know your opponents.

Club Social Galas

The first of the Summer Galas was held on 27 June. Thirty players arrived suitably dressed for a summer event – given the weather in the week before this did not need much prompting. There was, as ever, a fun and competitive two hours played with a necessary ‘hydration interval’ for tea and biscuits, although many players were ensuring a good fluid intake by other means. Rob Lee won the Spider. Mel Burgess, Eva Radford and Roger Beeton ran out as highest winners. We won’t mention the three wrong biases!

The second Summer Gala will be held on Saturday, 25 July – the theme will be linked to the colours of the flags and team kits for the Commonwealth Games - please watch the Weekend noticeboard for the signing-up sheet. Not sure that their mascot Finnie will be present though. (Did you know she is named after the iconic [Finnieston Crane](#) that towers over the River Clyde in Glasgow?)



New National Club Team Kit Available

Although these items are intended primarily for use in those National competitions, there is no reason why all Club members should not be able to buy these shirts, trousers and shorts and use them in their Club bowling. We will be retaining the 'traditional' Club shirt for County Interleague and organised Club Friendly use. This is in recognition that so many members have already bought the traditional Club shirt and it would be a great expense for everyone to switch. Cash with order needed, please contact Racheal.



Bingo

The first Bingo session was held on the afternoon of Saturday, 20 June, and 27 members enjoyed the cool of the air conditioning as they wielded their dobbers over the cards. Chief caller and controller, Martin Cooke, kept good order for the two hours. Tea and biscuits at half-time were well received. See the end of the newsletter for the date for the next call.



Casting the Jack

We have been asked to give you a second reminder that the rules associated with delivering the jack as the end of session bell rings have been changed. The rule in both Leagues and Competitions now states that if the bell rings after the player on the mat has released the jack from their hand to start a new end, then the end should be played. **The jack no longer has to be set before the bell rings.** Furthermore, if it is a foul delivery then the jack will be returned for the opposition to play the jack, as the end has been started by the first (foul) delivery and the full end must be played.

THE PRESIDENT'S CHARITY

Phil Hopkinson's charity during his presidency, is The Air Ambulance Service, an organisation that we never want to use, but would be very grateful of, if ever the need arose.



There are a couple of ideas he would like you know about, to help raise funds for them during his presidential term.



Firstly, Phil invites members to take part in the 'SMARTIES CHALLENGE'. There will be a quantity of FREE Smarties tubes behind the bar and the idea is that you ask for a tube, they are

free, eat the contents and then over time fill the empty tube up with 20p's and then return it to the Club. If that gives you a warm fuzzy feeling inside, feel free to get another tube and repeat the process!! Hopefully, between now and next April, we can accumulate a worthwhile amount for this important charity.

Secondly, Phil has organised a 'Charity Night' at the Club on Saturday, 12 September, commencing with a 3-course meal at 6.30pm, and followed by.... oh yes, it's really happening 'ELVIS' will be in the building. So Don't be Cruel, just feel the Burning Love, it's not at the Heartbreak Hotel, but That's All Right cos you don't want to be Lonesome Tonight..... Well, that night anyway. So put on your Blue Suede Shoes, come along and get in touch with your inner Hound Dog!! Tickets are £30.00 and are available from the bar.



Junior News

After significant disruptions to our Saturday schedules, the Winter competitions are finally completed, the last results are-

U16 Singles winner - **Aidan Gough** Runner-up- Cody Ward

U16 Pairs winners - **Abigail and Naomi Eaves** Runners-Up- Evan Watson / Cody Ward

EIBA Silver Youth Award - **Alexander (A.J) Middleton**

Congratulations go to all of our talented Juniors. *Supplied by Erica Warrington*

Summer Season Results

Foxes Summer Interleague



Saturday 6th June Melton lost their away match against Church Gresley by 44-46 shots, and 2-10 points.:

Naomi Eaves, Steve Kent, Alan Hickin and John Robinson won by 19-7 shots, gaining 2 points.

Bettine Broadberry, Yvonne Kent, Martin Cooke and Jamie Deakin lost by 13-24 shots.

Laura Hickin, Neil Eaves, Mike Greatorex and Arthur Broadberry lost by 12-15 shots.

Saturday, 27 June Melton lost their away match at Barwell by 49 – 55 shots, and 2-10 points.

Shiela Tyers, Steve Kent, Martin Cooke and Jamie Deakin lost by 13-18.

Yvonne Kent, Nigel May, Mike Greatorex and Alan Hickin lost by 14-22.

Jane May, Jenny McConnell, Jim Tyers and Max Magee won 22-15, earning two points.

Fantastic 5's

14 June: Melton Cheesers won their match against **Melton Try Hards** by 8-0 points, after winning all four games.

Max Magee won the singles against Mel Burgess by 16-5 shots.

Max Magee and Alan Hickin won the pairs against Vanessa Watling and Sue Burgess by 26-5 shots.

Pat Wright, Jane May and Nigel May won the triples against Peter Kipling, Mick Lawrence and Mel Burgess by 14-4 shots.

Pat Wright, Jane May, Nigel May and Alan Hickin won the fours against Vanessa Watling, Sue Burgess, Peter Kipling and Mick Lawrence by 15-2 shots.

The overall score was a win for Melton Cheesers by 71-16 points and 8-0 points.

14 June: Melton Fearless Foxes vs Charnwood Woodpeckers away:

Jamie Deakin lost the singles by 5-16 shots.

Jamie Deakin and Izzy Pymm lost the pairs by 3-17 shots.

Abigail Eaves, Paul Lonsdale and Kyle Warrington lost the triples by 5-11 shots.

Abigail Eaves, Paul Lonsdale, Izzy Pymm and Kyle Warrington won the fours by 8-6 shots, gaining 2 points

21 June: Melton Cheesers vs Stamford away:

Cheesers took 3 points from Stamford. Singles: Max Magee was behind until he got the pace of the green, steadily climbing back to draw the match 11-11. Pairs: David Pick and Jenny McConnell renewed their pairing from last season eventually winning 13-6 to take the other two points. Cheesers lost the Triples and Fours despite the efforts of the whole team including Steve and Yvonne Kent.

27 June: Melton Fearless Foxes vs Nottingham Hoods

A tied game, Fearless Foxes winning two games & losing two. Brandon Giblett won the Singles and then the Pairs with Laura Hickin. Naomi Eaves with Kyle and Alex Warrington battled hard but the Hoods prevailed in the Triples and Fours. 4 points each. Shots - Melton 44 to Nottingham's 37.

EIBA National Competitions: Summer 2026

7th June: Men's Singles: Alex Warrington beat Alex Comack (Barwell), in his first round away match, by 21-3 shots over 9 ends. He will now play Max Magee in Round 2.

8th June: Open Triples: Abigail Eaves' team lost their first round away match against Sally-Ann Lewis (Barwell) by 6-20 shots.

Open Triples: Paul Lonsdale's team had a walkover against Jack Till (Church Gresley). They will now play Paul Warrington in Round 2 .

11th June: Open Pairs: Brandon Giblett and Max Magee won their Round 2 match against **Abigail and Naomi Eaves** by 23-9 shots.

17th June: Open Pairs: Paul Warrington's team lost their Round 2 away match to Sally Ann Lewis (Barwell) by 13-15 shots.

18th June: Women's Singles: Abigail Eaves lost her Round 1 match against Sally Ann Lewis (Barwell) by 4-19 shots. Sally Ann Lewis will now play Naomi Eaves in Round 2.

18th June: Men's Singles: Jamie Deakin won his Round 2 match against Simon Bradley (Barwell) by 21-13 shots. He will now play Paul Lonsdale in Round 3.

19th June: Men's Singles: Paul Warrington lost his Round 2 match against Stu Thomas (Barwell) by 6-21 shots.

22nd June: Open Pairs: Jamie Deakin's team lost their Round 2 match against Jack Till (Church Gresley) by 6-18 shots.

23rd June: Men's Singles: Paul Lonsdale won his Round 2 match against Colin Wagstaff by 21-6 shots. He will now play Jamie Deakin in Round 3.

24th June: Men's Singles: Max Magee won his Round 2 match against **Alex Warrington** by 21-15 shots. He will now play Stu Thomas (Barwell) in Round 3.

25th June: Open Pairs: Colin Wagstaff and Laura Hickin lost their Round 2 match against Simon Bradley (Barwell) by 9-23 shots.

Schools Visit

In conjunction with Clare Marlow, the Melton & Belvoir School Sport Development Manager, the Club hosted a School Games event on 23 June. We had groups from three local schools – Ab Kettleby, The Grove and Long Field. The day was a great success and we received the following message from Clare to the R&R Team and the Coaches;

I just wanted to say a big thank you to you and the wider team for delivering such a fantastic day of bowls for children across three of our local schools.

Throughout the day, we engaged 33 children from Year 4 to Year 11, and it was great to see such positive participation and enthusiasm from everyone involved.

Ruby has been to see me in school today and she has said she is going to attend the Saturday session this week :) please let the coaches know - she is very excited and has told many of the school staff she will be attending.



The picture shows our (tired) coaches and helpers.

Petanque

June 2nd: We returned to league action with a top of the table clash against Morcott Wanderers. We came out on top with a 3-1 win – well done Bridgette, Suzanne, Steve, Phil, Lara and Kev.

June 9th: We were away against another team currently in contention at this early stage, Casterton. We started well, winning the first two legs 13-1 and 13-7. The second two legs turned out to be a bit different, losing 10-13 but winning the deciding leg by 13-12 with the last two boules of the game. So, another great 3-1 win; well done to Nigel, Jane, Suzanne, Bridgette, Kev and Mike Greateorex.

June 16th – We were again away, but unfortunately, we lost our first game of the season 3-1 against the Wheatsheaf Hunters in Oakham. Nigel, Suzanne and Peter on his debut did manage to win one leg 13-1.



Melton then had a bye, so most teams have now played 8 games, and we still sit top of the league by 1 point from our next opponents Saltby Exiles. If you fancy coming along on a Saturday morning and giving it a try, please check the notice boards or ring Nigel May on 07859 412620 for details. *Thanks to Nigel May for this report.*

Open Triples Tournament

The Club is organising an Open Triples Tournament to be held on 27 September. There will be 32 team places available, and each team will play at least 4 matches on the day. The prizes for the winners will be – First Prize - £480, Second Prize £360, Third Prize £240 and 4th Place £120. Entry to the competition will cost £60 per team Entry forms are available from the bar.

BBC Children In Need



HOT OFF THE PRESS - Children in Need Bowlathon arrangements will be coming out soon, from noon on Thursday 12th to noon on Friday 13th November. Look out for your invitation email and the poster on the notice board for more information. Thank you.

Social Events

Our next **BINGO** afternoon will be
14.00, Saturday, 22th August

– 6 books of 5 Tickets/games, includes tea & biscuits.

All for £17 – pay on the day

And Don't forget



Saturday, 25 July Summer Gala

please arrive at 1.30pm, for a 2pm start. **£6.50 CASH ON THE DAY**, includes spider, tea & biscuits. The dress theme will be “Colours of the Commonwealth”.

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/?>