

Banbury Cross Indoor Bowls Club

Annual Reports

President – Gerald Fountain

I'm sure that Andy, as Chairperson will fill you in on what has happened through the season and thoughts on what next season's agenda will be so I'm not going to repeat it.

It has been my honour to serve you from 2002, firstly as a Committee member, Vice Captain, Captain, Vice Captain again, Captain again, and now President. I feel that it is sadly time to retire from all my appointments as I concentrate on my health. I want to thank all members and hopefully friends who have supported me for all these years. We have had a few laughs along the way.

We may meet again next season (God willing) so with that I wish you all health and happiness in the club's future.

Committee Chair – Andy Winter

It has been my pleasure to work with the committee over the last year and my thanks go to each of them for being prepared to take responsibility for the club over the last year and especially to engage in planning the future of the club. The Club Development Plan has been at the heart of the work of the committee over the last year. We hope that when you read it you will want and be willing to get involved in just one aspect of the work that we need to undertake. There are tougher decisions to make as we move forward and the committee have been diligent in making sure that we reach where we have with agreement but more importantly with support for the agreed actions going forward.

I will say more at the AGM itself but suffice to say here that we are hugely indebted as a club to the loyal service that has been given by Gerald as President, and Janet as Ladies Captain. They have both held different positions on the committee but they retire holding those positions and our thanks for unwavering support and commitment to being here for the many events through the season is not unappreciated. Trevor Brown is also stepping down after another year of service to the committee and our thanks are due to Trevor for his terrier qualities in ensuring that the future of this club is at the centre of the committee and club agenda.

I hope that those who join the committee through the AGM process this year will be ready, willing, and able to support the strategic direction that is outlined in the Development Plan and that our next year of work will remain interesting, challenging, and for the most part fun as we work together on behalf of our whole membership.

Club Secretary – Julia Lambert

What a great start to the new season. A new committee with energetic commitment and forward-thinking ideas. We started the season with a fresh perspective and hopefully we've proved to our members that we mean business and they have seen improvements made over the season.

The committee has met every month and each meeting there have been constructive input from all the committee members – which hopefully you will see when our Chairman presents our Development Plan later on this evening.

The opening of the Hub has proved successful and we have managed to raise a fair amount of income. However, it would be nice to see more of our members coming forward to volunteer to operate the Hub on a more permanent basis so that we can have wider opening times. I would like to personally thank all those who have stepped up to help with manning the Hub and assisting with clearing up after our friendly fixtures.

This year also saw the launch of our new Website which I'm sure you'll agree is user friendly and a great way to continue to promote and advertise our club. Thank you very much to Harry for all the work he's put into its development. A job very well done.

I am pleased to advise that all our friendly fixtures have been finalized for next year. Games have been arranged with Avon Valley, Chipping Norton, Adderbury, Oxford Fire and Rescue, Slade, Greyfriars, Oxford City and County and Witney Town.

Finally I would like to thank all our valuable members who continue to support our club and look forward to seeing them all on the Carpet next season.

Treasurer – Terry Humphreys

See separate document with Annual Accounts

Men's Captain – Tony Smith

There are members both on and off the committee that have gone way and beyond their remit on behalf of the Club and I must thank them for their input in such a way that has enabled me to carry out my duties much easier. A special thanks to Gerald and Janet, being a font of all knowledge with their many, many years of bowling and at many elevated levels, and I still call on when I need to, for being ever helpful whilst I found my feet, and without Julia this season, I would not have made the progress I have.

We are all relatively new to this committee and the way the sport is run, I think some mistakes have been rectified and will continue to be as we grapple to do the best for the members of this club moving forwards.

We have had quite a few new bowlers that have played at Betty's rollups and progressed to the friendly game at home and away, this is where their game really improves, so if they could be encouraged to continue to the leagues as well, who knows. Also, the newbie's are raising interest with those around them and will possibly bring in more new players.

On the friendly games that have been played, we have had some wins and some losses, with two having to be cancelled due to illnesses by Greyfriars and with Avon Valley clashing mother's day, but overall all the friendly games have been a most enjoyable success. Thank you all for your support, it has been a pleasure to serve you all, and both Pauline and I will continue to enjoy your company here on the rinks.

Ladies Captain – Janet Fountain

This season we had our regular 4 matches scheduled with the ladies teams at Avon Valley and Chipping Norton. Sadly we only played 3 games as Chipping Norton cancelled their fixture. Of the 3 matches we won 1 and lost 2 with the overall scores of 134 to 141. Hopefully next season we can reverse the results.

I've thought very hard about what I'm doing and decided that now is the time, after 14 years, to hand back my badge and key and retire from the Captaincy & committee. We have a new committee and with it's young blood they have many great ideas to make this club thrive.

Hopefully I may still bowl next season but only on a casual basis, I shall think about it over the summer.. All I ask is that if you elect a Lady Captain that you support her as well as you have me over the years.

Good luck for the future.

League Secretary – Richard Boscott

This years leagues have had a better completion of games than 2022/2023 season although the number of teams in some leagues still remains low in some cases only 6 teams playing, the figures for each league are as follows

Monday am triples

24 fixtures possible – with 5 games not played.

Winner Gerald Fountain

Monday pm Australian pairs

24 fixtures possible – with 3 games not played.

Winner Margaret Morris

Tuesday pm Australian pairs

22 fixtures possible – with 2 games not played.

Winner Will Campion

Wednesday am triples

24 fixtures possible – with 0 games not played.

Winner Gerald Fountain

Thursday pm triples

24 fixtures possible – with 5 games not played.

Winners Andy Wilkin with 34 points 2nd Dave Varney with 24 points -9 , 3rd Andy Winter 24 points -25

Friday am triples

25 fixtures possible – with 0 games not played.

Winner Gerald Fountain

At the time of writing this all leagues have not finished so 2nd and 3rd places are still to be confirmed

I would like to thank Andy winter for arranging the club competitions this year

League Winners 23/24

Monday am Triples

Gerald Fountain

Monday pm Australian Pairs

Margaret Morris

Tuesday eve Australian pairs

Will Champion

Wednesday am Triples

Gerald Fountain

Thursday eve Triples

Andy Wilkin

Friday am Triples

Gerald Fountain

Saturday Diamond League

Linda Coles, Delia Crouse & Pat Reilly

Competition Winners 23/24

Ladies Singles

Dawn Hewitt

Ladies Singles – Never Won

Dawn Hewitt

Ladies Pairs

Dawn Hewitt & Julia Lambert

Competition Winners

23/24

Open Singles Over 60's

Tom McKenna

Mixed Pairs

Linda Sharman & Ian Jackman

Mixed Triples

Richard Boscott, Carol Rycraft & John Sharman

Mixed Fours

Eloise Jones, Brian Ray, Tony Smith & Jeanine Venter

Competition Winners 23/24

Men's Singles

Will Campion

Men's Singles – Never Won

Gerald Mayles

Men's Pairs

Richard Boscott & Dave Davies

Men's Triples

Will Campion, Michael Gudge & John Pardoe