

# Bowls

## Introduction

Welcome to the game of outdoor bowls. What could be better than enjoying a leisurely game of bowls on a fine summer's day, followed by a social meet in the bar afterwards, within your local area.

There is both a Ladies and Mens Bowls section at Hartley, where various mixed matches and social events are held throughout the year.

The Sections are actively seeking new members of all ages and abilities, beginners being especially welcome. For those who are unsure about playing bowls, the Sections are offering a period of free coaching throughout the season, at a time to suit those interested, without any obligation to join the Club or Section. Please contact the Mens Section's Secretary, John Tucker on 01474 703709 or Ladies Secretary, Maureen Palmer on 01474 702066 for more details.

Further information on the Club can be obtained from the Administration office or by visiting the Club's website, [www.hartleycountryclub.co.uk](http://www.hartleycountryclub.co.uk).

## The outdoor season

The outdoor season commences at the end of April and runs through to the end of September.

Matches against both friends and other league clubs are normally held during the afternoons, mid-week and at weekends. Our internal Club competitions are played throughout the season.

The Sections are considered competitive, playing both league and friendly matches, with many members entering competitions run by the other Bowling Associations. A number of the Sections' membership have gained their County Badges.

## Membership and costs

Some 40 men make up the Mens Section and 22 the Ladies Section. To join the Bowls Sections you first need to become a member of Hartley Country Club. Details of costs can be found in the Club's Handbook.

In addition to the Club's annual subscription, there is an annual sports subscription of £40.00 for both men and women, plus an annual Men's Section subscription of £13.00, and £10.00 for the Ladies Section.

## Bowling Green/Pavilion

The bowling green is a full size seven-rink green. Recent work undertaken on the green has brought it up to the highest standard, able to host County matches, including County Finals.

The green is located in an ideal setting within the Club's grounds. Adjacent to the green is the bowls pavilion and mens and ladies changing rooms. Teas are normally served midway between the afternoon matches in the Bowls pavilion.

Access to the bowling green is open to members every day of the week, subject to green maintenance work and match day times, during the five summer months.

Tuesday afternoons are known as Club afternoons, where the Mens and Ladies Section members turn up – no prior booking is necessary – to form teams to play friendly matches.

## The Sections' affiliation to other Bowling Associations and last season's successes

The Mens Section is affiliated to the Bowls England (B.E), the Kent County Bowling Association (K.C.B.A.), the Gravesend and District Bowling Association and the Dartford and District Bowling Association. These affiliations allow Section members to enter the competitions arranged by these bowling associations. The Ladies Section is affiliated to the Bowls England (B.E), and the Kent County Women's Bowling Association (K.C.W.B.A.). They also bowl in the Bexley Borough Competitions.

The B.E. and K.C.B.A. both publish a Year Book detailing winners of their various competitions and reports on the year's events etc.