



Blackhall Bowling Club

Rink April 2026



The President speaks:

We will soon be saying hello to the 2026 playing season and our Opening Day on 18th April is no doubt being eagerly anticipated in homes across Blackhall and beyond. Let's collectively keep our fingers crossed for good weather after some extremes recently. Preparations are well advanced and a big thanks as always to everyone who is playing their part.

A big thanks as well to everyone who helped with and participated in our various social events during March. These provide a great chance to get together with fellow members as well as generating revenue for our Club. In terms of revenue, our biggest contributor is our subscriptions which we are collecting just now

Another revenue generator is sponsorship. Our Vice-President (Debbie Gibb) has been making fantastic progress in retaining existing and securing new sponsors. This is something all members can help with - by identifying new sponsor opportunities and also considering these companies when you have a need for such a service. Remember to let them know you are members of the Club, whether it influences a discount or not, the sponsor will hopefully see a benefit in supporting the Club.

The new Committee have now met a couple of times since being elected at the AGM and are working well to steer the Club forward in a number of areas. One area of focus is attracting (and retaining) new members - all members have a part to play and I would encourage you to publicise wherever you can our forthcoming open day events where prospective members can try their hand at bowls. The first of these will be held on Sunday 26th April 2-4 and the leaflet (inset) is going round the Blackhall area advertising the Bowls Scotland National "Try Bowls" weekend. These are key ways for us to sell our Club and the game of bowls.

Looking forward to April! Gary Wood

TRY BOWLS!

Blackhall Bowling Club

21 Keith Row



TRY BOWLS Weekend

Saturday 2nd May 10-12

Sunday 3rd May 2-4

No experience necessary
Free use of equipment.



Free coaching every
Saturday morning.

All welcome

For more info contact

Donald on 07957573695



We have a number of sponsors now supporting the Club and we need to reward their generosity by showing support for their business. Here are some of our sponsors with more to come, we hope. We will tell you more about them in future editions of *Rink*.

Connoisseur Travel 

Farmer Autocare



Hear Here Audiologists



Lindsay and Gilmour



Cameron Optometry



Harvey Bruce



Livingston Dobbies



Cormack Wealth



The **February 60 Club Draw** took place at the Bacon Rolls morning on 7th March. The lucky winner was Norrie Davidson and he is now busy squandering the £48 he made. There is still time to get your name on the board. The **March 60 Draw** will be made on **Saturday 4th April** at the Bacon Rolls breakfast. Perhaps this could be your lucky month – but not if your name is not there! This will be the last one until the season closes in October so get in there and make some money to spend on the holidays. The March Draw is based on **FRUITS** so everyone has their favourite – let's see if yours are lucky as well as tasty.



We had a great afternoon using the new projector to show the Scotland v Ireland Rugby match. There were



about 40 folk there throughout the afternoon between BBC members and the Blackhall Sports

Committee plus a bundle of kids. We will look at the financial results

of the day and decide whether we should think about other big national sporting events. Unfortunately, the World Cup matches look to be shown at around 2am. We might have trouble getting staff for the bar!

However, bowls is a core sport in the Commonwealth Games this year so we should capitalise on the interest that will produce. We may show some of the big matches on the screen and we can then invite friends to join us.



Update from Hazel Matthews

With only one more games night before the bowling season starts I thought I would give you an update on funds raised.

This winter so far we have donated £125 to Blackhall Bowling club funds compared to last year's final total of £74.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Games Nights & hope to see you next month for the final night of this year & look forward to seeing you again in the Autumn.

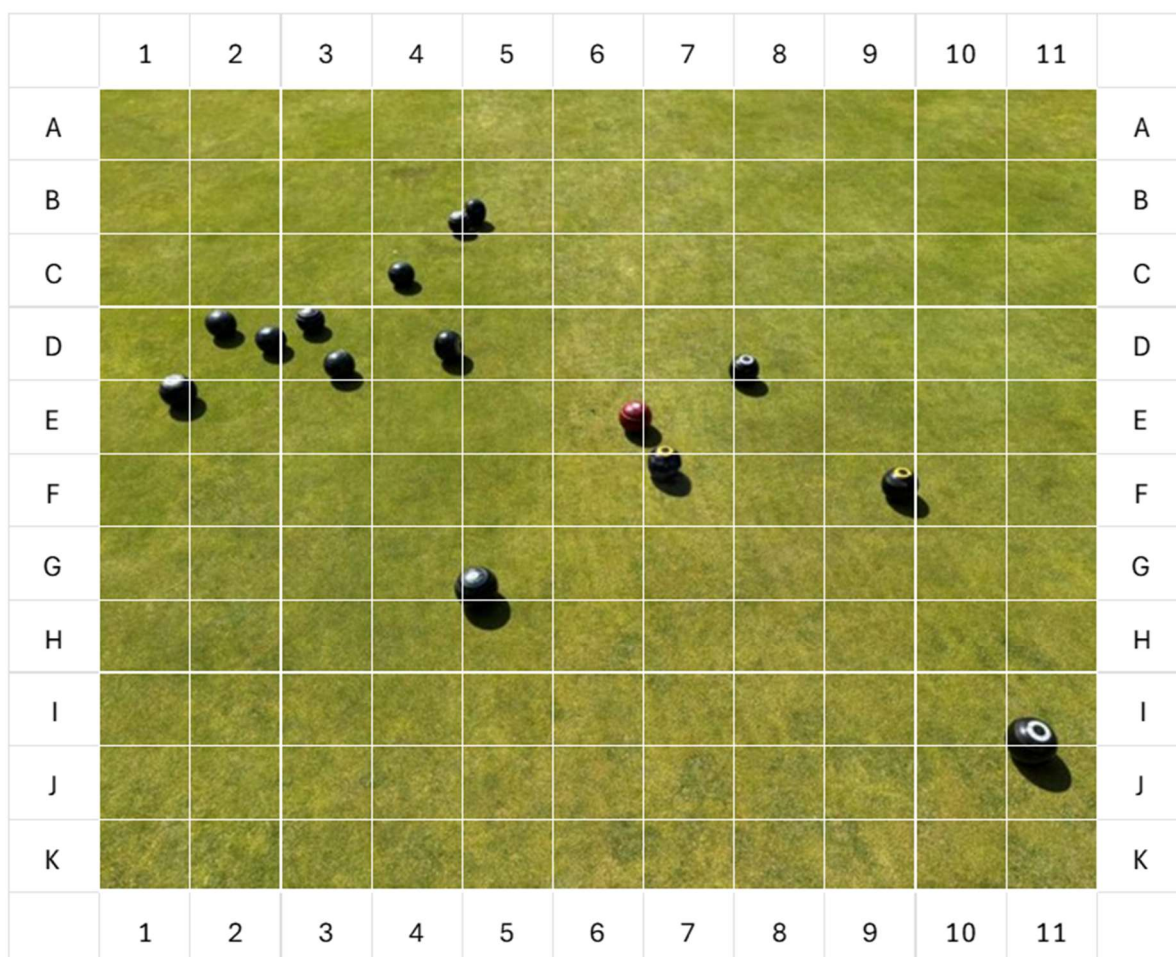
Bowls Scotland is looking for volunteers to help with entrance tickets, general stewarding and a host of other things at the National Championships in Ayr. This is a great event if you want to see high quality bowling close at hand without the cost! Follow this link to see the details. [Request for Volunteers.pdf](#)

CATRIONA BARNES has sent in this photo which might be of interest from a historical point of view. It is of her father and uncle with 2 of the club cups - the championship cup - which had a lid then - and the Victory (?) cup. I think we should ask this year's Champions to reflect the formality of the dress code!



Spot the Jack: If you missed the competition over the summer, this photo is from a game on our green and I have removed the Jack. Send me your best guess as to which grid number (e.g.D3) marks the location of the Jack. Winner and Answer in the May *Rink*. The winner in the March edition was Debbie Gibb not because she was correct but because she was the only person to bother offering an answer. You too could be such a winner! **The correct answer was F6.**

This month's quiz photo is much easier but if this does not excite you then it might be the last one in the series.



For your diary, here are the dates for the season ahead. Print this page and stick it on your fridge. As usual, holidays are not allowed to be booked after Opening Day 18th April.

Key Events Calendar

April

15th - Cheese and Wine

18th - Opening Day

22nd - Ladies' Opening Day

26th - Open Day

May

1st-4th - BS Try Bowls weekend

3rd - Open Day

16th - Bowls afternoon tea

23rd - Open evening (Invite friends)

June

6th Blackhall Sports Com Sports Day

20th - Bowling and Fish 'n Chips

24th - Ladies' Centenary Quaich

27th - Burgoyne Cup (mixed)

July

15th - Ladies' Championship Final

11th - Councillors' Cup (at BBC) Catering

18th - Bowls Fun day

31st - Nellie Hastie Triples (Ladies)

August

6th - Gents Championship Quarter final

7th - Village Triples at Maitland

8th - Trinity Friendly (at Trinity)

11th - Gents Championship Semi-final

15th - Gents Championship Final

16th - Invitation Pairs

19th - Corstorphine Friendly (Gents) at BBC 18.00

23rd - Ryder Cup (Gents)

September

2nd, 3rd, 4th - Autumn Pairs

12th - Ladies v Gents Top 10

20th - Anderson Cup

23rd - Ladies' Closing Day

26th - Closing Day

October

24th - Halloween Social

November

29th - Sunday Lunch Social

December

3rd - Gents' Christmas Lunch

14th - Christmas Lunch

31st - Hogmany Party