



# Malvern Priory Bowling Club Newsletter

August 2020

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**Socially distanced roll ups to start Tuesday 4th  
August @ 2pm**

**Roll ups will be every Tuesday and Friday  
afternoons from 2pm**

## **Roll-ups will restart on Tuesday 4th August 2020 at 2 pm.**

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Roll-ups will restart on Tuesday 4th August 2020 at 2 pm.

There will also be a roll-up on Friday 7th August 2020 at 2 pm and there will then be roll-ups every Tuesday and Friday afternoon.

Games will be organised as triples and someone will be at the club to take names and organise the teams. To avoid the need to handle cash all bowlers will be invoiced once a month for the usual £2.50 green fee which can be paid by cheque or bank transfer.

When you come to a roll-up please be sure to adhere to the club's Social Distanced bowling rules ([click here to download a copy](#)) for your safety and the safety of others.

Scorecards and pencils will be provided as the scoreboards will remain out of use.

The clubhouse will remain closed apart from the collection of woods and shoes. No tea will be available so please bring your own refreshments.

If you would be prepared to take on the role of taking names and allocating rinks to bowlers please let me know so that we can establish a rota and keep the roll-ups running.

Graham Anderson  
*Malvern Priory Bowling Club - Secretary*

## Club Captain's message

The long wait is over Priory has opened up to Roll Ups and the convenience of just turning up for a game should appeal to those players who preferred not to use the booking system.

Of course everything cannot be as in previous years with social distancing, hygiene measures and the use of alternate rinks but it's a chance to get those woods rolling and at the same time meet up with old friends. Most of the season has now passed and we have only a few more weeks to enjoy the sport we all love. It is very disappointing that matches were impossible this year especially as we had a full list of fixtures and the weather has been so glorious.

The Green has now been open for 2 months but not many members have taken up the opportunity to book a rink and enjoy bowling in such pleasant surroundings. A few of us have been playing 2 and sometimes 3 times a week during this period, we found the booking system simple and adhering to the hygiene guidelines easy.

Even if you don't intend to bowl this year it's worth a visit to the club to admire the "plantsmanship" of Phil Bunyan. I have noticed that many members of the public have stopped to take in the view of the Green and Flora or perhaps they were just admiring our bowling!!! The hanging baskets and tubs are blooming splendidly with the apricot begonias and mixed fuchsias. The rose garden is attractive with its edging of lavenders and potentillas and has had a magnificent agapanthus added to the centre. Phil's also planted a few more mixed perennials in the herbaceous border, he has nurtured everything and kept it all well watered , many thanks Phil you've done a great job.

The new watering system has solved the problem of the drying out of the ground and kept the grass lusciously green. The whole area looks very inviting so why not take up the invitation and have at least a few hours bowling this season whether it be at the roll ups or by booking a session. Summer is nearly ended, Autumn is on it's way so let's get bowling.

Lorna Rodway  
Club Captain

## Government COVID-19 support grant

The club has been fortunate enough to secure a Government COVID-19 support grant of £10,000 that will help to secure the future of the club during lockdown and beyond.

The Committee decided that the £5,000 loan from Bowls England to help us achieve a new automatic watering system should be paid back using part of the grant. This has been done relieving the two club members who had guaranteed the loan.

The additional monies will see us through a very lean time when we have had a very much reduced income. It appears to be some time before we will be able to think of introducing social events which help considerably towards fund raising.

The Committee  
Malvern Priory Bowling Club

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Newsletter Editor - Jackie Oakey

## Green News

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As I mentioned last month, you will have noticed that we have been attacked by brown patches and fairy circles. Since our last newsletter I have been doing a great deal of research into rectifying the problem.

The conclusion is that we have a disease in the green. The brown patches are *Microdochium nivale* and the Fairy Circles are *Basidiomycetes*.

Over the next couple of weeks on a day when there is no wind the green will be sprayed. This will prevent it getting worse but the damage has already been done. Mowing, rolling and walking on the green spreads the disease. We cannot stop this but we can stop it worsening and we will have to wait until next year for the new grass to regenerate.

One cause is that due to lockdown we did not scarify and aerate the green. This should have been done in the early spring.

A lot of rectification work will be carried out in October - more on this as we get closer to the end of season.

Maintenance work - the shed

The shed floor has rotted through and needs major repairs. All materials have been bought but waiting for a Monday with no rain we have to empty part of the shed to do it.

Paths around the green and building need to be weeded and swept clean. The small lawn at the back of the clubhouse needs to be cut and the flower beds weeded. Volunteers are required on Mondays to help with making the grounds etc look smart.

An amusing thing is that some gentleman is helping himself to the roses on our rose bed before they fully open. Does anybody know who he is? If you do see anyone doing this perhaps you could point out that they belong to the club.

For those who have not been to the club for a while will be impressed by our simply beautiful flower tubs and baskets that Phil Bunyan has provided us with. They are simply stunning. Thank you Phil.

Finally please pay attention to the committee's notification regarding the divot and dents in the green. We are only using 3 rinks in each direction and it is impossible to keep changing the rinks round. Normally the officer in charge of roll ups would direct players to certain rinks reducing the wear, however, currently we are not able to do this.

Look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Mondays socially distanced working party to get the club looking spic and span for Tuesday's start of roll ups. This has become quite a social event each week. Don't forget to bring your morning coffee!

Looking forward to seeing everyone again. Keep safe, stay alert.

Brian Palmer,  
Green Secretary

## Rink Booking System -

To ensure that a maximum of 18 players on the green at any one time is maintained the booking system has been updated to allow 6 players to be listed on each booking.

The green will be closed every Monday for maintenance.

The sessions are 3 hours long to allow time for people to arrive, get shoes & bowls and to get & sanitise equipment from the clubhouse. You should not arrive before the booking time. Only one person should be in the clubhouse at a time and care should be taken not to touch any surfaces unnecessarily. The length of the sessions will be reviewed if demand is too high to be met by the current schedule.

To book a session you will need to provide an email address, your name, the name of your opponents (if you have any) and a contact telephone number. It is important that you include your opponents name so that we can cover Health and Safety requirements and eventually collect all outstanding "Green" fees.

If you want to play during this socially distanced time please reply to this email so that we can gauge the demand. This will help Brian to manage the green and avoid uneven wear on the green. If you would like to be put in contact with other members to play against please provide your contact details and I will then circulate a list of contacts to those who have agreed to this.

Graham Anderson  
Malvern Priory Bowling Club - Secretary

## Short Mat

**Whilst current restrictions exist there will be no short mat.**

## At last I can bowl again

When the first email about reopening the green came through I immediately booked a practice session on the first day.

I arrived to find the clubhouse well prepared for lockdown play with sanitiser, detergent and paper towels readily available. Jacks and mats were ready to go and the green was clearly marked up. My only disappointment was that I was the only person using the green! At least I can say that I was the first person to use the green under lockdown conditions!

And the green was in an excellent state – well done Brian and your team. Mind you, it did seem to me that our famous slope had become steeper – but I felt that less as I got in more practice over the next few sessions!

Putting away was easy and I left feeling happy to be bowling again and also feeling rather fortunate that no-one else had been there to see just how badly I needed to practice!

Graham Dimmock



### Above:

Microdochium nivale - the brown patches in the green



## Watercolouring during lockdown

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The last few months have been a real surprise.

Not being able to socialise, shop, sing and play instruments in public, has been a trial.

Lock down however provided the incentive to do other things. Walking mainly...finding paths and ways round Upton which we had not used for years or even known (even though we have been here for 40 odd years). If anyone wants to come on a disorganised walk around Upton let me know.

Painting the inside and outside of the garage was one thing ....painting watercolours has been another. Once the water colouring started it seem to have a will of its own....(20 finished since lockdown, the 21st will be finished soon.)

I don't particularly like watercolour painting as you can spoil the picture in one blob or stroke of the brush. Oil painting is a lot more forgiving! However the results are quicker.

I have just been advised that if you make a mistake with a watercolour try putting under a tap???

A real treat was when the bowling green opened. The old green had gone, a better green had arrived. Using protectors on the green was very easy and made no difference to the way we played. Using one of just three rinks meant we were social distancing with comfortable distances between ourselves and others, we soon got used to the cleaning regime and the restrictions on the use of the clubhouse.

Looking forward to mee' ng everyone again.  
Roger

