



Harperbury Bowls Club Newsletter 1955 - 2020

FEB 2021



Members are reminded of the club ethos of respecting the right of all club members to participate in club activities free from harassment, abuse and intimidation.

February already and hopefully a good few of you have had your jobs and have the date for the 2nd one on your calendar.

I have to say, having had mine as an NHS worker, it brings a bit of relief with it but I am still very mindful of the precautions. It is not a time to drop our guards. We need this dreadful disease to come under our control and not be 2 steps behind it, which is what it has felt like.

Not much to say in this newsletter as we are hoping you have all received a copy of the January newsletter through the post?

There is, however, one very recent development that we wanted to let you know about and you can read more about this on the next few pages.



Happy Valentines!

Supporting the NHS staff who work in Bowlers Green.

The committee were approached recently by the NHS Health and Wellbeing Manager on behalf of staff working in Bowlers Green. She was on a quest to find some space away from the wards for her staff to take a proper lunch break.

The staff on the wards in Bowlers Green, which includes a Mother and Baby Unit for Mums with severe mental health problems from all over the UK, have to have PPE gear on all the time as do all NHS staff during this pandemic.

As you are all aware, all NHS staff are under considerable pressure supporting the population in many different ways all over the UK. Most NHS hospitals are fortunate enough to have an area where staff can go for a break, away from their ward where they can relax and take off their PPE for a short while. This is SO important for their mental health wellbeing to have a respite area as the pressures are sometimes immense. To be able to get away from that pressure for a break and take off the mask, visor and gloves etc and be able to relax and eat their lunch in an area where staff feel safe is where we come in.

The committee are supporting the request from the NHS manager to use the club for NHS staff lunch breaks during this pandemic. The club will be used between 10 – 4pm Monday – Saturday for the ongoing period that COVID restrictions are in place or until our bowls season starts or when it is deemed safe for bowls to take place.

The working party and green team, following discussions with the committee, have made plans and carried out some preparation to the club so that we can accommodate the NHS staff whilst they also safely carry out their work on the green etc.

A partition from the mens changing room to the wall by the kitchen door has been erected to provide a dedicated area for the green staff and the working party. This has been 'decorated' by Ken to welcome the NHS into our club house and looks great. NHS staff will not be permitted in this area and all cleaning and sanitising will be undertaken by the green team or work party members. The green team and work party will ensure that a register is kept at all times of members attending the club and ensure that social distancing is maintained whilst using this area. Access to this area will be by the key entry kitchen door only.



The remaining area will now be available to the NHS staff only, with tables provided as determined by the assessment together with one chair to each table. A maximum number of tables and people in this area has been determined by the NHS Covid assessment and the NHS will be responsible to adhering to these requirements.

The club urn, kettle and microwave will be available in the NHS area and the green team will fill the urn each morning on their arrival at the club.

The clubhouse will be staffed by an NHS person at the available times, this person will be responsible for maintaining a register of all NHS staff attending the clubhouse together with the opening and securely closing of the clubhouse and for ensuring all electric appliances are turned off.

The NHS contractors have been in to deep clean all the available areas and associated items and will perform a daily clean and rubbish disposal for the duration of the arrangement. Hand sanitisers, cutlery, tableware, additional heaters and any other items will be provided by the NHS. Staff using the respite area will have access to drinks and snacks provided either by themselves or by the NHS and social distancing, washing of hands and wearing of masks and any additional COVID guidelines will be monitored and managed by the NHS staff. Access to this area will be by the keypad door only.

To maintain security of the clubhouse and the grounds, security access will only be available to a maximum of TWO NHS staff who will be responsible for the opening and closing of the clubhouse and the gates at all times. When COVID restrictions are lifted or when the clubhouse is no longer required, NHS cleaners will provide a last finish deep clean. Dave T and Peter will be points of contact for the NHS if needed.

To ensure that our Public Liability and accidental damage insurance remains valid, temporary associate membership (to be cancelled when the clubhouse is no longer required) will be provided to NHS staff using the clubhouse at a cost to be agreed.

On a weekly basis the green ranger will visit the club and liaise with the NHS staff to ensure that the arrangements are working for both parties and should continue in place.

The club is officially closed to members at the moment in lock down with it being essential journeys only with the exception of the green team and work party. However, if any member needs to visit the club can we ask that you please contact either Dave T or Peter in the first instance for instructions and this will ensure we have an accurate register of who has been at the club for track and trace purposes.

As a committee, on behalf of the bowls club, we are very pleased to be able to support our NHS staff during these very difficult times by providing an area where they can relax and enjoy their lunch break in peace. The committee are also reassured that the green team and working party can carry on safely and that the club will be left clean and ready for us when we return to play bowls again.

