

List of information

Greens

The two greens are used by all four clubs on a weekly rotation basis. Portishead Men share with the Legion Ladies and Portishead Ladies with the Legion Men. A sign, which is in the porch of the clubhouse (on the left wall when facing the main door), indicates the use of the greens and also the direction in which play should operate – red or blue (these are the colours of the waste bins at the end of each rink). Usually red is on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and blue on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For casual roll-ups, play is on the green allocated to the men participating. If a player is not a member of one of the clubs, play must be on a public allocated rink – see the booking sheets which are in two folders on the reception desk. Rinks cannot be booked in advance, except for competitions, but it is easy to ring the club and ask if a rink is available, or look at the booking sheet in reception.

Notice board

All important information is on or attached to the board which is in the Reception area by the desk – the board opposite the door is for the Legion Men. We are affiliated to Somerset Bowls Association and Bowls England. Their year books are to be found hanging below the Ladies notice board and anyone can read it. There is also an up-to-date rule book hanging below which should not leave the clubhouse. Rule books can be bought from the Treasurer if required.

For mixed friendly games or tourist matches - it is the normal practice after the game to buy your opposition a drink. If you cannot stay you should buy the drink and explain to your opposite number that you cannot stay and apologise, you should also let the Captain know.

Matches

Every member is given a fixture list once they have paid their membership. On the fixture list it tells you whether a match is home or away, the league, the opponent, the time, the dress code how many rinks and the format. Weston & District and Clevedon & District matches are played on a weekday. Depending on the membership, we are often able to field two teams in the Somerset Bowls Association League and these matches are played on a Saturday.

Leagues:

W&D>60 Lg = Weston & District over 60s League

C&D>55 Lg = Clevedon & District over 55s League

SBA Lg N1 A-Team (or B-Team) = Somerset Bowls Association League, North 1, A-Team (or B-Team)

Format:

6RM = 6 is the number of rinks, R confusingly stands for 'Rinks' which means 4 players each with 2 woods & 'M' is Men

4TM = 4 rinks, Triples (three players with 3 woods each), Men

5RX = 5 rinks, Rinks (4 players with 2 woods each), Mixed Teams

Once you get used to the terminology, it makes more sense!

Bowls must have PBC stickers – obtainable from the Captain or Treasurer. Match fees cover transport and tea and biscuits. All competitive games are played in white trousers, blue club shirts

and jackets (optional). First rounds of some of the competitions are played in grey trousers but this is indicated on the availability sheet in the blue folder. White tops may be worn for club mornings or President and Captain's day for Associate members.

Blue folder

In this folder, which can be found hung on the club notice board, are the availability sheets. Members put their names down for matches, for which they are available and would like to play, and if an away match, whether they are willing to drive in the column on the availability sheet. The selection committee uses these lists to pick the team. Selection is usually done on a Monday after club morning and the team sheet is put on the board the following day. Members are expected to check to see if they have been picked and if so, tick their name to confirm to the captain they have seen the list and are still able to play. If for some reason they are unable to play they should phone the captain ASAP. Under no circumstances should they cross their name off the list. If you have been picked for an away match you should check who is driving (which is shown on team sheet) and speak to the driver to arrange time and pick up. Selection for mixed matches is posted on the small notice board in reception to the right of the door to the small lounge. Reserves are required to be available up until the game is due to start.

Office rota

This is circulated at the pre-season meeting. All four clubs have to do office duty. This is manning the reception desk, answering the phone and hiring rinks to members of the public. Everything is explained in a folder on the desk; or ask any committee member. If you are unable to do your duty, arrange to swap with another member and alter both the rota on our noticeboard and the small one to the right of the cupboard in reception.

Special Days rota

Members should contact the Catering Officer regarding the particular day they are allocated.

Competitions (see sheet on Information page).

Association

The four bowling clubs at Portishead – Portishead Men, Portishead Ladies, Royal British Legion Men and Royal British Legion Ladies (the “Poppies”) – come under the umbrella of The Association of Portishead Bowling Clubs, to which all playing members and associate members automatically belong. The committee of the Association is responsible for the day to day running and maintenance of the buildings and greens. The Rules of the Association are on the noticeboard in reception (to the left as you enter the front door) and the AGM is held in February.

Committee

President - The President is the figurehead of the Club. He represents the club at various events through the season. He chairs the committee meetings and is available to help anyone who asks.

Captain - He is on the selection committee and captains all matches and friendlies including some mixed matches. He is responsible for the team sheets and has to check everyone has ticked their names off the day before a match. He sits down with opposition captain to fill out scorecards and allocate rinks. He welcomes the opposite team at home games prior to start of match. He also has to keep records which show who played and who won.

Vice-Captain - He captains the 'B' Team matches (when we field one) and covers matches the captain is unable to. He is also on the selection committee. When captaining matches, he does what the captain does (above).

Secretary - He takes minutes at committee meetings, keeps records of members, and keeps application forms for new members. He deals with all correspondence and emails from SBA and deals with all correspondence with other clubs etc.

Treasurer - He deals with everything financial.

Fixture Secretary – He arranges the seasons' matches with other clubs, liaises with Portishead Ladies fixture secretary regarding mixed games. He attends a pre-season meeting with the three other fixture secretaries to make sure the greens are allocated for the matches etc.

Competition secretary – after the pre-season meeting, he compiles a list of competitions and those taking part in each competition. With another member of the Committee, he carries out the draw and writes up competition sheets, which should be available by the beginning of May. He keeps the score cards and marks up the results.

The Mixed Pairs Competition is organised with the Ladies Competition Secretary.

Finals Day is run jointly with the Ladies Competition Secretary.

Club Competitions (see sheet on Information page) - All competition matches have to be arranged between competitors and played by the date shown on the competition sheets.

All Finals are played on the joint Finals Day with Portishead Ladies Bowling Club.