



HAMPTON BOWLING CLUB



www.hamptonbowlingclub.co.uk

NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2025

Dates For Your Diary:

Sat 30 th Aug	-----	14:30 Byfleet (away)
Sun 31 st Aug	-----	14:30 Stanwell (away)
Tue 2 nd Sep	-----	14:30 Staines (away)
Thu 4 th Sep	-----	14:30 Bishop Duppas (home)
Sat 6 th Sep	-----	14:30 Ladies v Gents (home)
Sun 7 th Sep	-----	(R & B Finals)
Tue 9 th Sep	-----	14:30 Staines (home)
Fri 12 th Sep	-----	10:00 Pre-Finals Day
Sat 13 th Sep	-----	10:00 Finals Day 1
Sun 14 th Sep	-----	10:00 Finals Day 2
Mon 15 th Sep	-----	10:00 Post-Finals Day

A complete list of dates/fixtures can be found on the Club's Web site -
<http://www.hamptonbowlingclub.co.uk/MatchDiary.html>

London Welsh Friendly



London Welsh Bowls Dragon

A friendly mid-week fixture on Wednesday 13th August saw Hampton BC hosting London Welsh for the first time.

Under threatening skies, play was occasionally punctuated by thunderclaps and lightning flashes. Eventually a sharp shower took the players off the green for ten minutes. Upon resumption, a decision was taken to end the games after 15 ends. The result was

a win to Hampton BC by 55-44 shots. A tasty afternoon tea, which included home-made cakes, was provided by our exceptional catering team and thoroughly relished by the attendees.



Bluewood Cup

The 2025 annual Bluewood Trophy triangular tournament took place at Fordbridge Park on Saturday 16th August, with teams from Hampton, Sunbury and the host club participating. The weather was overcast and unexpectedly cool after the preceding days' mini heat wave. It was a long day - most HBC players completed four 7-end matches. Results were not as good as hoped, and Hampton finished in last place, just behind Fordbridge Park. The winners for the third year in succession were Sunbury.

As has become the norm, the catering was superb – bacon rolls for breakfast, a plated luncheon with dessert and afternoon tea and cakes. Grateful thanks to the hosts for a hugely enjoyable day!

President's Day

Weather gods smiled on Carlisle Park for the annual President's Day contest between teams representing the Club Chairman and Club Captain.

The event was well attended - 26 players took to the green making up 3 triples and a four.

The Club Chairman, Richard Duke's team won the day by 3 rinks to 1, and spectators witnessed some exciting bowls.

As always, the buffet tea was delicious – thanks are due to everyone who contributed food and to Patricia Cavanagh for masterminding the catering.

It was a pleasant surprise to welcome several current, “retired” and injured members including Muriel and Maureen, Margaret, Ian and Jacqui.

South Middlesex Mixed Triples

Updates to this league table have been irregular, but here is the position reported at 20th August. You may be forgiven for thinking that, lying in sixth position, Hampton BC are out of the reckoning for top spot, but closer inspection reveals that, with several games in hand and a healthy total points and shots difference, we are still well placed to overhaul the leaders and retain last season's winners' title.

2025 SOUTH MIDDLESEX B.A. MIXED LEAGUE TABLE														
Team	Matches Played	W	L	D	Match Win Points	Rinks Won	Rinks Lost	Rinks Drawn	Rink Win Points	Default Points	TOTAL POINTS	Shots For	Shots Against	Diff
Fordbridge Park	12	7	5		14	24	23	1	49		63	796	729	67
Sunbury	12	7	5		14	24	22	0	48		62	703	689	14
Stanwell	11	4	7		8	23	20	1	47		55	692	725	-33
Staines	9	6	3		12	21	13	0	42		54	575	499	76
Strawberry Hill	11	4	6	1	9	20	21	3	43		52	702	730	-28
Hampton	8	6	2		12	19	12	1	39		51	575	495	80
Bishop Duppas	9	3	6		6	13	18	3	29		35	486	582	-96
Ashford	14	4	9	1	9	17	26	1	35	-12	32	709	743	-34

Over their last few matches, Hampton's resilience and determination have been demonstrated in spectacular fashion.

On a sweltering afternoon of Sunday 17th August, Hampton faced Ashford away, looking to improve their position in the table. Ashford fielded a number of their stronger players, but Hampton managed to win comfortably by 3 rinks to 1, and with an aggregate shots score of 74-54 boosted their shots difference total by 20.

In the home fixture against leaders Fordbridge Park, the match position after the early ends was looking very gloomy. However, a spirited comeback by our players ultimately delivered a 3-1 rinks win to Hampton.

The following two fixtures, held on successive weekend days, delivered stunning results – at home against Stanwell, a clean sweep in rinks won and shots difference; and a near repeat away to Sunbury, where 3 rinks were won and 1 drawn. Over a single weekend Hampton banked a massive 19 points, probably taking us to first or second position in the league table! Just four matches left to play...

NPL League

There is one match left in our NPL Monday afternoon league programme. The table is as follows:

Cambridge Park 'NPL' League - League Table - as @ 18th August				
Team	For	Against	Points	Shots Diff
Cambridge A	267	151	24	116
Hampton	217	170	17	47
Strawberry Hill	249	167	16	82
Mid-Surrey	195	214	14	-19
Cambridge B	214	199	12	15
Teddington A	171	225	9	-54
Friends of NPL	161	232	8	-71
Teddington B	146	262	4	-116

A win against Teddington A on Monday, 1st September will ensure we stay second.

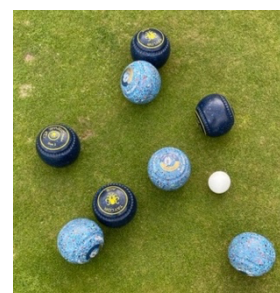
Monday Night Men's Triples

A very creditable 20-12 victory in their final match against Masonian Red was sufficient to relieve Hampton BC from the ignominy of finishing bottom of the table. Although results have been largely disappointing over the season, valuable match experience has been gained by several of the participants.

MONDAY NIGHT TRIPLES LEAGUE TABLE		2025							
After week fourteen		FINAL TABLE							
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	DRAWN	SHOTS FOR	SHOTS AGAINST	SHOTS DIFF	POINTS	
MASONIANS BLUE	14	11	2	1	286	147	139	23	
STANWELL	14	10	4	0	252	178	74	20	
STAINES RED	14	9	5	0	272	203	69	18	
MASONIANS RED	14	7	7	0	221	184	37	14	
STAINES BLUE	13	7	6	0	166	207	-41	14	
BISHOP DUPPAS BLUE	13	5	7	1	188	220	-32	11	
HAMPTON	14	3	11	0	161	293	-132	6	
BISHOP DUPPAS RED	14	2	12	0	138	252	-114	4	
	110	54	54	2	1684	1684	0	110	
OUTSTANDING GAMES		Duppas Blue v Staines Blue							

Good Leads

One semifinal of the 2025 Mixed Pairs club competition delivered a particularly high-quality match, thoroughly appreciated by the handful of spectators watching. Kevin Keown and Christine Pusey were the ultimate winners. Here is just one example, captured before the skips played, of the skill levels shown by Christine and Jules Palmer, who led for each team.



Key Result



In the previous newsletter, there was a reference to the hunt for a club member's missing car key, which fortunately ended in a happy outcome for the owner. To prevent any recurrence, an unknown club member took it upon themselves to install a special personalised key hook just outside the door to the clubhouse. Perhaps a reminder of the perils of storing personal items in those very useful multi-purpose, multi-cavity, multi-pocket bowls bags!



£200 Match Fee

Players selected for a recent match against Ashford were very alarmed to receive the following information in an e-mail:

*Match fee is **£200** and please try to get to Ashford by 14:00.*

This represents a hike of 100X on the normal match fee!

Perhaps, as Alan Tuck suggested, the plan was to serve Beluga caviar, Lobster Thermidor and Veuve Clicquot after the game... Those salivating at the thought were disappointed to be offered only (delicious) Swiss roll. But what can you realistically expect for £2.00??



Turning Point

Earlier this season, two Hampton BC players in the Monday Night Mens' Triples league bumped into each other at Carlisle Park, having dropped by to collect their bowls equipment. One suggested to the other that to save on petrol, they share a car to the venue for their match that evening, the opponents being Ashford Bowls Club.

As the driver exited the Carlisle Park gates, he turned left down Wensleydale Road. His passenger was slightly bemused by this manoeuvre, as the route to Ashford would normally involve making a right turn. Nevertheless, he remained silent for a minute or so, assuming that the driver knew of a quicker route or was bypassing roadworks. Eventually, he could suppress his curiosity no longer, and asked his companion why they appeared to be travelling in the wrong direction for Ashford.

The driver clapped a hand to his forehead and exclaimed "I thought we were playing at Oatlands Park (near Weybridge)!!"



Club Internal Competitions

Despite a few matches overrunning the "play by" dates, we should know most/all of the finalists by the beginning of September. This will allow work to commence on building a timetable showing who plays whom on which finals day and on which rink (ref. Bowls England rules) over the 4 days set aside.

New Mats

The Club has recently purchased a set of new mats. Once the order is fulfilled there will be several old mats surplus to requirements. These will be available to members, who may find them useful for weed suppression in the garden or other purposes.

Committee and Roles for 2025:

President	Chris Squires	020 8979 3700
Chair	Richard Duke	07809 350396
Secretary, WebMaster	Cliff Laking	07802 907661
Treasurer	Maureen Keown	07960 988409
Club Captain	Kevin Keown	07578 159841
Catering Sec.	Pat Cavanagh	07588 355500
Vice-Captain (Men)	Bill Rush	07484 353269
Vice-Captain (Ladies), Internal Competitions Sec.	Katharine Wallace	07748 633734
Fixtures Sec.	David Willis	07765 256540

If you have any proposals or suggestions for the running of your Club please contact any committee member or put a note into the box used for the green fees.

If you see any errors in the newsletter, or if you have any material to include in future issues, please inform the author, **Cliff Laking**.
e-mail: hamptonbowlingclub@outlook.com