

## THE BRAID ESTATE RECREATION GROUNDS NEWSLETTER 2020

### PLEASE NOTE

*The Club Sections were written before the current health crisis. Play at both the bowling and tennis clubs has been suspended until further notice.*

*The BERG AGM scheduled to be held in the Bowling Club Pavilion at 2.00pm on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April has also been cancelled because of the threat of the corona virus.*

Writing on behalf of the Committee of Management of the Braid Estate Recreation Grounds (BERG) can I welcome you to this our annual newsletter. BERG oversees the running of the Braid Tennis and Bowling Clubs on behalf of the house-owners of the original Braid Estate.

On behalf of BERG I would like to congratulate and to thank the respective club committees for the manner in which they have carried out their responsibilities. The clubs are clearly in very good hands and it is very gratifying to see the tennis courts, the bowling green and the Petanque court being used and enjoyed by club members and visitors. There is also a particular 'thank you' to the members of the bowling club's 'hit squad' of volunteers who work so hard to keep the garden areas of the grounds looking so attractive.

In addition to overseeing the successful running of our two clubs, BERG has adopted a revised Rules and Regulations document which brings the procedures of BERG into line with Scottish legislation as regards the ending of feudal superiority. Also for the first time a copy of the new BERG Booklet has been delivered to each household of the Braid Estate. This booklet gives information about BERG together with sections describing the activities of our Bowling and Tennis Clubs. I do hope that you will find this of interest and that you will consider enjoying these local facilities which as you will see have a long and fascinating history. BERG itself is always looking for new members to carry on the responsibility of ensuring that our recreation grounds are there to be enjoyed by future generations of Braid Estate owners. Details of contacts for BERG and our two clubs will be found in the booklet.

Eric Melvin. BERG Chair.

### **Braid Bowling Club**

The 2020 season gets under way in the third week of April, with the Men's Opening Match on Saturday 18 and the Ladies' Opening on Monday 20. From then until the end of September the green will be in use every day of the week – always subject to the weather: heavy and persistent rain can prevent or interrupt play.

From the beginning of May there are informal Mixed Play sessions, starting at 2 o'clock on Sunday afternoons. These give people wondering whether bowls might be a game for them to have an opportunity to step on the green and have a go. Apart from appropriate footwear (which is available at the Club) no special equipment is required. The Club has a range of different sizes of bowls for beginners to try before buying their own.

Throughout the season there are Mixed Play events on Friday evenings from the middle of May to the end of August and on various Saturday afternoons from May to September. Ladies have regular sessions on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, while men play on a Monday evening and Tuesday and Thursday forenoons.

In 2020 the Annual Summer Fair will be held on Saturday 6 June from 10 o'clock to 12 noon. As well as raising funds for the Club, this popular event brings together people from the area, including many who will be receiving this newsletter. Some of the regular attenders know to make a bee-line for the well-stocked cake stall, while others may prefer to try their luck at various games of chance. Club members will be on the green to encourage non-bowlers of all ages to pick a bowl and discover what the game is about. Those who opt for something more restful can buy books. And everyone can enjoy tea or coffee in the Pavilion.

The current annual subscription is £145 but new members enjoy a reduced rate of £50 for their first year. There is also a reduced rate for young people and those on benefits. To receive an Application Form please contact the Honorary Secretary, Peter Graham, [peterg@braidbc.co.uk](mailto:peterg@braidbc.co.uk)

### **Braid Lawn Tennis Club-Newsletter for 2019**

We continue to keep an active and lively membership at Braid with 260 members. We still run 8 teams in the East of Scotland league with significant successes for both men and women. We also ran 6 junior teams from our very vibrant junior section.

Our social tennis sessions run three times a week and are very well attended. Interestingly our Golden Oldies sessions now attract many younger working members as well as pensioners.

The weather this year has proved difficult with so much rain seriously testing the drainage of the courts. Our astro turf surface is coming to the end of its life and the floodlights need upgrading to be more efficient. A subcommittee has been convened to plan the next steps. Watch this space!

The club has moved with the times and you can now join online. This makes it easier for both members and the committee alike. Needless to say it hasn't been a totally smooth transition but worth it in the long run. To find out how to join and what's on at the club simply go to our website.

<https://clubpark.lta.org/BraidLTC>

We would like to thank all the many volunteers who help to keep the tennis club going and also the excellent co-operation from both the Bowling Club and Berg Committee of Management.

**Susie Jackson, Secretary**

[secretarybraidtc@gmail.com](mailto:secretarybraidtc@gmail.com)