



Subscriptions

Please note that subscriptions for the year to 4th October 2025 are due by 31 March.

Details are to be found on the subscription payment sheet accompanying this letter.

New members pay a reduced subscription of £97.50 (50% of Ordinary membership) for the first year. New members applying for membership on or after 1 August in any year shall be entitled to a further reduction of 50% of the rate for new members and for the other categories of membership. This is to encourage people to join.

2025 recruitment campaign: Members recruiting a new ordinary member to the club will be awarded a cash back on their membership of £20 once the new member has registered and paid their ordinary membership fee. There will be no limit to the number of new members you may recruit and hence £20 you can claim. You and the new member need to complete the 'Recruiting Member' section on the Membership Application form.

Pre-Season Coffee Morning

There will be a Coffee Morning on Saturday 5th April from 10.00 am to 11.45 am when it is hoped many members will attend. New members will be particularly welcome when they will have an opportunity to meet the Club Officers and members and "try their hand" on the Green (for prospective new members there are club bowls available for use.) The pétanque court will also be open.

Opening Arrangements

A joint opening day will take place on the 12 of April at 2pm.

Hat Nights

Men's Hat Nights will start on Monday 14th April and will be held every Monday evening until 22nd September, with signing in by 6.40 pm (by 6.25 pm from beginning of August and by 6.10 pm in September). Players of all standards will be made welcome. Each evening a charge of £2.00 per player will be made and cash prizes will be awarded at the end of the season.

Mixed Hat Nights, organised on a similar basis to Mixed Play Days and open to all members, are held on Friday evenings, beginning on 23rd May, and running until 29th August. Signing-in time for Mixed Hat Nights is 6.45pm. (6.25pm. from beginning of August). A rink fee of £4 per person will be made each evening to defray costs and there will be small cash prizes for the "highest-up rink". Those attending Mixed Hat Nights are encouraged to invite guests to join them on Friday evenings to introduce them to Bowls and to some of the members. There will be wine and nibbles in the Pavilion after the game.

Ladies Points Days

This Competition, played on Wednesday afternoons, starts on 16th April and continues throughout the season. Ladies wishing to play must sign in by 1.45 pm. The Ladies' Match Committee looks for good support for this Competition.

Mixed Bounce Games

Note that what was known as the men's bounce games on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 is now open to all members, now referred to as the Tuesday/ Thursday bounce games. Through this move, it is hoped that more members will make use of the green and socialise. Those turning up will distribute themselves as they wish into rinks. Play is normally ~ 1 hour followed by a tea/ coffee break following by play for the remainder of the time available.

Mixed Play Days

Throughout the year a number of mixed play days are identified in the calendar, 3rd May, 21st June, 26th July (Charity play day), and 23rd August. It is hoped that these events will be well supported by members.

Sunday Afternoons Informal Mixed Play

The Sunday afternoon mixed play sessions from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm have proved highly successful in attracting new members and will resume on Sunday 4th May. Members are encouraged to bring along friends and family. Those attending Try Bowls sessions shall be entitled to play on Sunday afternoons free of charge. Play will start at 2 o'clock with Tea/ Coffee will be available after play.

Men's Competitions, League Matches and Friendlies

Men are requested to complete the enclosed sheet showing the Club Competitions they wish to enter and also give an indication of any external Competitions, League Matches and Friendlies in which they are willing to play. This form should be returned to the the Treasurer along with the subscription sheet.



Advance notice is given of the Donaldson Trophy on Saturday 16th August.

Evening League Matches, starting at 6.45 pm, begin in May and members should consult the Notice Board regularly to see whether they are selected for these games, and, if so, should tick their name to confirm their availability. If any member finds he is selected for a game in which he cannot play, it will be appreciated if he informs the Match Secretary as early as possible. It would also be of great help if members willing to play in matches enter dates in the grid when they will not be available. Dates for all League Matches, Seniors' League Matches and Friendlies, etc., where known, will be printed in the Fixtures booklet, but all members should consult the Notice Board regularly for further information.

Ladies' Competitions, League Matches and Friendlies

Ladies are requested to complete the enclosed sheet to give an indication of their interest in participating in external Competitions, Tuesday League and Friendly Games.

Please contact the Match Secretary if you need more information about these events. Members should check the Ladies' Noticeboard regularly to see whether they are selected and if so, should tick their name to confirm their availability. Dates for the external Competitions, League and Friendlies, where known, will be printed in the Fixtures booklet and otherwise will be announced on the Ladies' Noticeboard throughout the season.

Pétanque/ Boules

Members are reminded that the pétanque/ boules area is available for use by members, who may bring guests for £2. A key to the Old Bowls House, where the equipment is held, can be found at the back of the Bowls House.

This year, the club will be running a Pétanque championship playoff, members will be invited to register their interest. A draw will create a playoff and a trophy will be awarded to the winner.

On Sundays the University of the Third Age (u3a) has exclusive access to the Pétanque Court from 2.00 pm to 4.00pm.

Fund Raising: 550 Club and Summer Fair

As income from subscriptions meets only the Club's ordinary running costs, all improvements to the facilities and any extraordinary expenditure have to be financed from the proceeds of the 550 Club, the Summer Fair, winter whist drives, raffles, etc.

The 550 Club will have three draws, in May, July and September, with prizes from £100.00 to £10.00 on each occasion. Draw entries costing £5.00 each are on sale from now until September but those bought prior to the May Draw will participate in all three Draws. Half the total amount invested by members is returned in prizes.

This year's Summer Fair will be held on Saturday 7th June from 2 pm to 4 pm and members are invited to support this event by donating to the various stalls, by selling tickets to their friends, and by helping and/ or attending on the day. The Club Committee urges every member to support these and other fund-raising activities.

Payment for guests

Members are reminded of the requirement to pay for any guests they may invite to play on the Green at the rate of £2 per guest per game. Payments should be put in the box below the telephone and all guests signed in in the Visitors Book.

Security, Grounds access and Pavilion Entrance Door

The gate lock code is unchanged and the code for the Pavilion door is unchanged.

Members are reminded that under Club Rule 9.2.2, members leaving the grounds when the bowling green is not in use shall ensure that the doors of the pavilion are closed and latched and that the entrance gate is closed. Care is also required when members are upstairs or when only a few members are playing. It is essential that members continue to make sure they close the gate behind them.

The Green Booking Arrangements

Use of the Bowler system for booking of rinks continues. Full details are on the Club website. Those wishing to play but unable to access Bowler may turn up to play on the understanding that those who have booked will have priority in the choice of rinks.

Coaching

Joan Ball and Ivor Yule are available for coaching for both new and existing members and should be contacted by any member wishing to have the benefit of their expertise and knowledge.



Open coaching session will restart from Thursday the 2nd of May from 14:00, all are welcome.

Opening up in the morning and setting out rinks

Kathleen Patrick is compiling the rota of members willing to open the clubhouse each morning and set out the rinks. If you are willing to undertake these duties for one or two weeks at a time, please contact her by phoning 0131 445 1516. Training will be given to new volunteers.

Hit Squad

The Hit Squad meets on Monday mornings from 10 - 12. Help would be gratefully received in preparing the Green 'furniture' for opening day, and for keeping areas weed free and tidy during the season. Please feel free to come along at 10am on any Monday, or contact Ron Fenton, Margaret Kilner or Kathleen Patrick.

Security Rota

Each evening throughout the season the pavilion is locked up by volunteers, each of whom is normally responsible for one week's duties, starting on a Monday. However, there are currently a number of vacancies on the rota. Members willing to participate in the locking up of the pavilion are asked to contact the Secretary.

Protection Officer

Braid Bowling Club is and should remain a safe and inclusive environment for all members and visitors, adult or children. In line with Bowls Scotland and Sport Scotland requirements, we now have members who have completed the required training and are nominated Protection Officers acting for the club. If any member has an issue where they consider unsafe or excluding behaviour is present, they can draw this to the attention of a nominated Protection Officer who will then consider what action, if any, is required.

The nominated Protection Officers are, Marion Gillett, Robert Martin and Ivor Yule. You may contact any of these members directly or use the common email address protection@braidbc.co.uk.

Please note that any issues raised will be treated in confidence.

Annual Dinner

The Club's Annual Dinner will take place on Friday 31st October 2025 at Merchants of Edinburgh Golf Club. The Club Committee hopes that you will again turn out in large numbers.

Annual General Meeting of the Club – 2025

Your early attention is drawn to the date and time of this year's Annual General Meeting of the Club which is Sunday 30th November 2025 at 2.30pm.

Please consult the Notice Boards and the Club's website (www.braidbc.co.uk) regularly to ensure that you are fully aware of what is going on and of any special events planned.

Ivor Yule
Club Secretary
secretary@braidbc.co.uk

Sponsors

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