

Braid Bowling Club

Coronavirus Update, July 2020

After successful trialling of a booking system and sanitation procedures, the Green opened for play on Monday 22 June. To date there have been over 110 bookings, with more than 45 members participating. In addition, the petanque terrain has been used both by members of the Bowling Club and by the U3A.

Although the slots on the booking system are for 2 hours, the maximum time players should be at the green is **1 hour 25 minutes**. This includes the time required to disinfect jacks before and after play. Please remember that if you are on Rink 1 you arrive at, say, 12 noon, on Rink 3 at 12.15 and on Rink 5 at 12.30.

There has been no change to Bowls Scotland's requirement that only one player on each rink should handle the jack and that it should be placed rather than being rolled down the rink. And one player (or members of the same household) remains responsible for handling the mat.

Up until now play has been in singles and pairs. Although Bowls Scotland has advised that full rinks and triples are now permitted, the Committee is of the view that it would be difficult to maintain social distancing and accordingly the current arrangements remain in place, with play continuing on alternate rinks. However, in pairs members of up to four households can play together.

The Clubhouse remains closed. Serious consideration has been given to providing access to the toilets, but it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to comply with the current Scottish Government's hygiene measures, which require frequent and thorough cleaning of toilets and various surfaces, with a documented record of checks.

While many are content to enjoy casual play, some members are missing the stimulus afforded by competitions. The Match Secretaries are willing to organise some. However, in the current circumstances these will be limited to pairs and singles. Although the eventual winners will be recognised at a later awards ceremony, these competitions will have no official standing. It is suggested that these be known collectively as "The 2020 Informal Competitions".

Details of informal competitions will be circulated shortly.

While some may wish for a greater easing of restrictions, as a Club our aim must be the well-being of all our members. We would hope that an awareness of the measures now in place to ensure their health and safety will encourage those who have not yet returned to the green to consider doing so.

On behalf of the Club Committee,
Peter Graham, Club Secretary
18 July 2020