

Welcome to Nunthorpe Bowling Club



This note is aimed primarily at new members. But it may also serve as a useful reminder to existing ones.

Governance - the boring bits!

There is a constitution that governs the operation of the club. The Club also has policies for such as Health & Safety, child and adult safeguarding, visitors, accident reporting, GDPR etc. As a new member you will be advised of these and directed to the club website where they are all available. It is a condition of membership that you make yourself familiar with and follow all of them.

Now let's look at how some areas of the club operate.

Membership

If you are reading this you may already have taken the first steps to becoming a member. Once accepted and the subscription fee is paid, you will be given a key to the club house (returnable deposit of £5 required). This will give you access to the equipment store, changing rooms etc. Keys for all areas are hung up in the club house, to the right of the door, and should be returned there. You may play at any time providing, of course, this does not clash with league matches, organised games etc, which take precedence. **Please ensure that if you are the last to leave all equipment is put away and buildings are locked.**

Dress code

The Club's dress code is set out in the club's constitution, or contact the Club Secretary for details. The club has bespoke teamwear, ie shirts, jackets etc. If you wish to play for the club in, for example, leagues and/ or representative matches you are expected to purchase this. The club will provide your first team shirt free of charge when you purchase another item (jacket, track suit etc). Of course, if you are just having a roll-up team clothing is not required. Bowling shoes should always be worn.

Green and rink use

There is a diary in the club house that governs use of the green and rinks. To ensure the rinks are rotated and receive equal wear the diary shows the daily sequence in which the rinks must be used. The only exception to this are the external league matches where the respective captain can choose which rinks to play on.

To reserve a rink for a competition, roll-up etc put your name, who you are playing with, start time and (if relevant) the competition on the relevant day in the diary. Note that you cannot select a rink; they must be used in the order designated for that day. Once you have used a rink place a "tick" in the diary so that others know to use the next in the sequence.

Please note that league matches always take precedence and are not entered in the diary (as they are on regular days and times). Please check league match scheduling below and via the notice boards before reserving a rink.

Green maintenance takes place on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. On these days play is not permitted before 11 am.

Leagues

The Club plays in various leagues. They and when the league plays are shown below. You will find team captain names and photographs on the noticeboard.

Cleveland triples (1 team, mixed)	Monday & Wednesday afternoon
Cleveland rinks (mixed)	Tuesday & Friday evening
NYBL (men)	Monday & Thursday evening
Midweek Triples (mixed)	Wednesday afternoon
Middlesbrough (2 teams, both mixed)	Wednesday evening
Teesside Ladies (ladies)	Thursday afternoon
Vets (4 teams, all mixed)	Friday afternoon

How to show your availability for league games

Around the club house are various notice boards at the top of which is shown the league or topic it covers. On the league boards you will find availability/ fixture sheets where members can put themselves forward for selection. If the club has more than one team in a league (Middlesbrough, Cleveland Triples & Vets) names are pre-entered. If your name is not shown then please contact one of the team captains to advise that you would like to play. For leagues where we only have one team (NYBL, Cleveland Evening, Teesside Ladies & Mid-Week Triples you may add your name to the sheet. Once your name is on a sheet, put a tick (✓) for the dates you can play and cross (X) where you cannot. Captains will take this information, pick the team, and put up a sheet to indicate who will be playing, the opponent, venue and start time. Most Captains work 2 - 4 weeks in advance so it is important to put your availability down as soon as possible.

Once a team sheet is up you need to tick your name to indicate you are still available. If after ticking you become unavailable it is important to tell the relevant Captain. We do not want to be short on the day of the game as points will be deducted. Also, it is Club policy that, if after selection, you do not turn up for a match then you will be automatically excluded from that team's next two games.

The playing philosophy of the club is that in the NYBL and leagues where we have more than one team we will field a strong team. In all other leagues/ teams everyone who puts themselves forward for selection will get a fair number of games (depending on their availability).

In-house competitions and matches

In addition to league matches the club offers the opportunity to play in many in-house games ranging from formal competitions such as the Club Championship, in-formal matches such as the Chairman versus Captain, to fun roll-ups.

For all in-house matches and competitions, a sheet will be put on the notice board giving details to which you should add your name. For the formal competitions a draw will be made and published with dates by which the various rounds should be played. For other games the selection of teams is usually made on-the-day.

The Committee publishes a calendar of events for the season that is widely circulated and is displayed on a notice board and website. Please note though that it is subject to change.

You are encouraged to play in as many in-house games as you can. It's a good way to meet other members, to improve your game and to have fun in a less formal setting than league matches.

Club Committee and contacts

Names, roles and photographs of the Committee are shown on a notice board.

The Committee meet monthly throughout the year with the Club's AGM in October. Minutes of meetings are emailed to members. If you have anything you would like the Committee to consider please pass it to the Secretary or any other Committee member.

The AGM is the forum through which the Committee is elected. Upcoming vacancies are displayed on a noticeboard well in advance of the AGM. Nominees and their proposer and seconder (where relevant) are entered here. In due course, you may like to volunteer for one of these positions.

The club operates a "committee contact list". Each member is allocated to a Committee member as a first point of contact and through which you will be kept informed of certain events at the club.

If you have any suggestions regarding the club and how it is run etc there is a suggestion box in the club house where you can put any feedback, ideas etc. Alternatively, please speak to any Committee member.

Social events

The club has regular quizzes, pie and pea suppers, afternoon teas and BBQs. They are an important source of revenue to the club so your support would be appreciated. In recent years there have also been trips to the races and "dogs", and to bowl in La Manga and Tenerife. Suggestions for future events are welcome.

Club Access and Neighbours

It is extremely important that we maintain good relations with our neighbours. Our right of way is straight down the lane. It does not allow us to drive on neighbours' land or park in front of their properties.

Only cars on Club business are allowed down the lane and we ask that this should only be when there are no matches in progress. Drivers carrying disabled passengers are allowed to transport their passengers down the lane. However, they must remove their cars immediately their passengers have alighted.

Keeping the lane clear is essential to allow access for emergency vehicles.

Vehicles using the lane must be driven at a maximum speed of 5 mph.

Can you help?

For the club to be successful and to continue to operate we need help in a variety of areas. Can you help with green maintenance, cleaning, gardening or social events?

Help is also needed on match days to get out equipment, prepare tea during or after a game etc. If each team puts away their own equipment at the end of a game it shares the load.

Can you help?

It is your club and your help will make a difference.

Finally, we hope you enjoy playing bowls and the social activities the club offers. If you have any comments, questions or concerns please contact any member of the Committee.

Revision & Review			
Date	Version	Action	Who
Mar 2019	V3-2	First published version	LWR/ BD
Feb 2021	V4-1	Review and update	LWR
June 2022	V4-3	Review and update	BM
Jan 2025	V4-4	Review and update	BM