

First, a big thank you to all those members who have completed their questionnaires and returned them to us - we have had returns from just over a third of our membership.

**In order that we can tailor arrangements to fit as many individual member preferences as possible, it is really important that we receive a questionnaire from all members. We appreciate that some of you may not want to bowl.....but it is really important we know that and take it into account in our planning.**

I think it is important to say even now that arrangements for winter season bowling, at least until Christmas, will look different from a usual season. Therefore I've attached the questionnaire and our current thinking on mitigating steps the club will take – if you haven't yet returned the questionnaire please do so and return it to us as soon as possible. If you would rather print the form and return by post the club's address is Austin Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 3PT.

Wherever it is possible for us to do so, we are following the guidance published by our governing body the EIBA. We are noting that the government are slowing down on their relaxation of measures and we will continue to monitor any changes carefully. In last week's message we told you that we were reviewing our ventilation systems with a view to making them compliant with current EIBA guidance. We have received a comprehensive report and the board has approved work to meet all the recommendations within the report. This work will commence in the coming week and should be completed to allow a club opening date in very early September.

I am certainly not an expert in this area but the fresh air supply into a building is measured in litres per second. Previously, guidance for indoor bowls halls was that 12 litres per person per second was considered appropriate. During the pandemic government are recommending a fresh air supply of 20 litres per person per second.

As recommended we have commissioned the installation of a system that will produce 600 litres of fresh air per second. Whilst we are in the pandemic period this will require us to restrict numbers to 30 people in the bowling hall area (600 litres divided by 30 people = 20 litres per person). Once we are able to return to 'normal' bowling then the original requirement of 12 litres per person will allow us to have a full complement of 48 bowlers on the green (48 bowlers x 12 litres = 576 litres). The system is a heat recovery system so the bowling hall will be heated to the appropriate temperature prior to bowling commencing each day and heat will be extracted from stale air going out of the building and applied to fresh air coming into the building. Heaters will be turned on between sessions as necessary to ensure as constant a temperature as possible in the bowling hall.

We are conscious that this is a critical issue for many members in making decisions about bowling and we hope this helps you in making your decisions.

We look forward to receiving many more questionnaires in the next few days – in order that we can put in place arrangements to re-commence bowling at the start of September ***we need your returns by Friday 8 August*** at the latest please.

Thank you for your patience and support – your safety is our top priority when planning for the coming season.