



## **Ormskirk Bowling Club**

### **Key Information Sheet**

You are probably new to bowling so this sheet is just to provide you with some very basic information and answer some probable questions you may have. However, if you would like to speak to anybody please contact Nigel Whitehurst, the Club Secretary, on 07816 817872. Nigel is also one of our coaches who has been at the sessions. You can also contact Ian Gill on 07500 918 081 or by email at [iangilly66@gmail.com](mailto:iangilly66@gmail.com). Ian is the Club Coach & Safeguarding Officer.

#### **What do I need to wear**

You can wear any clothing that is comfortable and suitable for the weather conditions. You will need to wear trainers or flat soled shoes (no heels please) and also do not wear open-toed sandals as we are not insured if you injure yourself and you will not be able to play.

#### **Where do I park**

You can park at the rear of the cricket club. Enter off Altys Lane and drive (slowly and carefully) past the cricket pavilion and carry straight on to the grassed area at the back. You will see the bowling greens in front of you and just turn onto the grass to your left and park up. Our entrance is at the side of our wooden pavilion, which you will see the back of.

#### **Do I have to join straight away?**

No. We realise that you may not want to commit to joining the club straight away and you will want to take part in all our 'Bowl for Fun' sessions before making a decision. Once you have decided you really enjoy bowls and want to join we would love to have you and there are details below on how to join.

### **How much is it to Join?**

For 2026/27 (until 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026) it is normally £60 for adults, however we are doing a discount for those who have attended the 'Bowl for Fun' beginners sessions down to **£30**. Membership allows entry to the club to play whenever you want and use of the Club's equipment if you have no bowls to play with. There is almost always free space on at least one of the greens and you can see when matches are on by looking at the calendar on our website. Membership lasts from 1<sup>st</sup> April – 31<sup>st</sup> March. There are discounts available for families.

### **How do I join?**

Just complete the online form which can be found in the 'Join' section of our website and you will also find instructions there to do a bank transfer of the membership fee to the club. Just tick the £60 Full Membership option and put in the comments box that you are a Bowl for Fun participant.

### **Can I just socially bowl?**

Yes, in addition to the Thurs evening session there are social bowling sessions on Monday and Friday afternoons (1-3pm) and there are often members down at the green most mornings 11ish who would be happy to give you a game.

### **What is the situation with playing competitively?**

Leagues run on different nights of the week and we have teams ranging from quite a good standard through to beginners teams. We also have teams entered in the Aughton Senior Citizens League (55+) and the Bootle Vets League (55+) who play on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons respectively.

In order to play in a league team the club will need to register you with the British Crown Green Bowling Association. This costs £20 currently and lasts for life.

If enough people are interested then we may start up a further team next year.

### **If I am not sure about anything, what do I do?**

Just contact any member of the committee – Ian & Nigel's details are on this sheet. Don't worry about anything, we want to be as open and accessible to new members as possible and we have attracted a large number of beginners over the last few years.

### **Are there many social activities?**

We are trying to develop more social activities, outside of bowling itself, for our members, and we have held successful bingo, horse racing and quiz nights. However, if you yourself would like to help at organising anything please let us know!

### **I am not very good, can I get coaching support?**

Yes, you will get coaching at our Thursday evening sessions and if you would like any extra help just ask Ian Gill. Don't worry though, everyone improves with practice. As with anything it just takes time, it will take a little while before you are landing your bowls right by the jack. Bowls is easy to learn but takes a lifetime to master, so you are best starting playing as soon as you can!!

### **Are children & students welcome?**

They certainly are. The Club runs sessions for 7-16 year olds on Thursdays between 6pm and 7pm. We also like to organise games with other clubs and we also have several of our young players who have played for the District team and Lancashire. We also have a very young team playing on a Wednesday evening on one of the leagues and they are always looking for new players.

### **Key Contacts**

Nigel Whitehurst (Secretary) – 07816 817872

Ian Gill (Coach & Safeguarding) – 07500 918 081