



Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls Club Ltd

Name of main contact person

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Main activity

Community Amateur Sports Club offering 8 indoor Rinks for Indoor Bowls. We are situated at the Hollybush Recreational area in a purpose-built building with ample free parking including disabled bays. We have good, ramped access with disabled access to playing rinks. We also have a specialist wheelchair if required. Our facilities are good, ramped/air conditioning with lounge/bar, kitchen/dining area, changing/locker rooms and meeting rooms that are available for hire.

Who is welcome or qualified to join?

Beginners
Experienced
Under 18's
Over 55's

What is the route for a new starter?

Free taster session
Open day event
Introductory course
Buddy/bring a friend
1-1 introduction

How can new members engage and try?

We offer 4 weeks introductory free trial period, with coaching at prearranged sessions including evenings & weekends. Club is normally open Mon/Weds 9am/10pm, Thurs/Fri 9am/9pm, Sat 9am/5pm, Sun 10am/3pm. Rinks need to be booked at reception as availability depends on Internal Leagues/Competitions and Matches against other Clubs.

Costs

Free for the 4-week trial period. Thereafter the annual fee is £110 per annum pro-rata as membership year runs Oct/Sept. Rink usage fee £2/hour. [Normal playing session is £5 for 2.5 hours.] We are considering 6 monthly membership & a reduction for juniors.

If you offer support for low income families please give an outline

No arrangement at present, but it is something we would always consider if requested.

We offer...

Free coaching for first 4 weeks. "Roll ups" where new members are encouraged to come and join in and learn the finer points of bowling with a friendly group of members of varying degrees of experience. These are sociable sessions with a drink break and a chance to have a drink & socialise after. New members can progress by entering Internal Leagues, Knockout Competitions and Matches against other Clubs. Experienced Bowlers also take part in County & National Competitions.

What do new members need to bring?

Themselves! We have a dress code for members but no specific requirements for prospective joiners in the trial period. Outside shoes not to be used on rink carpet but overcovers provided or play in stocking feet. Bowls provided by Club. Members require Flat shoes [£30/70], white polar shirt, grey/black trousers/shorts, which are available from many of the large retailers. We do have a specialist Bowls Wear supplier who brings a "Pop-up" shop to the Club several times a year. Club shirts are available from the Club c.£20.

What do new members gain in the first 8-12 weeks

Learn basics safely
Confidence
Improvement in fitness/conditioning
Improvement in mobility/balance

Improvement in memory
New friends
New skills
A pathway to joining a team
Family friendly activities

What is you club trying to achieve?

A gain in beginner participation
Supporting local health & wellbeing
Increased participation by girls and women
Expansion of inclusive/adaptive participation
Developing youth talent opportunities
Strengthening volunteering/coaching
Keeping costs accessible

Community

We have a large lounge area with seating overlooking the rinks with a Bar and Tea/Coffee/light refreshments available. The lounge serves as space for c.85 persons when the Club holds various social events [Quiz/Race Night/Music]. The adjoining Dining/meeting room is also used for occasional social dinners and meals after regular inter Club matches. The lounge/meeting rooms are also used on a weekly basis by 3 Bridge Clubs, 2 Pilates classes, Slimming World, Parkinsons Group, Monkey Music. We also host 2 groups of young adults with learning difficulties for bowling sessions. The lounge/meeting rooms are available for hire to other outside organisations and have been used in the past for Firm's parties/Birthday parties/Receptions/Wakes etc.

Thoughts and ideas

We continue to explore new ideas to increase our membership and would welcome any help/suggestions to meet this goal. We have been actively looking at social media and other advertising media to gain greater exposure to a wider age group. We are currently looking at attracting local business to have a regular weekly evening social bowling session.