



Inclusion and Accessibility Report – 26th October 2021

Biddenden Bowls Club remains totally committed to providing facilities and support to bowlers of all ages and abilities and to ensuring that the club is accessible and inclusive to all including those with any form of impairment or disability.

Taking the new "Disability Bowls Advisory Guide" 2019 (issued jointly by the Bowls Development Alliance, Disability Bowls England, English Indoor Bowling Association and Coach Bowls) as our framework the club has continued to work towards improving both accessibility and inclusion to meet the needs of our bowlers, both present and future.

See our webpage - <http://www.biddendenbowlsclub.org/community/biddenden-bowls-club-14964/accessibility--inclusion/>

What has happened this year to 30th September 2021?

Blue Badge Parking Facilities - We do not have any reserved Blue Badge Places however we are now able to put up temporary barriers/markers when we are running activities at the green. Those planning to come along to the green to bowl or spectate and who need a reserved place close to the entrance can email/phone us via the contact page so that we can make suitable arrangements. Approved by Biddenden Parish Council.

Further equipment purchased – bowls mate, set of size 0000 bowls and red and blue mats.

Ramp access to the green A purpose built metal ramp is now available if needed for wheelchair or sloped access to the green. Designed and built by Ashley

Dementia Friends – Registered as a Dementia Friends Organisation. Members were encouraged to take part in the initiative and become dementia friends. 11 have currently taken part and a follow up will be sent out in Autumn 2021.

Participation in Sports Route Coaching Summer School – 60 plus children enjoyed bowls at the green over 11 sessions in July/August 2021.

Juniors – Ran 5 junior coaching sessions which were attended by 7 different juniors aged 6 to 15. Had our first junior member



Inclusion – bowlers at the green in 2021 aged from 3 to 90 and included: bowlers with new hips; bowlers preparing for new knees; our first regular bowler using a bowling arm and many others with disabilities or impairments (whether short or long term.) All were welcome and supported to take part in and enjoy the game of bowls.



The club is now affiliated to this organisation



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So, what has happened in recent years



Step Access to the green.



Membership form now includes key information to support work towards inclusion and accessibility

Path from the car park to the green



From this to this!!



Accessible Toilet

New toilet block including an accessible toilet with ramp access and proper fittings for use by bowlers and visitors with a disability or impairment. Officially opened April 2020.



Widen path linking entrance to club house. (2019) Using slabs formally under the old portaloos, the path was widened, a low retaining wall built and 2 areas for benches put in place. (All done without cost to the club through material donations, a gifted bench and the hard labour of volunteers).

Juniors – Participated in Sports Route Coaching Summer School over 4 weeks in Summer 2020

A range of equipment has been purchased for the use of bowlers to help them to participate. Including Bowls lifter, Bowling Arm (medium), UBI Launcher, 4 sets Taylor Ace Junior Bowls - 2 sets

