



Members Survey February 2021

The purpose of the survey was to determine members' satisfaction as well as enabling the club's council to better understand what bowling activities were being enjoyed and to what extent other activities were being suggested.

Club members were invited to participate in an online survey for those with emails and computers, as well as those without who were invited by post with stamped addressed envelopes to send their responses.

This being a members' survey for the benefit of all members it was disappointing that not all members elected to participate. For those members who did respond this analysis has been created by way of the information provided in their responses to the survey and subsequent decisions made by the club council based on what had been learned from the survey.

We do hope that the information contained herein is of interest to you, and that you find the conclusions drawn are consistent with you own experiences.

The club's council is always seeking new ideas from members. Please speak to any of the club council members to share any suggestions you may have.



A little club history

HDIBC was launched in 1973 through the efforts of the then members of Harpenden Bowling club. At this time bowling was very popular both for working and retired people. There were fewer opportunities for free-time activities at that time relative to what is available in 2021.

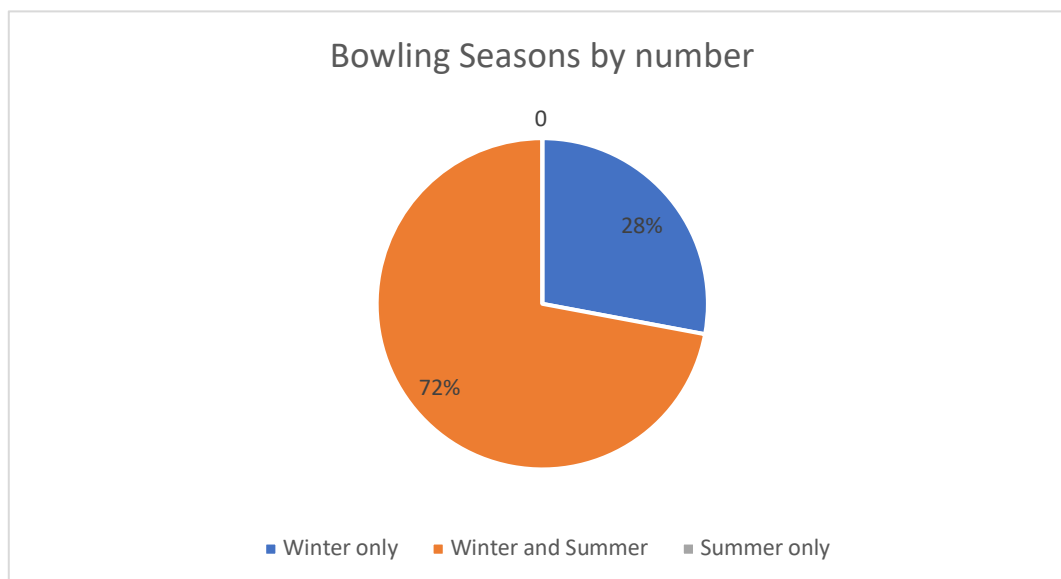
Over the intervening years membership has grown, and sometimes waned, but nevertheless the club has retained a membership close to around 300. It has been recorded that so popular was indoor bowling during the winter season in past years, and with a larger number of members of working age, that the weekday evening leagues had to have two leagues per night to satisfy members' demands.

Over the past few years members' choices of past-time activities have changed as well as fewer members of working age participating in the sport. A fact borne out by the sport's governing body who report that the average age of an indoor bowler has risen for the mid 60's to an average age of 73 years.

The foregoing is by way of putting into context the findings of the survey whilst at the same time guiding the club's future direction.

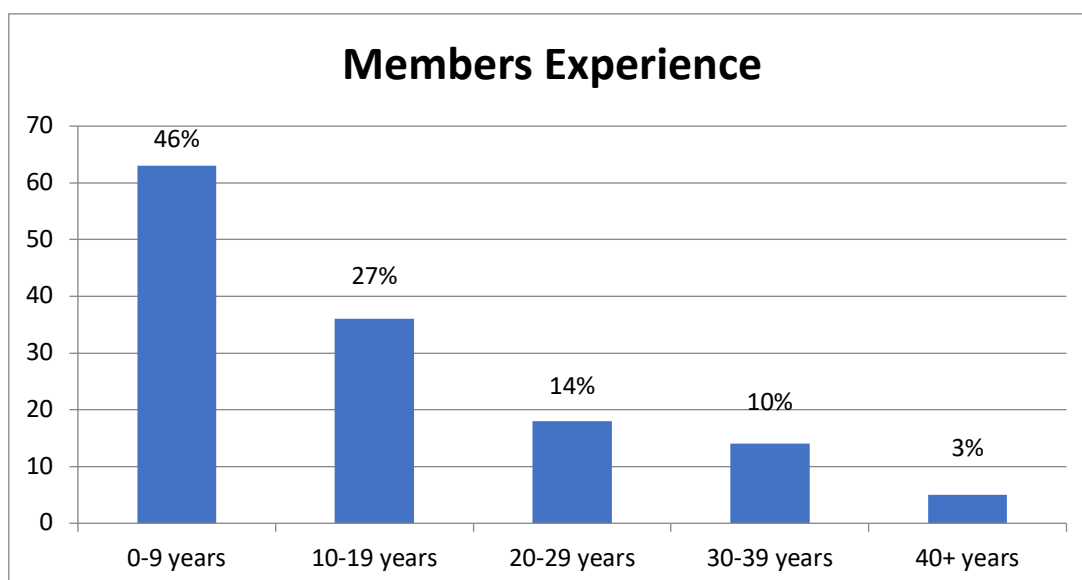


Bowling By Season



The club is truly an indoor club with 72% of its members electing to play in both the winter and summer seasons with just 28% of members electing to play during the winter season only.

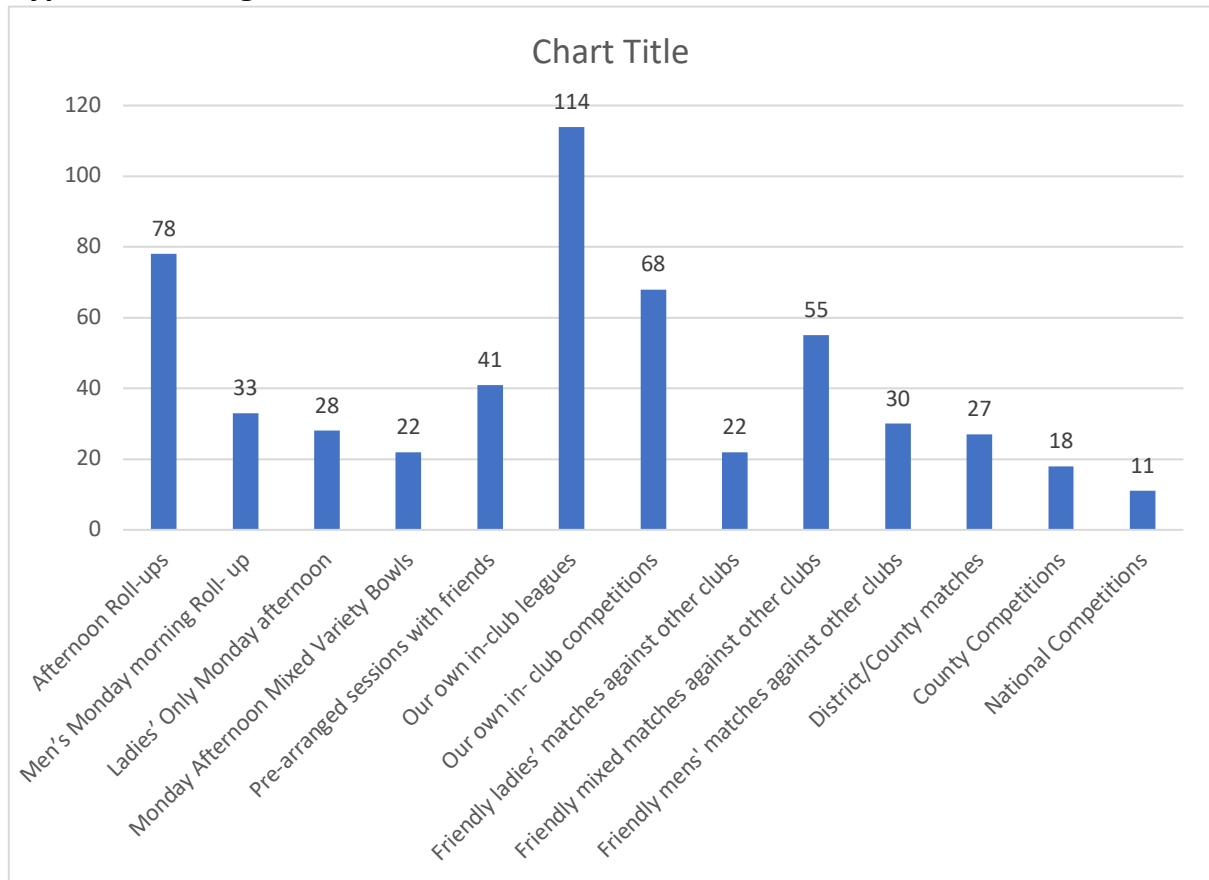
Members years of bowling experience



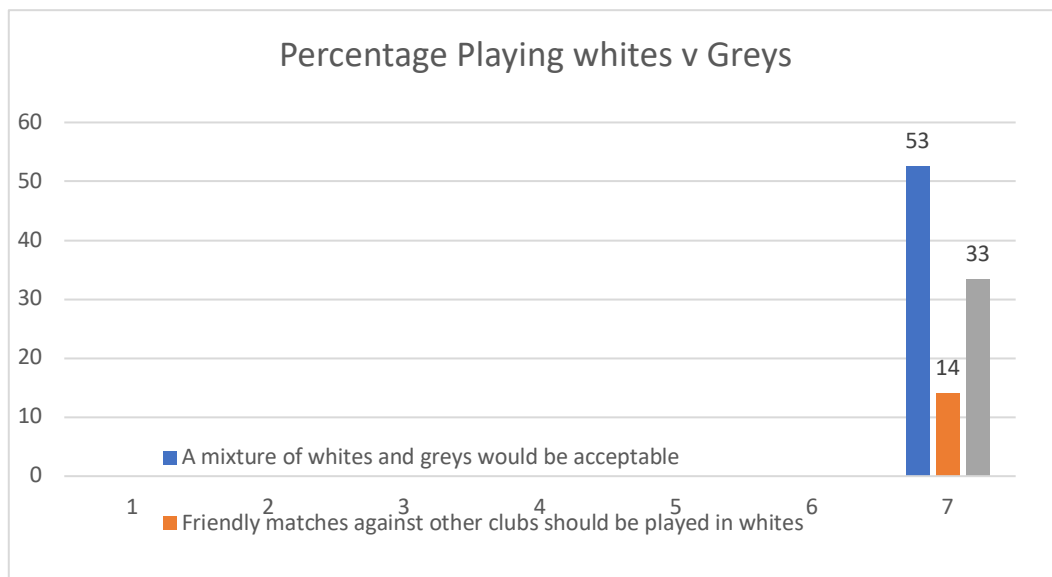
This shows how 'young' the club's members are in years of bowling experience. This may be due to newer members joining the club just before, or at the time of, full-time retirement.



Type of bowling activities club members bowl in



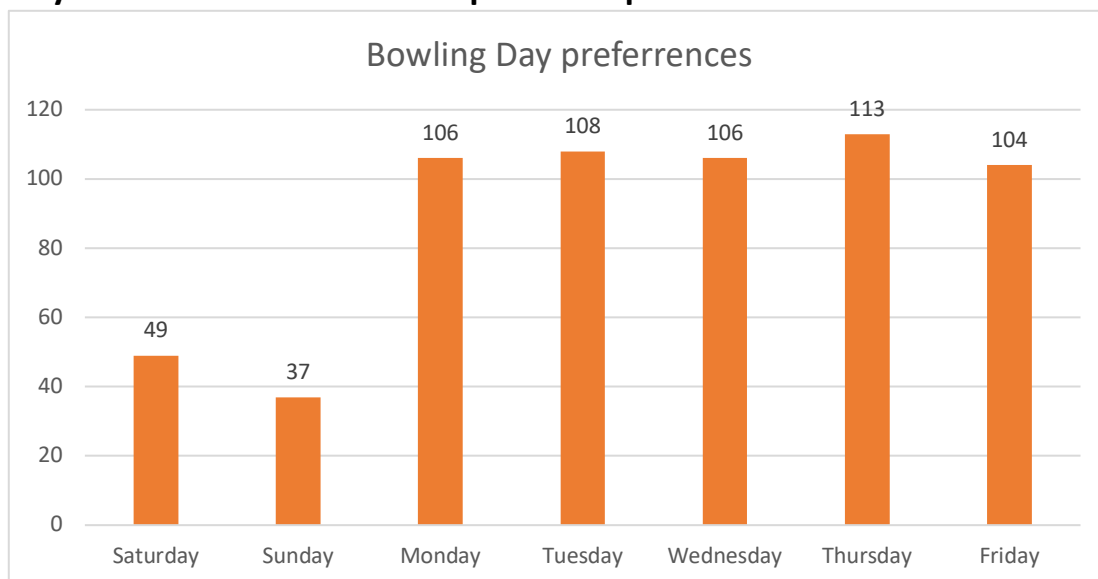
Members clothing preferences for inter-club matches



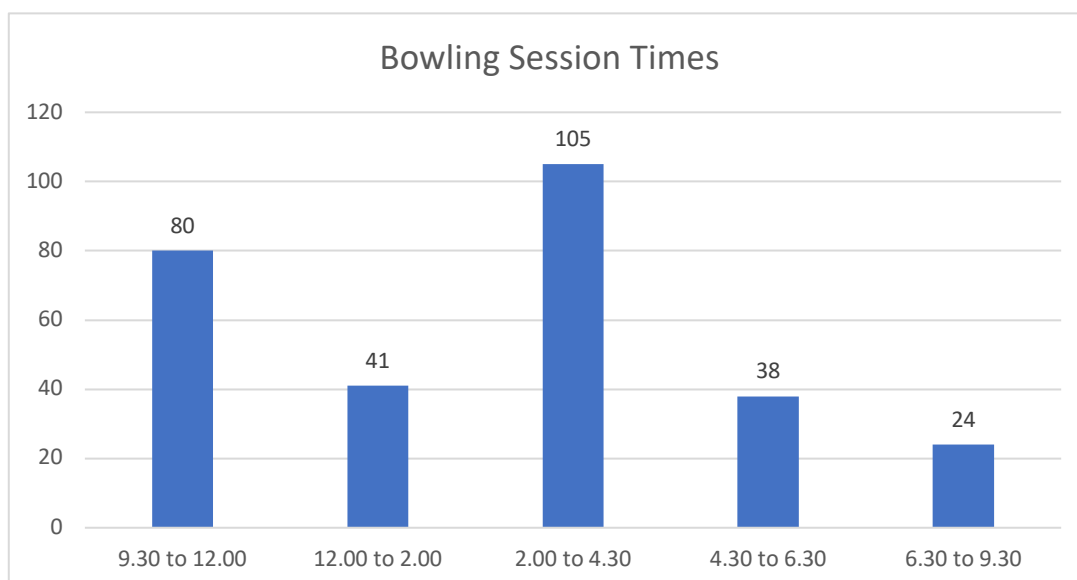
98% of members preferred grey trousers to be worn in these matches. Based upon this response the club council voted in favour of informing our future match opponents that HDIBC prefer to play in greys unless the opponent preference was for whites. All competition finalists will play in whites.



Days of the week in which respondents prefer to bowl



Bowling Session times during which respondents prefer to play



It shows how popular the 9:30 to 12:00 morning leagues as are also the 2:00pm to 4:30pm roll-us. The 6:30pm to 9:30pm session is the least popular.

It needs to be reported here that many of the lady members are reluctant to venture out on dark winter nights, and that a number of members of both sexes indicate that they prefer not to drive on dark winter nights



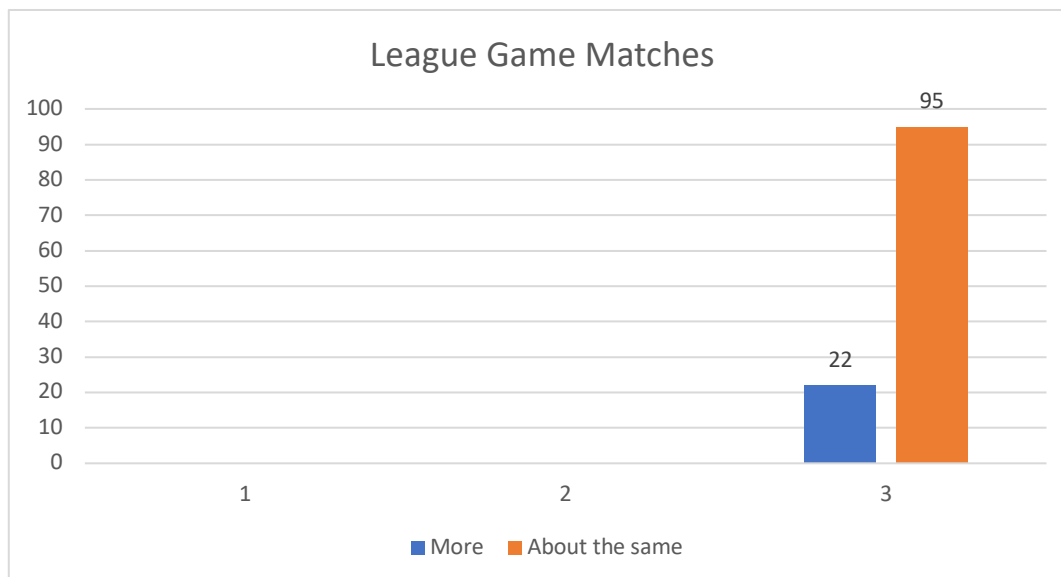
Another important factor is that of travelling distance from members' homes to the club. HDIBC covers Harpenden and District, with the district encompassing quite a wide geography of Hertfordshire and beyond.

You will find below a map of Hertfordshire and surrounding districts. The red circles indicate where members addresses are. With an ageing membership it is somewhat understandable as to the feedback received.

Members' Geographical Coverage

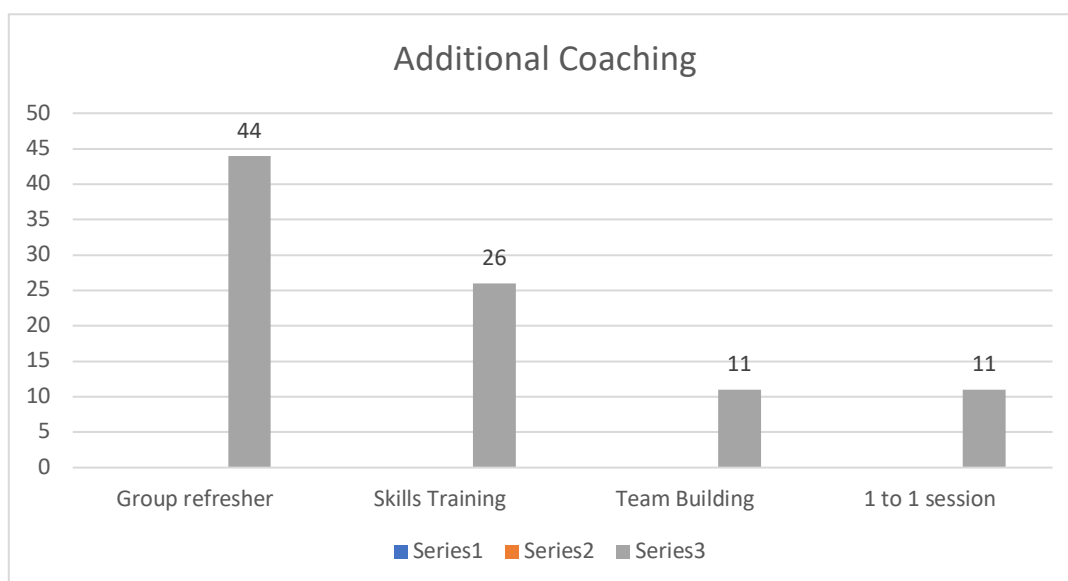


The question asked whether members required more club league matches



This graph shows that the respondents are happy with the current number

Additional Coaching



This shows the number of respondents requesting additional coaching. Based upon these findings the club's head coach and coaching colleagues have prepared a proposed 'Timeline' to facilitate these needs.

The timeline is currently under review and will be confirmed in due course



Members were asked to indicate whether they had previously been a member of a team.

- Due to the nature of the responses this analysis is based upon the winter day leagues. 75.8% of the respondents said that they had been a member of a team, 24.2% they had not.
- Fourteen respondents said that they had been team leaders and would continue to do so.
- Several members could not remember who their team leader was.
- Fourteen respondents agreed to become additional team leaders.
- 5 of the current 19 day- league organisers did not return the survey
- The day league secretary has now identified 20 day- league organisers.

Club Social Activities

- Respondents were generally happy with the regular social activities, and a few requested more if possible.
- An online coffee morning via the Zoom platform during Covid 19 lockdown was suggested by a number of respondents. At the time of writing no member with the necessary skills has been identified to facilitate this.
- A book library exchange has been suggested and is being planned for the near future organised by Avril Herbert.
- Members' walking groups were requested to re-start with the lifting of Covid 19 restrictions. Walk leaders will be re-starting these groups in the near future.

EIBA National Competitions

These excellent competitions are open to **ALL** members. Details can be found on the following EIBA link <http://www.eiba.co.uk/> where you will find details and competition entry forms.

