If you are already an experienced bowler and would like to join our Club, please see ‘BECOMING A MEMBER’ below. However, if this is your first time at bowling and would like to have another go, please book your FREE 4 x 2 HOUR COACHING SESSIONS before you go with our Club Coach – Janet Ballard – tel: 02380899002.

**BECOMING A MEMBER**

If you already know that you would like to join our Bowls Club:

* Waterside Bowling Club membership: Please ensure we have your details and Dave Rowan, our Membership Representative will contact you very shortly to arrange an induction. You will also be asked to complete an application form. A yearly subscription is payable which is currently £75 for new bowlers. There are no extra costs and you can come up to the green and play at any time. However, if you play in club games, leagues, fun days, etc there is a small cost for these activities.
* Once you have joined, you will receive a ***Fixture Card*** which details our events throughout the season.
* Also please read our “***Club Information” page on our website*** at: [www.watersidebowls.co.uk](http://www.watersidebowls.co.uk), where you will find information on our social events, dress code, bowls etiquette and competitions. Also updates of activities and club news throughout the season. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact Janet Ballard – Club Coach, who will print you out a hard copy.

**OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION**

* We understand how difficult it can be joining a new club, especially if you are not joining with a partner and do not know anyone. Therefore try to join in with our Friday afternoon bowls drives - 1.30 for 2.00 pm start (excluding the first Friday of each month when we have a fish & chip supper), club day competitions and any social bowling events we run throughout the season.
* When you join you will be given the code to the padlock on the gate, although the gate may well be open when you arrive. You can use any of the bowls equipment but please remember to place all items back where they came from.
* If you would like any coaching, contact one of the club coaches (see Fixture Card) who will be more than happy to help you.
* If you would like to be considered for selection in the various District leagues this year, please contact the Club or Ladies Captain for a chat.
* If you are a new bowler you can continue to use the club bowls but eventually you will need your own set and if would like advice on purchasing woods, shoes, etc please ask your club coaches who will be able to help you. Second hand woods can be purchased from the ‘For Sale’ section in local newspapers or through various internet sites, also keep your eye on our notice board You should be able to pick up a set for around £30 - £70 depending on their condition. New bowls can be purchased from most good sports shops or most of us use on-line shops including: [www.bowlsdirect.com](http://www.bowlsdirect.com). New bowls can cost between £170 - £240 depending on the make and colour but they should last you a life time so it is important to select the right ones for you. There is a vast difference in the various styles and make of bowls and no doubt you will hear many different theories on which ones are the best. Please remember that the ‘best’ type of bowl is the one you feel comfortable with.
* You will also need grey trousers (and/or crops / skirt for ladies), white top and bowls shoes. Eventually, if you play in friendly games and leagues you will also need white trousers (and/or crops / skirt for ladies) and a club shirt (which is £5 for the first one then £15 for additional purchases).
* The outdoor bowls season runs from April to the end of September. However, Waterside also has a short mat bowls section, so you can continue this wonderful game throughout the winter months. Visit our website for more information or look at the main club notice board for contact names.
* If you need any further information please contact Dave Rowan 02380 243416 or Janet Ballard 02380 899002 who will be more than happy to help you.

☺ Play Bowls – the Sport for All ☺