



OLD BLEACH BOWLING CLUB

7 NEILLSBROOK ROAD, RANDALSTOWN, BT41 3AE

WWW.OLDBLEACHBOWLINGCLUB.CO.UK



DATE OF FORMATION: 29TH SEPTEMBER 1949

AFFILIATION TO IBA/PGL: 5TH NOVEMBER 1949

DETAILS OF FORMATION:

On 29th September 1949 a meeting was held at Neillsbrook of all those interested in bowling and on the proposal of Mr R. McCall, seconded by Mr J. Montgomery, a club to be known as the Old Bleach Social and Athletic Club Bowling Section was formed and the meeting proceeded to elect the Office Bearers. The official opening of the green took place on 22nd April 1950 performed by IBA President Mr. Thompson Ross (Ballynafeigh) with Mr, James Cummings (Forth River) representing the PGL. At the first AGM on 30th November 1950 Mr. A Speedie expressed the thanks of all the players to the ladies who had so kindly given of their time to arrange and serve various teas. In doing so he anticipated the sentiments of club members to this very day and ensuring that we as bowlers and friends can enjoy socialising over a meal at the end of the game.

HIGHLIGHTS IN OUR CLUB'S HISTORY:

1. Team Honours—after several attempts the club's first ever Irish Cup victories first in the IBA Junior Cup in 2004, then the IBA Senior Cup in 2014. The PGL Junior Cup in 2000 and PGL Senior Cup in 2011.
2. Individuals— The first PGL president W.T. Hill; the first IBA president, Billy Patton; Sam Wylie selected as the club's first International player. The BIBC Championship winning rink of 2001 and four international players selected from the club in the same year as Tom McIlvenna's year as IBA President
3. Representatives and medal winners at every Commonwealth Games (with the exception of Delhi) since 1998; World Bowls representatives and medal winners since 2000 and a World Cup Gold and Silver Medallist in 2011, 2012.

We currently have no online link to a history of the club but have a published history for our 50th Anniversary 1949-1999. We would be keen to see a broad history of the PGL, lots of profiles of longstanding members, players who have excelled and an outside prospective of the PGL.

How do the other associations and governing body view the PGL. Please do not regurgitate the 'BLUE BOOK' just for the sake of information and last lots of photos especially for the bygone years (if there still are any available of course).

