

Norfolk Bowling Club Newsletter

Shining a spotlight on

Carole Slaughter



Tell us a little about yourself – your background, are you from Norfolk? Your occupation past or present. Your family? Do you have other hobbies and interests outside bowls?

I was born in Norwich and brought up in Hellesdon. I am now retired but very busy! I was Marketing and Events manager at Jarrolds for 15 years and as a 'wind down' to retirement I worked as Head of Fundraising and Marketing for the Big C Cancer charity – a bit of a challenge during Covid! As well as my roles at Norfolk BC, I am outdoor captain of Hethersett Social Bowls club. I spend a lot of time with my 2 ½ year old grandson. I am also on the organising committee of LILAC (Ladies in League Against Cancer) as well as a volunteer for Big C Cancer Charity.

When did you first begin playing bowls?

I think around 2008 at Costessey Private outdoor club

What attracted you to the sport of bowls?

I watched my husband, John, play while our children were small and then, for many years, I was my daughter Jenna's taxi service to all the junior games, competitions and county games that she played in. I never had time to play myself. I started playing one evening when they were a player short – I figured all my years watching must have given me some idea – it just went on from there.

How long have you been a member at NBC?

Since 2010

What do you enjoy about bowling?

Bowling helped me to wind down from my busy work life – I soon found you need to concentrate and not think about anything else when you're playing. I enjoy the competitiveness of the game, the team play and the many friends I have made.

Which leagues and competitions have you played in?

There are many! - Indoor - most of the evening leagues – Ladies A & B team in county league, county friendlies. Various competitions including Yetton, Yetton Plate, Vivienne and Mason

What are your highest achievements?

Finalist in the Vivienne trophy with the B team, part of the Yetton A team and winning Yetton Plate 2026. I've also won a couple of club comps over the years including, indoor ladies' pairs and outdoor ladies' singles and pairs. 2026 Outdoor County Over 55 fours winners and qualified for National Finals at Leamington.

Have you volunteered for any roles or positions at NBC? If so, which and for how long?

Ladies B team captain 3 years

Club Secretary and Management team 4+ years

On committees for both social events and communications 2 years

What are your happiest memories/proudest moments from bowling?

Watching my daughter (Jenna) play and being there for her achievements.

What major changes have you seen over the years?

- All the internal indoor leagues becoming open.
- New games introduced including Aussie Pairs and sets play leagues.
- The closure of the top outdoor green.
- 100 years celebration for the outdoor club.
- Sadly, a downturn in the number of members particularly after Covid.
- The loss of the junior section.
- The re-introduction of the coaching team for beginners and the introduction of the development league.

Tell us about an amusing incident at NBC

The funniest thing I've ever seen was at a Nottingham National final. Our team had won the Yetton trophy and Elsie, a lovely lady who many will know, was so excited that she dropped the trophy; lid, base and trophy went flying in all directions!

What tips would you give to players who are just starting out on their bowling journey?

Don't give up. It's a great game but more difficult than it looks. If you want to progress then take every opportunity you can to play with or against more experienced players. Don't worry about losing – everyone loses. Enjoy the games whatever the result. Either socially or competitively, indoor, outdoor or both, it's a game for all ages and abilities.

Finally....

Between the management team, captains, volunteers and players we are trying to make inroads into moving the club forward, but we do need to see more members taking on active roles to ensure that we can survive and are a club that both new and established players want to join. Please do consider volunteering your help and be a part of taking the club forward.

Many thanks to Carole for sharing her thoughts and memories.

Scroll down for some photos of Carole's bowling history



Carole on back row 4th from right when captain of the B Team,
Division 1 Champions



Yetton Plate Champions 2026
Carole front row, 3rd from left with daughter, Jenna, standing behind



Celebrating 100 years of NBC

