



IPSWICH & SUFFOLK CLUB

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Dear Member,

Not long now before we re-open and that includes the loos!

This has been an extraordinary journey for us all and we are now reaching a point where we can get back to some kind of normality!

Our recent Board Meeting was held in the Adam Room rather than by digital means. Following the meeting Robert took us on a guided tour around the building to show us the measures he had put in place to ensure the safety of everyone who comes to the club.

He is currently working very hard on the information which will be issued to all members and is in line with the current Government Information to enable us to **re-open on Monday 3rd August** 2020 at 8.00 am - and more importantly to stay open! We all so much want to see you again soon and to welcome you back. The club is now fully cleansed and a system has been marked out for members to return and feel safe.

Allan Williams, our Snooker Captain, is issuing notes to the regular snooker players which will include pre-booking on-line (no more than 4 persons per room at a time). Oh, and don't forget golf matches are being arranged by Golf Captain Allan Gosling for those who would like to be included and take part!

As mentioned previously, from **Monday 3rd August the club will be open again**. Monday through to Saturday 08.00 am to 20.00 pm. Coffee and tea will be available for you to enjoy in the reading room - but you will have to bring your own newspaper! You are also welcome to take your beverage outside if you so wish.

A new relaxed dress code is being considered and this would mean that all members would be asked to adhere to a smart/casual attire. This would now include the "mandatory lockdown tailored shorts" which many of you are currently wearing, for the rest of the summer months. Please note however, that we will not aspire to sports clothes or Lycra. This consideration is something we would very much appreciate your opinion and feedback on.

Moving forward, the team although slightly depleted at this time due to furlough, are currently working on an exciting new menu to tempt your palates and **we also have a restaurant area that is able to cater for current social distancing measures!**

The restaurant will be re-opening for pre-bookings Monday through to Thursday 12.30 pm to 14.00 pm and as per the government guidelines at this time we can comfortably cater for 20 covers – maximum 2 households per table. Please contact Robert in the first instance to

make your booking as he will need to confirm you're booking to guarantee your table and he will be able to explain the situation further. This will also apply to the outside area which can currently cater for 12 covers and this to be under the new soon to be installed "Shade Sails". So no fear "die-hards" come rain or shine we can accommodate you! There will be more information on this and the new menus in due course. The new menu will currently be the same in each area.

Sadly, though, we feel we are not at a stage to be able to arrange any functions for you yet. This is something we are working on and are keenly watching the legislation carefully. In the meantime we would once again encourage any feedback. **Without the need to go into an online questionnaire we would appreciate it if you could contact the club in some way - email, letter or even just a simple phone call to let us know the type of activities/events/functions/foods (menus) you would like us to consider.** We also want your thoughts, in this digital age, about the use of iPad's and tablets in the club, but please be assured we are not currently considering the use of mobile phones which could prove very disruptive for the enjoyment of the facilities for our members.

**.....but, we have more good news for you all! The Board have unanimously agreed that your current membership is to be extended until 31st March 2021! This will enable us to move the renewal date ongoing which will coincide with other establishments. Even further happy news, any unused 2019/2020 vouchers that members may still be in possession of will be valid up to that date!**

Unfortunately happy news is normally followed by sad news. One of our previous Chairman, Standley Gaskin, unexpectedly passed away on 22nd June this year. Stan was an amazing character and will be missed by many. Our thoughts go out to Mary and the rest of the family.

There is such a lot to digest in this shortish newsletter! We would like you all to know and to be rest assured that the Board and the Team are doing all they can to ensure a safe environment for you to come back to. Hopefully this information has wetted your appetite and desire to come back to see us. We now look forward to seeing you all again in a few weeks time!

As ever stay safe everyone.

Keith Ferguson

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