

OBA Men's League

v Bicester

At Burford 17th July 2025

	Burford	shots	points	Bicester	shots	points
R1	S. Gould	21	1	P. Dodman	11	0
R2	J. Lafford	14	0	A. Balshaw	18	1
R3	B. Parker	19	1	A. Wagner	14	0
R4	T. Stacey	28	1	T. Freeman	10	0
	Aggregate		2	Aggregate		0
	TOTAL	82	5	TOTAL	53	1

Last week I reported that the leaders of Div 3 & Div 4 had both won every fixture so far and looked destined for promotion. However, bowls is a funny game and both Carterton B (in Div 3) and West Oxford (in Div 4) lost their matches against Charlbury and Banbury Central B, respectively. This has given the chasing clubs an opportunity to close the gap and the league winners are yet to be determined.

In Division 3, Charlbury had two, single shot advantages to gain a point each, with Dave Cooper's team gaining a win over Roger Oliver's rink, with a 9-shot margin, which contributed greatly to the extra two points for the best score and a 5-1 win away from home. Burford, who were in second place, are within one point now of the leaders, whom they host in two weeks' time in the last game. For Burford, Steve Webb, Roger Hopkins, John Hurren and Tim Stacey achieved a "hot shot" on the fourth end and led 19-1 after 5 ends. However, Terry Freeman's team for Bicester rallied a little and the final score on the rink was 28-10, which won the pens. Steve Gould's team (21-11) and Bob Parker's four (19-14) also added points for a 5-1 win. The third game in Div 3 also saw a turn of fortunes, with Thame getting a rare win against Woodstock (5-1). All rinks were closely contested, but David White and his team-mates made the difference with a 20-11 win against D, Dovan's Woodstock rink. (John Hurren)