

SEPTEMBER COACHES NEWSLETTER by County Coach coordinator Gilly Ainslie

Well what a season for Devon's Bowlers with so many winning and representing Devon at the National Championships at Leamington. What a great county to live and bowl in. This year I spent several days helping/coaching with the BDA meeting lots of bowlers from all over the country. It was the first year that the BDA has had tent at the Nationals manned each day by BDA Tutors and Coaches delivering courses, coaching sessions and advice. From the amount of interest and feedback it was certainly well received. It was also a great showcase for Disability Bowls in August which was a great success, with exhibition matches being played by some of our top disabled commonwealth bowlers. Fantastic to see what can be achieved by these super bowlers. BDA's Working with Disabled Bowlers module caused a lot of interest. This included getting a county bowler back bowling again, after trying different aids. I can report that she is now the proud owner of a bowlers arm and said she now has her life back again. I'm looking forward to next year.

I know a lot of the local clubs have been working hard with open days and recruitment drives. Hot of the Press are some figures for our county. New members 404 recruited by clubs that had applied for funding packages from the BDA. I am sure that there are many more in other clubs around the county who did not apply for funding packages. Let me know if your club recruited new members this year and how you did it, so that we can share the information and get more members into this great sport. Sending in your End of Season Reports would be great to share as well.

With the outdoor season coming to a close, it is time to look at the indoor season. Let me know if your indoor club has any events planned that you want to share.

Plymouth Life centre are holding Junior's day on Sunday 27th Spetember 2015 from 12- 4pm cost £3. Please contact Gilly Ainslie on 01752 770177 or email gillyainslie@gmail.com for juniors wishing to attend. This is a fun day for all juniors and will help them realise that they are not the only young bowlers out there. I know there are lots of clubs with 1 or 2 juniors in the county. Is your club one of them? If so let's encourage them to come along and meet others while having fun bowling. Juniors from 7 yrs upwards are welcome. We have booked all 8 rinks so there should be plenty of room.

BDA Level 2 coaching course still has a few places left, it starts on 4th October at Taunton Deane Indoor Bowls club - funding available. Don't miss this chance to register as this is the nearest and only level 2 course to be held this year so do not miss the opportunity book now! There will also be a new Level 1 course on the 3rd October in Newquay Cornwall

Full details of all courses and available funding are on the Website. www.playbowls.org
Look out for Dates on the BDA website for a Level 1 in either Plymouth or Exeter in the New Year.

In case you have not seen this Important joint statement copied from NGB and BDA for all coaches:

As from 1st January 2016 individuals new to bowls coaching must have a Coach Bowls recognised qualification in order for their training to be recognised by Bowls England and the English Indoor Bowling Association Ltd. No other form of accredited training will be recognised by either body for those **new** to the coaching workforce after the aforementioned date. The Coach Bowls qualifications are in line with the standards laid out by the awarding body 1st4Sport, the Qualifications and Credit Framework and National Occupational Standards. Bowls England and the English Indoor Bowling Association Ltd **will continue to recognise the accreditation of current coaches who may have undertaken coach education through other bodies before 2016.**