

## BOWLS DEVELOPMENT REPORT – JANUARY 2017

2016 was a busy and successful year

The Devon B D A Committee and Active Devon/County Sports Partnership collaborated to provide continuing opportunities for new recruitment within bowls along with other support services for clubs ie Safeguarding and welfare training, Bowls Coach training and working with disability to keep members bowling for longer.

### 'HOT SPOT' targets achieved during 2016

27 Silver and 2 Gold Package applications were completed and gaining a total of 273 new bowlers – 244 over 55+ , 29 between 16-54 years old. This encouraging number is the highest achieved across the County in one year so well done to all the clubs for their commitment and hard work.

1 Disability Package gained 12 new bowlers.

Exonia has submitted a Disability Package application following their partnership links with the Alzheimer's Society in Exeter who will support the activities.

9 Just Bowls events held with 90 participants, 3 further are booked to take place during the Autumn.

1 B D A Level 1 Coaching Course was held in the Spring with 14 participants successfully completing the course. The County now has over 40 qualified B D A coaches to help and support new bowlers.

2 Safeguarding and Welfare training courses took place during the season and thanks must go to Barnstaple B C and Buckfastleigh B C for hosting these sessions.

2 Indoor bowling club packages are being progressed with Kingsley I B C and Exonia I B C , each will aim to increase membership, including Juniors and disabled groups helped by the transition of coaches from the old training system to the new B D A training. Work is on going to encourage more indoor clubs to increase their membership and activities.

An Area Coaches meeting was held at ISCA during the Spring inviting all Coaches working in the County to share 'Hot Spot' targets and updates of all the B D A activities.

Unfortunately no Working with Disability Module was organised as there appears to be a continuing lack of interest by clubs.

### ONGOING DEVELOPMENTS

Coaching - a Level 2 coaching course is planned to commence in January followed by a Level 1 course during March '17.

Consideration will be given to holding another Area Coaches meeting in the Spring.

Susan Cooper and her team are busy working on a new application to Sports England for future funding for bowls. The submission has to be in by 4<sup>th</sup> November for £1.7M – the emphasis this time must be on 'getting people active' - we wish them success as many of our clubs have benefited from the present opportunities.

Thanks must go to our County Administrator Carol for her work in keeping clubs notified of the Devon B D A courses and activities.

Sue Silcox, Development Officer.

