

Bowls Devon News Letter No.21

March 2019

About us:

At the Annual General Meeting we were delighted to see Margaret Jones and Tony Howle installed as Presidents for 2019 with Bob Dowdell and John Abbot installed as Senior Vice President and Junior Vice President respectively. Following the Annual General Meeting we were delighted to learn that Christine Marshall (Crediton Bowling Club) had made herself available for the post of Junior Vice President in 2019. We are still seeking a Ladies Senior Vice President and I would ask all Clubs to encourage their ladies to consider and take up this post in order that we might complete our Presidential team.

We were also delighted to see the first Life Memberships of Bowls Devon being awarded to David Tucker and Carol Horgan in recognition of their services to the County over many years and, in David's case, to Bowls England as a Director.

Sadly, we said goodbye to retiring officers Carol Horgan (County Administrator), Kay Page (Ladies Administrator), Rosemarie Mayne (Assistant Treasurer) and David Butterworth (Men's Administrator). They were duly thanked for their dedication to the County over many years.

Changes approved on the recommendation of the Executive Committee included a split in the duties of the Ladies Administrator. Admin matters will continue to be the responsibility of the Ladies Administrator with a new post of Assistant Ladies Administrator being created with responsibility for Competitions. Ciss Jones was appointed Ladies Administrator and Ruth Rogers Assistant Ladies Administrator.

Other appointments included Harry Riley as County Administrator, Ray Stringer as Assistant Treasurer and Kevin Phillips as Men's Administrator with Paul Debnam being appointed to the new post of Assistant County Administrator.

Sponsorship:

Brooks Financial Planning Limited announced their sponsorship of Bowls Devon with the following release:



Brooks Financial Planning Limited are pleased to announce our sponsorship of Bowls Devon. We look forward to working with the County Association to support the growth of the sport within Devon.

St. James's Place, with whom we are partnered, are sponsors of Bowls England and we are delighted to strengthen the association with this sport at county level.

Here at Brooks Financial Planning our relationship-based service means we put you the client firmly at the centre of everything we do, whilst having the backing of St. James's Place, a FTSE 100 Company. We provide a wide range of services whether you are looking to build, grow, protect or preserve your wealth, including advice on trusts, long-term care and succession planning.

For more information on us and our services please visit our website at www.brooksfinancialplanning.co.uk or call Matthew Tonkin or Adam Brooks on 01392 314652 to make an appointment for an initial financial consultation to discuss your needs and requirements. There is no charge for initial consultations.

We look forward to meeting the members of all the affiliated clubs at the events that we will be supporting over the coming season, details of which you will find in future editions of this newsletter. We are very much looking forward to working with the County and you the members.

Bowls Devon is delighted to welcome our new sponsors.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR):

Prior to GDPR becoming law in May 2018 Club Secretaries were sent a letter giving advice on GDPR with a draft email to be sent to each club member. A second email was sent to Club Secretaries, Section Officers and County Officers to complete the process.

There are two important requirements –

- 1 Personal data of members who have departed must be deleted from any published lists.
- 2 Only bowls-related information or documents should be distributed to members by email or post.

The regulations are really aimed at business organisations, not sports clubs. If everyone has complied with the guidance given nothing now needs to be done this coming season apart from obtaining the same permissions from new members or any new officers.

Affiliation Fees:

The Membership Affiliation date/payment has always been a problem as membership is for a whole year and not the season mid-April to mid-September. The Bowls England membership year **starts on 1 October**. Bowlers need to be affiliated to Bowls England (via their Clubs/Counties) during the closed season to be eligible to enter National Championships/Competitions. As entries are required before 31 January annually by Bowls England, they need to be Members of a Club who have paid County and Bowls England Affiliation Fees on their behalf for that "Bowls England Membership Year".

A database (names only) is maintained by the County Administrator in accordance with the current data protection legislation of all members in each Club as at 1 October. This will be the number used for the payment of affiliation fees. Registration of new members continues throughout the season and the database is updated annually on 1 October. Changes are notified to the County Administrator with any additional fees paid to the County Treasurer.

Loans to Clubs

Should your Club be thinking of a capital expenditure the County has interest free loans available up to maximum of £10,000 repayable over 5 years, the only cost being an administration fee of £25 per £1000 borrowed. Full details can be obtained from the Assistant Treasurer, Ray Stringer at raystringer59@gmail.com

Investments

The Treasurer has at last found an investment suitable for Associations and Clubs. Hampshire Trust Bank are offering either a 1 year (1.55% interest) or 2 year (1.75% interest) Business Bond. Details can be found on the internet [www.Hampshire Trust Bank](http://www.HampshireTrustBank.com) or Telephone 020 7862 6222.

Website

When the website was updated a feature was included whereby Clubs (or Sections) could add a note to their club page, which is under the Club Information panel. To take advantage of this opportunity, details, which could include a photograph of events should be sent to the Website Manager, Bob Smith at bob-smith@blueyonder.co.uk

Another new panel that has been added is **Obituaries**. Clubs are asked to advise the County Administrator of anyone who has passed away and, via the Website Information Coordinator, information will be added as appropriate.

Tournament Licences

Dates of tournaments confirmed for this coming season are shown on the website along with details of the organiser. If your club intends to organise a tournament this year and has not yet applied for a licence, an application form and other necessary information are on the website.

Commonwealth Games and National Championships in 2022

It is expected that the dates for the National Championships in 2022 will not follow the current week numbers due to the Commonwealth Games being held during July and subsequent availability of Victoria Park, Royal Leamington Spa, following the conclusion of the Games. Details will be circulated as and when they are received.

International Teams

We are delighted that Devon continues to be recognised at International level. The BIBC International Series to be played in Ayr in June 2019 will see Harry Goodwin receive his first cap at senior level.

Sam Tolchard, Ian Lesley, Louis Ridout, Lee Haywood, Rob Paxton and Ollie Lucas complete the Devon representatives.

Prior to the BIBC Series, in May 2019, is the Atlantic Championships in Cardiff. Again, the County is represented with Natalie Chestney competing in the Women's Singles and Pairs and Ian Lesley and Sam Tolchard in the Men's Triples and Fours.

Bowls Development Alliance (BDA)

In January 2019 the BDA announced an exciting new partnership with the National Federation of Women's Institute (NFWI). The partners will be working together across the country to provide opportunities for WI members to get involved in the sport of bowls. This project is part of the national WOMEN CAN project which aims to encourage more women to play bowls, coach bowls and volunteer in Bowls.

Currently only 39% of the bowling clubs population in England are women and this campaign has been developed to increase that number to 45% by 2021.

Information regarding BDA courses in the County can be obtained from Carol Horgan at ca_horgan@tiscali.co.uk

County Luncheon

Please note that the 2019 event will be held on Sunday 3 November at The Langstone Cliff Hotel. Further details will be circulated in due course.

In conclusion may I take this opportunity, on behalf of the Executive Committee, to wish your club and its members a happy and successful season.

Harry Riley
County Administrator