



## June 2021 Newsletter

### Message from the Chairperson

First the sad news, Lee Smith (Development Office North) has decided to move on, and we wish him well for his new venture. Mo and myself with the help of the committee & ambassadors will be looking after he's area of responsibilities.

Now the good news, over the Big Bowls weekend our management team have visited over 55 clubs and our members have been out & about showcasing that bowls is truly a "Sport For All". We will keep you updated on the results over the coming few months.

Well done to everyone who took part in the National Singles Competition, not the best weather for the weekend but the games were played in great spirit and we look forward to seeing them in the next round leading to the final that will take taking place at home of Bowls England at Leamington Spa.

The next round of the Commonwealth games "Team England" selection will take place at Waddeston BC, Aylesbury & we hope some of you will come along and support your teammates.

Finally, the EIBA's 2021-2022 Winter National Finals at Nottingham IBC in April 2022 will feature the finals of the DBE Classified and Unclassified Pairs & Mixed Disability Triples along with the annual North v South Margaret Smith Challenge Shield.

Steve Watson

### Vacancies for:-

Fixture Secretary, Coaches, Fund Raisers, Grant Administrator. Email: [info@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk](mailto:info@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk)

**"BOWLS IS BACK"** With Covid restrictions lifted and the summer season started we are pleased to send a team to play in the first "Friendly Match" of the season against Didcot BC on 13<sup>th</sup> June.

The Team includes:

Colin Wagstaff (Captain), Kris Rose, Jason Page, Thomas Martin, Liam Tucker, Fynn Kyser, Khalila Hussain, Jamie Pugsley, Denise Rolland, Jerry Sanders, Richard Carey, Phil Reddon, Jeanette Maisey, Richard Ball, Stuart Read.

We hope all the players enjoy a wonderful afternoon.

Why not put your name forward to play in a match.

Players needed for the following matches. Open to all playing and volunteer DBE Members:-

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> July -v- Clevedon Prom BC, Somerset.

Thur 22<sup>nd</sup> July -v- Paddock Wood BC, Kent .

Email: [fixtures@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk](mailto:fixtures@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk) for details.

---

### DBE host first ever "LADIES DAY"

Pop into Charlbury Bowls Club on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July to support players competing in the DBE Ladies Pairs Competition. Bring along girls, ladies & women you know to "Try Bowls". DBE want to increase the number of females playing the sport and hope the fun, games and "Tea & Cake will prove to be a hit. See the web site for more details or email [info@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk](mailto:info@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk)

---

### DBE NATIONAL SINGLES

Congratulations to the 8 players progressing from the Regional Play Off's to compete in the National Plays Off's in Leamington Spa in July.

Stephen Stockley, Isaac Shieh, Arthur Redfearn, Kieran Rollings, Jack Pullin, Steve Ireland, Mike Robertson & Mike Diston. See web site for a full report.



Bowls England High Performance star Ed Morris who plays at the Essex County BC raised a fantastic £1600.00 for the DBE Charity on a charity ride during lockdown. If you have a challenge in mind and can raise some funds for the charity, get in touch for DBE to help promote and support you.

### "Whats on" June 2021

6<sup>th</sup>: Visually Impaired Pairs at Basingstoke Town BC

12<sup>th</sup>: DBE/Team England Commonwealth Games Trial

13<sup>th</sup>: Friendly Match at Didcot BC

20<sup>th</sup>: DBE Learning Disability Pairs at Stoke BC, Coventry

20-25<sup>th</sup>: VIBE National Championships at Clarence BC

DBE introduce a new feature

### "CLUB OF THE MONTH"

First club to be featured is the Griffin Bowls Club

"The Griffin Bowls Club, based in Harlow, Essex, has always been very forward thinking, aiming to offer bowls to all the members of our community.

We first gained Club Mark in 2015 which gave us the opportunity to bid for funding to get the equipment we needed to start introducing bowls to the younger generation. We began working with a local school and cub group in 2017

In 2019 we were approached by the local Alzheimer's Society and the Harlow Youth Group who were interested in the possibility of setting up bowling sessions for their members.

We began hosting a Monday afternoon session for people with dementia and a Saturday Club for the Youth Group. The young people who had learning/physical disabilities, ranged in age from 14 - 25 years. The clubs were run by a group of volunteers from our membership, several who are trained coaches. Some of these young bowlers were very good and they were invited to start playing in Griffin friendly matches.

At this time our club was working closely with the Bowls Development Alliance in the Club Development Program. It was our contact with the BDA who recommended we try for the Disability Mark. The club was keen to achieve this as we already had many of the required elements in place.

A working party was set up to work on the Disability Mark alongside reapplying for Club Mark. I am pleased to say we achieved both these accreditations. Club Mark in February 2019, followed by the presentation of Disability Mark and Love Fisher Brown Award in March 2020.

Being successful in obtaining these awards has opened further funding opportunities which has now culminated with us being able to upgrade our club house making it a welcoming venue offering "**Bowls For All**", and we are now looking forward to welcoming these groups back onto the green.



To feature your club, send an email by the 15th of the month telling us about the club and what makes them special. Photo's, stories, interesting facts, along with fun facts about the special people that make it happen.

[info@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk](mailto:info@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk)



**DBE/TEAM ENGLAND Commonwealth games trials** A further trial involving visually impaired and physically disabled players took place in May alongside the Bowls England Squad at the Oxford City & County Bowls Club. Congratulations and good luck to the players who will be put through their paces again on 12<sup>th</sup> June.

B2 Sarah Marshall, B2 Chris Turnbull, B3 Alison Yearling, B3, Darren Moon, B3 Steve Simmons, with Directors Linda Ralphs, Mark Wherry, Sue Wherry, Iain Riach & Chris Venn. B6 Craig Bowler, B6 Steve Bigg, B7 Jonathan Stokes, B7 Steve Ireland, B8 Kieran Rollings, B8 Mike Robertson, B6 Michelle White, B7 Julia Howard, B7 Gill Platt, B8 Jennie Sandford.

DBE supported the Oundle BC Charity Match on 30th May in aid of the RNLI. The 2 triples: Chris Gray, Daniel Adams & Colin Wagstaff Mike Robins, Keith Mason, Ray Gray had a great day. Well done everyone.



Special Edition Face Masks by Ambassador Colin Wagstaff. £5.00 each with £3.00 going to the DBE Charity.

Email Colin to place an order. [Colinwagstaff55@gmail.com](mailto:Colinwagstaff55@gmail.com)