



Message from our Chairman ...

Happy New Year to everyone (again)! What a great start to the year we have had with the Unclassified Singles, High Performance Trials and match against Northamptonshire Indoor Bowls Association, DBE v Rest of the North and Ann Trotman competition all going ahead as planned, it has been great catching up and meeting so many happy members.

We launch our fundraising and 'Bowlers with a Disability' campaigns and these have also gone down well as we build up to the biggest showcase of the year with the EIBA finals, Bowls England finals, Home Nations and Commonwealth games its going to be a busy year!!!

'we are stronger together'

Best Wishes
Steve Watson Chairman

DBE Unclassified Singles 9 January at Gedling IBC

The new year started with the Unclassified Singles, sadly numbers were lower than we had hoped, as a couple of players had to withdraw through ill health.

The remaining eight players played a round robin in two leagues with the winners from each competing in the final.

Maggy Smith MBE and a great band of volunteers organised a well run event and the final between Chris Grey and Colin Wagstaff was played in the right spirit with Chris being the winner this time



DBE Maiden Singles 4 December at Gedling IBC

Early in December Maggy and her team hosted the Maiden singles. The Final was between Colin Wagstaff and Arthur Redfern, it was by all accounts a brilliant game which Arthur won 16 – 15 on a measure.

Putting the *ABILITY* in Dis *ABILITY* Bowls England



Dates for your diary

29 th January	Nomads Shield	Taunton Deane IBC
29 th /30 th January	Ann Trotman Singles	Gedling IBC
5 th February	DBE National Classified Pairs	Solihull IBC
13 th February	DBE Unclassified Pairs	Melton & District IBC
19 th /20 th February	VIBE Indoor Pairs	Nottingham IBC
26 th /27 th February	DBE Classified Singles	Gedling IBC

A GREAT BIG



**TO ALL OUR
WONDERFUL**



Volunteers are at the heart of every thing we do giving up their time for free for the benefit of others and we want them to know we appreciate everything they do for the DBE – you're all marvellous!

Have you renewed your membership?

Early this month you should have received your membership renewal either by email or post.

Please make sure you reply and let Judy know of any changes in your details.

Although there is no membership fee payable to join the DBE family, if you would like to make a donation we would be very grateful. If you are a UK tax payer if you Gift Aid your donation we can claim 25p in the £1 back from the Government at no extra cost to you. Judy can let you have a form.



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Desborough (Northants) IBC Disability group.



Eight years ago, as a result of a taster session organised by the local council, two disabled bowlers with the support of their families began regular bowling sessions at their local club. From those small beginnings the group has grown to a membership of over 25 players meeting every Friday 12 till 2pm, 12 months of the year.



The Coe family have been involved from the beginning with their daughter Sabrina being a driving force, bundle of energy and enthusiasm for the game. Sabrina's grandmother, Nanny Peg as she was known, joined five years ago and loved the time she spent with the group. Sadly, Nanny Peg pass away 18 months ago and it was in her memory that the family chose to support the BDA HPS trial day at Desborough.



The group itself attracts members from over 20 miles away, and as well as bowling, the members enjoy the social support and friendships they make, often meeting away from the bowls'. As well as playing in the group, their members have been encouraged to fully integrate with the club, playing regularly in leagues and other events. The club has a full range of equipment, to ensure everyone can play whatever their ability. What a great advert for Disability Bowls!

High Performance Squad Training and Match against Northants IBA



The HP team met at Desborough (Northants) Indoor Bowls Club on 15 January for a full day's bowling, with the selectors led by Mo looking to pick the 8 players to take part in the Home Nations. Judging by the standard of play it won't be an easy task.

In the morning the players took part in skills tests, some found these easier than others! And in the afternoon the full squad had a match against Northamptonshire Indoor Bowls Association. With a resounding win for our team, with only captain Bob Love's rink losing, he assured us afterwards this was a deliberate play on his part as he didn't want us to appear ungrateful for their hospitality, no one was fooled Bob!

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone involved in the day, in particular the Coe family for their financial support towards the day, NIBCA President Peter Mellor for his kind donation, the coaches for giving up their time to support the event, all volunteers who helped, unfortunately we were a couple of players short special thanks to those from the club that stepped in and the members of Desborough for their hospitality and use of their facilities.

