

Message from Steve

What a great way to end the Indoor season with a great week and welcome for "Bowlers with a Disability" at the English Indoor Bowls National Championships in Nottingham, closely followed by our Taster Day including Inclusion course, Vi's Directors course and mixed social fixtures which was attended by over 50 people at the Oxford City & County IBC . Moving on to Solihull IBC for the Para Bowls Indoor Home Nations Series. and ending the Indoor season in Cardiff for the Learning Disabilities Indoor Bowls International Series.

We have a very short turnaround time before the start of a very important Outdoor season as we move closer to the

Commonwealth Games which will be our biggest showcase to a worldwide audience for "Bowlers with a Disability", closely followed by the Bowls England National Championships and the Para Bowls

Outdoor Home Nations Series.

These events don't happen by chance, and I would like to thank all the DBE Senior Management Team and committee members who are all volunteers for making these events happen.

I hope all our members will continue to support us not only in the major events but also in the Friendly Social fixtures that you asked us for!!!!

Steve

DBE Chairperson

We are stronger together!

Captain Fantastic Colin Wagstaff



Colin Wagstaff as many of you will know is a very active Ambassador for the DBE. As well as taking part in campaigns like the one below and promoting bowls in his area , he plays in a number of our friendly and competitive matches, often as captain and often leading a winning team . Some how he has also found the time this year to complete his Coach bowls Level 1 Coaching award, congratulations Colin .



DBE High Performance Squad

DBE/VIBE Players in classification Groups B1 to B8 are invited to nominate and be considered for a place in the DBE Outdoor High-Performance Squad.

(VIBE members would need to become members of DBE to participate)

After the deadline, selectors will consider all nominations and invite a limited number of physically disabled players, visually impaired players & directors to join the squad.

The number of members will be reviewed from time to time with players/directors being added or released at any time, although it is envisaged that members will be in the squad for a minimum of 2 full seasons. (2022 & 2023)

Members wishing to nominate are invited to complete the nomination form and email to info@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk by Monday 2nd May 2022.

Emails will be acknowledged, but check if you have not heard back by 6th May 2022.

The application to nominate is available on the DBE website disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk or contact info@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk

Time to say Goodbye to the Indoor Season...

What a fantastic end to the indoor season with the performances by our DBE members at the EIBA National Championships at Nottingham during April.

Firstly there was the brilliant achievement of Helen Wood and her team mates from York IBC, who qualified in 3 of the main events, the pairs, triples and fours. Not wishing to be outdone John Greaves and Mike Robertson qualified in the over 50 triples event a wonderful achievement. Mike was also part of Spalding IBC winning Denny Cup team.

This was the first time the EIBA had invited DBE to hold any events during the National Championships and what a positive experience it turned out to be. It started with the Champion of Champions competition, with John Greaves playing Fynn Kyser and Chris Gray playing Steve Ireland in the semi finals, they were good games with Chris and John making it through to contest the final, Chris continues his excellent season to take the trophy.

At the same time as this John Hollowell and Isaac Sheih played Val Roberts and Sally Lewis-Wall with director Jane Herbert in an exhibition pairs match. On Friday 8th April we had the final of the Pairs plate competition, Gary Swift and Joe Peplow proved to strong for Colin Milner and Steve Smith. The Maggy Smith North v South match was also played with the North scrapping through as the winners this time.

Sunday saw the hotly anticipated final of the pairs, with Sally Lewis– Wall and director Helen, partnered by Helen Wood who must by now have known every inch of the Nottingham carpet, take on Craig Bowler and Steve Ireland the girls proved to strong and ran out the winners that's girl power for you!

We loved our time at Nottingham and the EIBA loved us being there with them, next year with a few tweaks to the organising we will be there again which can only be a good thing for the sport of bowls, and if more of you follow Helen, Mike and John's experience and qualify in the EIBA competitions it can only raise the profile of Disability bowls and knock a few more nails in the coffins of all those doubters out there who underestimate what great bowlers you are.



Dates for your diary

8 May	Friends of English Bowls with Chelsea Pensioners	Sawbridgeworth
5—8 May	VI Open Singles	Weston— Super—Mare
14-15 May	EALABA Outdoor Singles	Tamworth BC
14 May	Friendly	Severalls Jubilee
14 May	Friendly - Cancelled	Market Overton
15 May	Friendly	Callington
21 & 22 May	DBE National Singles	Various
27—29 May	Bowls England Big Bowls Weekend	



A warm welcome to our new members this month we look forward to meeting up at future events.

Eden IBC

South Park BC

Eric Preen

Vicky Kyle

Byron Harvey

Bill Giles

Indoor successes

What a season many of you have had with some notable successes with in your clubs and counties.

Congratulations to Steve Angus and his team for winning their club fours for the fifth year in a row.

Sally Lewis—Wall and Jane Herbert on their County singles win.

Rhys Taylor for his County pairs win

Joe Peplow for his County Fours win

Dave and Tina Fisher for their club mix fours win.

And the many more of you who have won something this year proving that disability is no barrier to success.

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Cancelled Matches

Sadly the outdoor season had barely started but we have had to cancel one match already.

We were asked to arrange more friendlies which we have done, but there is no point having more games if there is no one to play them, it doesn't look good on us and disappoints our host clubs.

Please try & make yourself available to play in one or two games, especially the ones at a taster day like the one at Norfolk in August as these help showcase our sport & get more people on board. All the matches are important so if you can support them do!

Going forward from next season we will only arrange a maxim of two matches a month in the hope that we can fill the team sheet, but this means going to different venues & giving all a member clubs the chance of a game .



Oxford City and County Taster Day and Coach Bowls Inclusion Courses



On Tuesday 12 April Steve and Judy ran our second taster day of the year ably assisted by Richard Ball and in conjunction with Nigel Morgan and his team from Coach Bowls with David Stott from VIBE team manager and coach There was lots of interest and it was great to have Vicky Evans from BDA with us. A big thank you to them all and the members of Oxford City and County IBC.

In the morning Nigel and his team ran the practical inclusion course about 12 people had registered to complete the course , while Steve , Richard and Judy met and chatted and demonstrated bowls equipment to a number bowlers from clubs in the area who had come along to learn a bit more about Disability Bowls. There was considerable interest and four clubs and five individuals took the forms to join as DBE members.



In the afternoon the Team from Coach Bowls ran their first Directors course for the Visually Impaired which was well received and a team from DBE played a friendly match against the host club. Captain Colin Wagstaff did it again and notched up another win for the DBE.



This event and others like we are hosting over the next few months have been made possible by the support of grants from

