

## Chair Persons Message

There was me thinking would be a very quiet month and how wrong was I !

A massive thank you for all the members who have supported our DBE events .

The Senior Management team have been very busy sorting out the Outdoor season events and competitions and we are hoping to have some more good news to announce shortly about the Bowls England Championships 2023.

For those of who read my message on social media about our funding bids being rejected for more Taster & Development Days, hopefully could tell how disappointed I was after our success rate since the pandemic is over, but as they say in the business world "Its not over until the fat lady sings" and I can assure you all "**This Fat boy is not singing yet**".

March is another busy month,. Congratulations to those of you who have qualified for the EIBA National Finals, please keep Judy updated on your progress. so that we can let the DBE members know as they may wish to go and give you some support.

I am back in training for the England v France 6 Nations match, so hopefully I will see you all on the other side!!!

*Steve Watson*

DBE Chairperson



## Home Nations Team Announced



**Congratulation to all those named in the team for the Home International Series taking place at Newport IBC , Wales 21 to 23 April .**

They are:.

**VI** Stephen Hartley ,John Hollowell (**New Cap**), Alison Yearling and Sally-Ann Lewis-Wall

**VI Directors:** Jane Herbert, Isaac Shieh, Elizabeth Shipley (**New Cap**) Chris Venn

**PD** Joe Peplow , Steve Angus, Fynn Kyser, Helen Wood (**Captain**) David Fisher , John Greaves (**New Cap**), Kieran Rollings and Jennie Sandford

**Team Manager ; Sue Davies**

I am sure we all wish them the best of luck and that they and Sue will have your full support .



## Fundraising

As Steve alluded to in his social media comment , funding is becoming harder and harder to find and the DBE piggy bank is in need of a little help.

If you can support us financially we have a crowd fundraising page where you can make donations. It is [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/disability-bowls-england-1162133](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/disability-bowls-england-1162133) .

Could your club hold a Charity day for us, or have a collecting tub? What about holding a spider before a match? If you are able what about taking part in a fundraising event, like Dan Todnar by doing the Great North Run. Or get yourself sponsored to do something else. To coin a phrase every little helps! Please contact Steve or Judy



# Ann Trotman Singles.

This competition has been running at Gedling IBC for the past 20+ years.

Dr Ann Trotman was an inspirational person and the one who first got me involved with disability bowls. She was a Paralympic swimmer and track athlete before she took up bowls. Tragically, she passed away when she was only 40 and this event is held in her memory.

This year we had 20 entries initially. On the day 13 turned up, including 2 bowlers from Scotland. Out of the twenty, four didn't let me know that they weren't coming, I only found out by emailing everyone the week before.

**Please**, if you enter a competition and either change your mind or can't for any reason attend, let the organiser know. A lot of time goes into planning the programmes of play, helpers on the green and food and drinks, particularly in singles competitions where lots of markers are required. We can't run events without our volunteers.

## Enough said, on to the report.

13 bowlers were split into 2 groups each playing a round robin over the 2 days followed by a final for the top place.

Group one	Group two
<b>Rhys Taylor- 8pts +30 Shots</b>	<b>Fynn Kyser- 10 points +50 shots</b>
Harry Atkin – 7 pts +20 shots	Steve Angus– 6 points +30 shots
Danny Porter (Scotland)	Craig Bowler
Jonathan Stokes	Tim Swann
Gary Swift	Colin Wagstaff
Andrew Bayston	Alex Comack

Fraser Mathieson (Scotland) - withdrew on Sunday unwell.

Rhys Taylor and Fynn Kyser came out top in their respective groups, neither being able to be caught before the last session was to be played so all agreed that we should scratch the final session of the round robin and go straight into the final, thus allowing those with extra long journeys to get on the road earlier although most stayed to watch the final.

Rhys bowled well but Fynn was so consistent, he kept his 'cool' putting pressure on Rhys the whole game. The final score was 21 -10 to Fynn after 18 ends.

The weekend wasn't without its dramas, Fraser fainted, Gary pulled a muscle in his back and Jonathan hurt his ankle!

The Gedling helpers were brilliant as always and everyone got away in daylight and hopefully home safely.

I look forward to seeing you all again soon.



Maggy Smith MBE

## New Lightweight Wheelchair from Dales

We are very pleased to announce that Dales Sports Surfaces Ltd Powered Bowls Wheelchair has been approved for use on Indoors and Artificial outdoor greens by the EIBA & BWBA..

We hope to have news about another approved wheelchair and scooter shortly so watch this space.



## DBE Nomad Shield Pairs, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2023 @ Taunton Deane IBC

6 Pairs consisting a mixture of players with physical disability, visual impairment and learning disability enjoyed a friendly and competitive pairs competition.

Club President Chris arrived early to welcome players, stayed to assist on the green and presented the trophies. The club generously provided free coffees/teas at the break as well as serving a very generous helping of Sausage, chips and beans for lunch. The 2 teams sitting out for the first session were joined for a short roll up by some of the Taunton Juniors who were enjoying their regular Saturday session, demonstrating bowls is a true "sport for all". Thank you, Taunton Deane IBC.

Pairs were drawn into 2 groups playing a round robin format and the standard of play was good all round.

Winners of Group 1 were Emma & Julie from the Bristol IBC who pipped first place due to shot difference over Alison & Geoff from Devon/Cornwall.

Group 2 winners were Sally & Khalila who topped the group, winning all matches and with a big shot difference.

The final was an exciting match with Sally & Khalila taking an early lead of 5 shots to 1 after 4 ends. However, Emma, who has only been playing for 12 weeks settled her nerves and drew consistently well over the next 3 ends to help score 7 shots and take a lead of 8 shots to 5 going into the last end.

3 shots to tie the match seemed a huge feat, but Sally drew in 2 good bowls and the pressure then passed to both skips. Julies bowls just missed reducing the count and Khalila produced a brilliant last bowl to draw within a foot to score the 3 shots needed to take the match to an extra end.

The extra end was a test for all players, but Emma's good leading resulted in Sally & Khalila chasing the game and it was Emma & Julie who proved victorious.

A great match to end a great day.

It is hoped that players in the South West will consider placing an entry into next years event as is it a friendly, competitive, social day, enjoyed by new and experienced players alike.

For more details of this or any other competition run by Disability Bowls England go to: [www.disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk](http://www.disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk) or email [competitions@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk](mailto:competitions@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk)



Mo Monkton

## Can you help?

As DBE is a charity we are looking for volunteers with a background in the following areas;

**Legal**

**Human resources**

**Finance/accountancy**

**Safeguarding**

If you can help please contact [judy.plater@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk](mailto:judy.plater@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk) for more information



# Upcoming Events

19 March	DBE Friendly Fixture Barwell IBC	2.30pm
22 March	DBE Friendly fixture New Denton IBC	2.30pm
25 March to 15	EIBA National Finals Nottingham IBC	All Day
24 March	DBE Champion of Champion Singles, semi final and final Nottingham IBC	1.30pm
14 April	DBE Pairs and Pairs Plate finals Nottingham	9.30am
	North v South Maggy Shield Nottingham	12 o'clock

## 2023 Indoor Pairs Competition

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February, 16 Pairs of players arrived at a new venue for Disability Bowls England – Rugby Thornfield IBC to take part in the Indoor Pairs competition. Due to the low number of entries in the Unclassified pairs it was decided to combine the Classified and Unclassified competitions and make a single event, and with some strong combinations of players the draw was made with some interesting matches in prospect

The first round did not disappoint with some close matches, including 1 that went to an extra end after they were tied at the end of the 90 minute session. All the players advanced to a quarter final match either in the main draw or the plate competition.

The quarter finals were keenly contested, there were a few upsets in the main draw with reigning champions Helen Wood and Sally-Ann Lewis-Wall going to an extra end (on the same rink as in the first round) where they lost to Sue Taylor and Gareth Harwood with the Umpire being called to measure for shot. Another strong combination of Mike Robertson and Fynn Kyser were also defeated at this stage in the competition.

The Semi Finals took place after lunch, in the main competition, Rhys Taylor and Harry Atkin were holding a healthy lead in their match against Chris Gray and Daniel Adams, then the jack went dead and was placed on the T, this gave a large count to Chris and Daniel and brought them back in to the match, this seemed to galvanise them and they went on to win. The finalists in the main competition are John Greaves and Colin Wagstaff and they will play against Chris Gray and Daniels Adams. In the plate competition the finalists are Craig Bowler and Steve Ireland and they will play Kieran Rollings and Jack Pullin.

The Finals of the main competition and the plate will take place at 9.30am on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April during the EIBA National Finals at Nottingham I B C.



Stuart Espie



# York Taster Day and Friendly's against York and District IBC and Yorkshire County Ladies.



Over the weekend of the 18 and 19 February the DBE held a Taster and Development event at York and District IBC followed by a friendly fixture and the next day had another friendly against Yorkshire County Ladies at New Earswick IBC. What a brilliant weekend.

Sue Davies and Judy Plater, hosted the taster session on the Saturday at York supported by some of our members in particular Sandra Baker who helped on the green with people trying out the equipment. The club were great hosts and we had visitors from a number of clubs in the county. This is the last of these sessions we will be running for a while as we have used all our funding from Wheelpower and Sports England and not been able to get more, but hopefully if money becomes available we can run some more events in the future.

In the afternoon a team of 24 from the DBE, including some of those who are playing in the Munro Cup in April at York took part in a friendly match. Not that Captain Colin Wagstaff's team were being very friendly as the DBE won 188—91, what a rout! But everyone enjoyed themselves and that is what really matters.



The next day we all travelled to New Earswick to play in a game against Yorkshire Ladies and their president Sally Domville. Players came from Hampshire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire and Sunderland as well as locally, again we had a team of 24 but this time Captain Paul Bakers players didn't have such an easy time of it. In a closely fought match which was nip and tuck most of the way, DBE managed to win 137 shots to 130. After the game they players enjoyed scones and tea, many thanks to New Earswick for their hospitality. Before play started Sally presented Commonwealth games bronze medallist Chris Turnbull with he DBE Special award for outstanding achievement, and Chris ever the true Yorkshire man kept his flat cap on all afternoon!

