

Chairpersons report....

Not in my wildest dreams when I took on the DBE Chairperson role back in May 2020, did I think we would meet our new objectives and vision for our sport to be inclusive within 5 years, but the last 12 months have been amazing; our members have pulled out all the stops to help drive our sport forward and the hard work of the Trustees and Management Team in the background to keep us moving forward is coming to fruition.

Yes. our charity funds are starting to run dry, but this hasn't stopped us; our volunteer work force have attended 45 different events increased our grassroots membership by 180 members of which 14 new members attended the annual Maggy Smith MBE North v South Challenge Shield at the Bowls England National Championships, we have fulfilled nearly all our social friendly matches across England, selected a very strong Indoor & Outdoor Performance squad of which 9 Members were selected to represent "One Team England" at the history making World Championships 2023 in Australia; more of our members then ever played in county competition final qualifying rounds, with a few reaching the Bowls England National Championships, but the icing on the cake for me was to see our DBE National Outdoor Open Pairs Final, live streamed across the world

Proves Bowls is a sport for everyone.

I am now working overseas for a few months and recharging the batteries!!!

Your Very Proud Chairperson

Steve (Soapy) Watson



Wow! What a fantastic time DBE had at the Aviva National Bowls England Championships with more players than ever taking part in different events over the 15 days.

The skill displayed by our players, was commented on by many.

The singles final was held on Saturday 19th August between, last years winner, Sally-Ann Lewis –Wall, director Elizabeth Shipley and Indoor Champion Anthony Page. The game took place like all the other National Finals on A Green next to the stands with plenty of supporters watching. The standard was as high as we all expected, but Anthony was the winner, playing superbly throughout the game.



Both players were presented with their trophies by Bowls England President Deepak Tanna and his team.

The score did not reflect the game, Steve and Mike were runaway winners, both playing brilliantly, leaving Peter and Mike with few chances.



Sunday 20th August was another exciting day for DBE with the final of the DBE Open Pairs between Mike McDonagh and Steve Stockley playing against Peter Cave and Mike Robertson, who was a substitute for Steve Simmons who unfortunately had broken his ankle. The game was televised and watched by many of you, and commented on by our own Judy Plater.

After the game both Steve and Mike gave a very good interview to Bowls England which will hopefully be available on our website if you would like to see it.

Date	Event	Venue	Time
29 August to 9 September	World Championship	Gold Coast Australia	All Day
1 to 3 September	Scotland test series	Ayr	All Day
8 September	DBE Friendly Match	Swale BC Kent	12pm
17 September	DBE Friendly Match	Charlbury BC Oxon	2pm
23/24 September	Friends of English Bowling EALABA Competitions	Tamworth BC	All Day
8 October	High Performance Training day	Solihull IBC	All Day

DBE Friendly Fixture at Hurstpierpoint BC Sussex

On 10 August a team from DBE fulfilled a fixture that had been postponed from last year due to the heat! It was another sunny day but thankfully only 25 degrees.

Hurstpierpoint were perfect hosts, and made everyone feel very welcome. Unfortunately one DBE player failed to turn up, but however Peter Ring, our Captain who wasn't intending to play, had his kit with him and stepped in.

Sadly the team didn't manage a win but it was an enjoyable afternoon, with refreshments half way through the game.



IBD World Championships May 2024 in South Africa

We are still intending to send a team to the IBD World Championships in South Africa departing on 15 May and returning on 2 June 2024.

We are still waiting for more information of the confirmation of the countries entered and the final costs before we 'officially enter Team England' to ensure it is a World Championship event!!

Everyone who has registered an interest in playing in this event, has been send an email with further information.

If you are interested in playing and have not received an email pleas contact Sue Davies

Her email address is

sue.davies@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk.





Maggy Smith MBE North v South Challenge

On the first Saturday of the Bowls England National Championships the annual North v South Challenge match took place. The dividing line this year was Northants and the teams were selected by Competition Manager Stuart Espie.

The team captains were chosen from the players competing in the upcoming World Championships in Australia, with Jennie Sandford captaining the South and Fynn Kyser the North.

It was great to see so many new members taking part and they all seemed to enjoy themselves despite the result, which was an emphatic win for the north,



Deepak Tanna

President of Bowls England



We are very grateful to Bowls England President Deepak Tanna who has made DBE one of the charities to be supported during his presidential team.



At Leamington he gave us a cheque and cash totalling £1000, as an interim payment, he continues to fund raise for us .

DBE Mixed Ability Triples



The Friends of English Bowling



Sunday 20th August we gathered at Leamington for the Mixed Ability Triples, again a good time was had by all those who took part and it was a win for Colin Wagstaff, Harry Aitken and Ryan Richmond, who were presented with their prize by Kath Lloyd on behalf of our supporters at Friends of Bowls England. Runners up were Kate King, Keith Chatfield, Elizabeth Shipley and Sally Ann Lewis Wall.



Sadly Michelle White had to withdraw from the Team England World Bowls Championships; she has been replaced by her fellow Commonwealth Games team member Gill Platt, who now links up with Jennie Sandford; we wish them both the best of luck and Michelle a speedy recovery.



If you want to follow the results, see the full schedule or watch the live streaming you can do this by visiting:

www.world2023.bowls.com.au



Congratulations to Fynn Kyser and his partner Brad Freer on reaching the quarter finals of the BE Junior Pairs, they both played very well and proved how inclusive Bowls can be.



Kieran Rollings qualified in the Junior singles but sadly lost in the first round, in a very close match.

John Greaves played in the Senior Fours but lost in the second round.

Mike Robertson is in the Hunts Middleton cup team which plays in the semi finals on the last day of the championships.

Finally Sally-Ann Lewis Wall was part of the team representing her club of Kingscroft in the semi finals of the Top Club Competition.

Congratulations everyone.



How's your summer season gone?

Here are a few DBE highlights.



What a brilliant year!