

HAMPSHIRE UMPIRES' CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT 2021

After a completely blank 2020 and a very slow start to 2021, requests for umpires to officiate in the various events increased rapidly towards the end of the season. With only two exceptions, all requests to supply umpires were met, and I am aware that local events were covered by umpires being approached by their own clubs and areas.

A number of umpires have suffered from various health issues, precluding them from carrying out duties and this has resulted in extra duties for the rest. Consequently, any new or prospective umpires are always welcomed. Anyone interested in becoming an umpire should start by looking at the web site of the English Bowls Umpires Association, www.ebua.org.uk, where details are published of how to become an umpire.

Following the resignation of the Area Secretary of the English Bowls Umpires Association, his role has become vacant. Part of his role was to arrange and run the Markers Awareness Courses and, as a consequence, bowlers who wish to take this course, the first step in the process of becoming an umpire, are either waiting for a local course or travelling long distances to attend courses in another area. Hopefully, this problem will be resolved in the near future.

I would like to close this report by thanking all those umpires who have put themselves out this year to ensure that the game we all love runs smoothly.

Tony Prince

(Hampshire Umpire Co-ordinator)