

## Hampshire Amy Rose 2016

This year our ladies had an active build up to the Bowls England Nationals at Royal Leamington Spa. We had lost four members from our 2015/16 team, Elaine Cullen who is now unfortunately over 31! Georgina Bailey, Kim Martin and Carly Bishop who is at present teaching in Lisbon. Luckily we had two new members Charlie Holloway from Littleton BC (now newly married) and Amelia Oxlade from Howard Park BC join us, and now Lorna Devonish for next year, who came to Leamington as our second reserve!

We started off with a match against Lee on the Solent ladies trialling a new skip, Anna Redman. We won overall and thank Lee ladies for their hospitality!

Our next match was somewhat more challenging against Oakley BC, we won on one rink but the other not so! Thank you to Oakley ladies for their time and encouragement, and their hospitality afterwards.

Then on to Bournemouth Kings Park this time against the men! A most enjoyable and close game, we drew on one rink but came second on the other. Another encouraging game, thank you Kings Park.

The last match on the weekend before Leamington was a friendly against Wiltshire Amy Rose girls at Andover BC, where we won overall 31-26. It was a challenging match with light rain most of the time, but even though we borrowed their manager to make up our one rink we actually won on that rink 20-11!!

Leamington was going to be hard, up against the Kent A side with Sian Honnor, Jodie Clinch and Emily Ferguson, and the weather was the worst it could be. The girls put up a good fight, with Laura Kitcher as skip on one rink, they were 7 all on the 10<sup>th</sup> end then lost a six. That was a tough blow and presented too much of a challenge with only 4 ends to play. Anna's rink found it hard to keep up the relentless push from Kent, they gave it their all and kept their sense of humour and tenacity, came back at them really well, but a 15 end game does not leave any room for a late challenge. Kent A went on to the final, losing to Somerset.

I was proud of our strength as a team, they challenged their opponents and put up a good fight. The plan is to have some tactical sessions and exercise skill programmes for the winter months so.....

**We will be back stronger and fitter next year! Thank you girls.**

Skips:	Anna Redman	Laura Kitcher
Three:	Heather Statham	Lauren Kerr
Two:	Charlie Holloway	Georgia Bristow
Lead:	Nicole Rogers	Alice Lovett
Reserves:	Amelia Oxlade and Lorna Devonish	

Maxeen Fletcher - Manager 2016