

## Report from Johns' Trophy Manager - 2018

This is my fourth report. The season started at Banister Park on 5<sup>th</sup> May where we trialled players who had reached the 2017 'Last Eights' together with a number of other players, recommended to me by my Advisors, who were not in last year's team.

This was followed on 12<sup>th</sup> May by a further trial where players from last year's team came together with those selected from the first trial thus allowing me to experiment with some rink changes.

We then had a shake down friendly game against Dorset at West Moors but unfortunately several of the possible team were missing due to work or other commitments.

The first game was again against the Isle of Wight being played at Banister Park where we won 146-90 (5-1) another good start to the season.

The second game was at home against Sussex where we lost 97-118 but drew on 3 rinks.

The third game was away against Surrey 84-130 only getting half a point.

Our final game in the Group was against Middlesex at Harefield Hospital BC. We lost 99-130 again drawing on 3 rinks.

So that was the end of our 2018 JT campaign. We came fourth in the group behind Surrey, Sussex and just one point behind Middlesex.

The Walker Cup (Double Rink) was played away again at Sutton Bowling Club against Surrey. Unfortunately, we lost 34-45.

For the Amy Rose Trophy Maxeen Fletcher kindly agreed again to take responsibility for managing and selecting the team. What a splendid job she did, ensuring that the players had a number of training sessions and trials. Prior to Leamington they played two rinks from Oakley and then played the Wiltshire Amy Rose team at Andover. At Leamington they played a very strong Buckinghamshire team losing 27-16.

We still have a long way to go but some of the changes made have worked well. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 4 years as JT Manager though I confess I still miss the buzz of playing. That enjoyment would not, however, have happened were it not for the support and encouragement I have received from so many people. My thanks go to the Officers and players who gave 100% commitment, to everybody who has come along to support the team and to my three Area Advisors who offered me so much wise advice.