

# Bowls Hampshire Newsletter No. 1



## President's Message

Welcome to this our 1st Newsletter, and thank you to the team for producing it. This, together with social media, we hope will improve communications within the County.

If, like me, you are now participating in area, county and national competitions, I hope you enjoy them. To everyone, welcome back to Bowls, and stay safe. I look forward to meeting many of you in the near future.

## Forward Peter Little

As the newly appointed Bowls Development Officer for Bowls Hampshire I have spent my first weeks in the role identifying and contacting various people and organisations to see where they feel the way forward is for the sport in the county and how those can be implemented. From these virtual and socially distanced conversations there are some subject matters that were raised that appear every year and do need to be resolved.

Firstly two matters have continuously been spoken about and these are the two items listed below. None of the resolutions to these are easy, and some of them run at National as well as at a local level and will take a lot of co-operation between the bodies concerned to resolve.

1. How do we get the youth of today and the future interested in bowls.
2. Club memberships numbers are declining in some geographical areas, how do we resolve.

We are initially going to issue these newsletters on a bi monthly basis and would like your input towards expanding its news coverage. If you have some thoughts and ideas on this and any articles and images you feel, as members, that would be worthy of inclusion please send to the following email address; [newletters@bowlshampshire.com](mailto:newletters@bowlshampshire.com). I will try and respond over the next couple of weeks from issuance and we will publish the interesting content in the next issue.

## Bowls Hampshire Coaching

The bowls coaching in Hampshire is run by Anthea Dore. This is available to all clubs in Hampshire to use. Whether you intend to qualify yourself as a coach through the CoachBowls scheme or you would like your members and club coach to receive some additional instruction on an open or recruitment day please contact Anthea 01420 560109 [anthea@phytotec.co.uk](mailto:anthea@phytotec.co.uk)

## **Middleton Cup - Richard Shelley**

This year will see the Middleton Cup become a knockout competition with BH having been drawn to play the Isle Of Wight on Saturday 10th July with a 2pm start the fixture will be played 3 rinks home and away, the home rinks scheduled for Atherley BC. In addition we also have entries in the BE Balcombe Trophy and await the winners of the match between Bucks CBA and the Isle of Wight, finally for the first time we have entered the Home Counties League with a 1st round tie scheduled for Banister Park on Saturday 17th July 10:30am when our opponents will be Middlesex.

A trial for the above competitions will be held at Atherley BC on Sunday 27th June, details can be found on the BH Website

## **Under 25s**

The under 25 team will start their White Rose campaign with a fixture against Kent on Sunday 20th June at Banister Park with a 10:30 start. Due to COVID restrictions it will not be possible to hold a trial for the under 25s so selection will take on a different process this year with players being observed at the Junior Singles and Pairs competitions over the weekend of 12th/13th June. If you qualify as a youth bowler (up to the age of 25) please contact Maxeen Fletcher, Youth Development Officer, 01489 600173 [maxeen.fletcher@ntlworld.com](mailto:maxeen.fletcher@ntlworld.com)

## **The Ladies of the North - Two Wood Singles - Mary Varndell**

It started out as a lovely sunny day. All the players for the Area Two Wood competition in the North arrived on time and were warmly greeted with cups of tea and biscuits by the members of Farnborough Bowling Club. Half way through the first game the rain started but it did not put any of the hardy players off. Eventually it eased off and the sun came out but, as usually happens in bowls, just as the second round started down came the rain again. Everyone donned their waterproofs and played on through. The two ladies from the North who will be playing in the Bowls Hampshire Quarter and Semi Finals on Monday 12th July at Banister Park are Rachel Powell from Farnborough BC and Allyson Flint from Cove BC.



Many thanks must go to Farnborough BC for hosting the event and to its members for keeping everyone supplied with liquid refreshments. The club had taken great steps to ensure that both they and players adhered to the current Government COVID rules and restrictions and to keep everyone as safe as possible. It was all greatly appreciated. Although people got wet it was all played in a happy friendly spirit and I am sure the day was enjoyed by all.