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Welcome to the December issue of the Bowls Development Alliance newsletter.

On 12th December the BDA were informed by Sport England that the latest Active People survey, which measures participation, showed that more people are playing the sport of bowls.

This is fantastic news for the sport and thanks must go to all those clubs and volunteers both indoor and outdoor that have been actively recruiting new members and helping us to grow the sport. In order to impact on these results there has needed to have been a real joined up approach to recruitment with everyone working together to develop more opportunities for people to play.

Further good news is that as a direct result of the work of the BDA and the funding received from Sport England we have surpassed our year one target (in nine months) to bring people over the age of 55 into the sport and playing a minimum of 30 minutes once a week. 150 clubs have successfully applied to the BDA for package funding to aid them in their recruitment drive and there has been focused work in the five HOT SPOT areas where new opportunities to play bowls are being developed.

The BDA are continuing to work with clubs to encourage the development of more opportunities for those aged 16 and over with a disability to play bowls and looking at projects where bowls equipment is taken directly to groups and organisations.

The development of nationally recognised coaching qualifications for the sport has brought challenges but both the Coach Bowls Level 1, Level 2 and Bridging courses are now available and courses will be rolled out throughout 2014. We are currently developing the tutor and assessor workforce who will deliver the courses ensuring consistency in delivery across the country. The Play Bowls Introductory Module continues to be a popular first taste of coaching for new coaches.

The BDA has just launched its "Volunteer Award" which aims to recognise the work of volunteers who go the extra mile for the sport. Details of the first person to receive this award can be seen in this newsletter.

On behalf of the team at the BDA we would like to thank all of you who are getting behind us and our drive to get more people playing this great sport.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to working alongside you in 2014

Susan Cooper - BDA Manager



Merry Christmas from the BDA



2014 BDA Packages

The BDA package window will re-open on Monday 3rd February 2014 and will close on Monday 31st March 2014.

Please keep your eye on our website www.playbowls.org from Mid-January for details of the packages available for clubs to apply for in 2014!

Christmas & New Year Office Opening

Please note that our office will be closed for Christmas from Friday 20th December 2013 and will re-open on Monday 6th January 2014

Helping people to live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives



Jamboree at Chawton Park & First BDA Volunteer Award Presented

On Wednesday the 11th of December Chawton Park IBC in Alton hosted a 'Jamboree' event to celebrate the culmination of the clubs recruitment events for their indoor season and the final of the BDA's Play Bowls 4 Fun sessions that have been supported by the BDA's "Silver Package". The event was attended by 51 participants along with club members, Chawton Park Coaching Team and volunteers from Chawton Park, all of whom contributed to raffle prizes and a buffet lunch to help support the clubs event

Sheila Goodwin, Hampshire BDA Chair and Secretary of the CPIBC Coaching Team was awarded the BDA's first 'Contribution to Volunteering' award for her hard work and dedication to bowls. Sheila said:

The "Jamboree" was the culmination of a lot of work from the whole team, especially Sheila and Brian Crow, and I think they can be well satisfied with the outcome. I would like to thank the BDA for the unexpected presentation ~ it was certainly a surprise! What I do could not happen without the support of a lot of other people, and I am grateful and thankful to them all.

A guest at the event was Alton's Town Mayor, Derek Gardner, who was impressed by the work put in by Chawton Park and local coaches to ensure bowls is open to all and the community feel welcome at the club. After taking part in the jamboree he declared himself keen to come again and have another go!

Dales support the Play Bowls Road Show

The Bowls Development Alliance are delighted to announce that **Dales Sport Surfaces**, the world's leading suppliers of bowls surfaces for both the indoor and the outdoor game, are supporting the **Play Bowls Road Show** by providing two new 45ft mats, one for each of the roadshow vans.



The Play Bowls Road Show attends major events, offering people of all ages the opportunity to try the sport often for the first time. It is also available to any bowls club who are keen to recruit new members and can be set up in city centres, county shows, sea front promenades and supermarket car parks to name but a few.

Dales Sport Surfaces are also providing two 20 and two 30ft mats that can be used in a range of venues where space is limited. These will be used specifically to introduce those aged 16 and over with a disability to the game.

If your club are keen to recruit new members, why not get in touch with us to book the Play Bowls Road Show and let's get more people playing this great sport.

Call Katie Smith: 01664 777001 or email katie@playbowls.org for more information

Forthcoming Coach Bowls Coaching Course Dates

Level 1 - Course Cost £90

Course Dates	Venue
05/01/14, 12/01/14, 09/02/14 & 16/02/13	Riverain, Herts
18/01/14 & 08/03/14	King George, Surrey
26/01/14 & 23/02/14	Bristol
05/02/14 & 15/03/14	Daventry
08/02/12 & 08/03/14	Slade, Milton Keynes
13/02/14 & 13/03/14	King Alfred, East Sussex
26/04/14 & 31/05/14	Plymouth



Level 2 Bridging (EBCS Level 2 to Coach Bowls Qualified Level 2) - Course Cost £120

Course Dates	Venue
01/12/14, 08/02/14, 18/02/14 & 31/05/14	Mote Park, Kent

If you are interested in taking the course then please contact Sport Structures **0845 241 7195**

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Registered in England and Wales no. 07205402
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