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Welcome to this special Christmas edition of the Bowls Development Alliance (BDA) newsletter. The team have been working hard over the last three months to ensure that we remain on course to deliver our targets and so meet all our outcomes as required by our funder Sport England.

We are all looking forward to 2019 as we welcome more clubs to work with us as part of the Club Development Programme and we see the next Play Bowls Package window opening in February which will support clubs in their recruitment of new members

Next year will also see the launch of the new Adult Safeguarding in Bowls (3hr) module which aims to focus predominantly on those clubs with adult members only. The module is available for all Club Safeguarding Officers/volunteers to attend as well as coaches. Courses will roll out from January 2019 and details of how to book on can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have supported our work over the past twelve months.

It just leaves me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to supporting you in 2019 in all that you do.

Kind regards

Susan Cooper
Development Director



Bowls Disability Mark

The accreditation scheme awarded to clubs that are accessible and cater for disabled people, formerly known as Disability Kitemark, is now renamed **Bowls Disability Mark**. Therefore, we ask all clubs from now on to refer to the accreditation as Bowls Disability Mark and, if possible, to update their websites, documents and other records in accordance with this change.

The scheme used by the Bowls Development Alliance, Bowls England, Disability Bowls England and English Indoor Bowling Association has been developed to recognise and reward those affiliated bowls clubs who are fully inclusive and welcoming to those people who wish to bowl and who have a disability. It can help clubs follow the right steps towards becoming a fully inclusive club.

The accreditation scheme is becoming increasingly popular, with a growing number of clubs obtaining the certification. The benefits of having a Bowls Disability Mark Accreditation include:

- 1) Increasing the profile of the club, which can lead to more new members joining;
- 2) Increased club membership – the Bowls Disability Mark provides the information and confidence disabled bowlers require before they make the decision to join the club;
- 3) Significantly more likely for the club's facilities to be hired by groups and organisations who work with disabled people;
- 4) Priority given for hosting Disability Bowls England competitions;
- 5) It is an important factor taken into consideration by funders, sponsors and potential partners when such organisations are making decisions whether to fund, sponsor or work with the club.

If your club would like to be considered for the Bowls Disability Mark, please take a look at the Bowls Disability Mark Pack on our website: <http://playbowls.org/disability-bowls/advisory-guide> which takes you through the accreditation criteria. If you think your club might satisfy the criteria or needs some support with their application, then please contact disability@playbowls.org



Adult Safeguarding in Bowls Module



What does it cover?

- Provides an understanding of what safeguarding is and your role in safeguarding adults at risk in your club
- Helps to recognise signs of abuse and neglect of members
- Provides understanding on how to act upon a concern or a disclosure
- Raises awareness of relevant legislation and policies
- Tells you what support is available to you

To book and pay for a place on the module please go to www.coachbowls.org

If you are unable to book on line please call 01926 334609 and Adam will assist you with your booking.



Latest modules available for booking

Date	Time	Venue	Price	Places Remaining
19/01/2019	9am - 12noon	Mote Park IBC, Kent, ME15 7RN	£30 per person	15
22/01/2019	11am - 2pm	Bristol IBC, Bristol, BS3 2TY	£30 per person	16
23/01/2019	10am - 1pm	Topsham BC, Exeter, EX3 0HF	£30 per person	13
27/01/2019	11am - 2pm	Taunton Deane IBC, Taunton, TA1 2RW	£30 per person	16
31/01/2019	1pm - 4pm	Birmingham IBC, Birmingham, B13 0HN	£30 per person	16
16/02/2019	9.30am - 12.30pm	Welwyn & District BC, Welwyn, AL6 9AS	£30 per person	16
16/02/2019	10am - 1pm	Banbury Chestnut BC, Oxfordshire, OX16 9RS	£30 per person	16
01/03/2019	11am - 2pm	Bracknell Bowls & Social Club, Berkshire, RG12 1EH	£30 per person	16
28/03/2019	1pm -4pm	York & District IBC, York, YO24 2NW	£30 per person	16

Please visit www.coachbowls.org for up to date places remaining and for the latest courses available for booking

* - Course information correct as of the time of publication.

WOMEN CAN

Women Can

The “Women Can” campaign goes from strength to strength with numerous requests for the new Women Can resource pack which is FREE to all clubs looking to encourage more women to play, coach and volunteer in the sport.

Further “Women Can” Level 1 courses are in the pipeline so please check the website www.coachbowls.org for information.

The BDA hope to announce an exciting new partnership in 2019 which will support clubs to increase their female membership - look out for more information in early January 2019.



WOMEN CAN

WOMEN CAN
RESOURCE PACK AVAILABLE NOW
 TO GET YOUR COPY SIGN UP NOW AT
WWW.PLAYBOWLS.ORG/WOMENCAN



Club Development Programme

The Bowls Development Alliance is inviting all Bowls England and EIBA affiliated clubs to apply in January 2019 to be part of the Club Development Programme.

Created in 2017 as part of Bowls Development Alliance (BDA)'s' four-year Play Bowls Strategy, the Club Development Programme offers flat green bowls clubs across the country a unique support programme to develop and better sustain their current membership numbers and recruit new members to the sport. The support offered is bespoke and will vary depending on the club's needs and present circumstances, that can include:

- Diagnosing the main challenges the club is facing and how to go about overcoming them.
- Identifying opportunities the club can tap into.
- Sharing case studies and examples of best practice from clubs around the country.
- Offering clubs lots of templates, forms and other materials they can use.
- Linking clubs with influential local groups and organisations.
- Funding worth up to £500 from the BDA to support the club with their efforts.

Since 2017, the BDA Club Development Officers have been working with 60 different clubs that were or still are part of the programme. As an indicator so far, the clubs that have completed the programme successfully, have managed to recruit on average 20 new members per year – significantly more than their efforts in previous years.

If you think that your club would benefit from being involved in the Club Development Programme, then please find the criteria for application below:

- Clubs must be affiliated to either Bowls England or the English Indoor Bowling Association.
- Clubs must have seen a net membership decline of 3% or more over the past 2 years.
- Clubs must be willing to be proactive and take on tasks set out in a Development Plan.
- Clubs must have a demonstrable capacity for membership growth.

We encourage and welcome every club that meets the above criteria to apply to become part of the programme. To apply, clubs need to fill in a simple 3-page online application on www.playbowls.org which is also accessible as a word document on our website. To apply, register your interest or ask more information, email clubdevelopment@playbowls.org.

The application window remains open until further notice. As we are expecting a high number of applications, we encourage clubs to apply as soon as possible to ensure a timely start of the engagement. For those clubs that do not meet the criteria, please be aware that the Play Bowls Package is available to all affiliated clubs via the twice-yearly application windows.

All applications will be reviewed periodically, and clubs will be informed about the outcome of their application in due course. Successful clubs will be approached by a BDA Club Development Officer to arrange an initial meeting and begin the engagement.

For more information about what the programme involves, its impact so far on clubs and how to apply, please contact us on clubdevelopment@playbowls.org. You can also refer to our Club Development Programme Guide Pack and look at a number of case studies available on our website www.playbowls.org



Did you know the BDA now has its own twitter account? Follow **@BowlsDA** for regular updates on BDA funded activities and much more.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from all the BDA Team



GET ACTIVE, HAVE FUN, PLAY BOWLS

WWW.PLAYBOWLS.ORG

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