

COUNTY DROP-IN UPDATES (for county circular)

Our monthly drop-in sessions with county associations form part of our ongoing aim to work collaboratively and share important updates with our key stakeholders.

Representatives from 31 of our 35 counties attended the October session, held on Wednesday 26th October.

Thank you to all who attended and we are pleased to provide a summary for your ease of reference.

Elections

David Tucker has been elected unopposed as Chair of Bowls England. Di Wilson-Rogers and Kevin Philips have been appointed as selectors unopposed. Sheila Storey and Charlotte Emanuel had been nominated for the position of Junior Vice President with the election process now underway with county associations.

Staff Team

Paul Smith has joined the Bowls England team as interim Head of Communications on a part time basis until spring 2023.

UK Anti-Doping

We have now completed the UK Anti-Doping Assurance Framework, which demonstrates our commitment to clean sport and shows that we are meeting our anti-doping responsibilities and demonstrates good governance.

Playing Pitch Strategies

Many local authorities are undertaking work on their Playing Pitch Strategy, which considers current and future demand for sports facilities in their area including bowls. Several County Associations had provided assistance in responding and thanks were expressed to them, whilst the wider group were made aware that further requests may be forthcoming.

Performance Summit – Sunday 20th November

We are hosting a Performance Summit as we start work on a long-term strategy that delivers on the international arena, makes lawn bowls more visible, inspires people to play and retains competitive bowlers in our sport. This is in line with our objectives in our 'Fit for the Future' strategy. Performance Director John McGuinness is leading this work.

We have invited a number of representatives from across our sport including Players, Team Managers, Regional Selectors and County Representatives plus key stakeholders such as coaches, umpires and Disability Bowls England. The agenda includes player development, talent ID, competition structure and culture.

Competitions

The National Finals schedule is currently being finalised for release in November. National competition entries will open in November with a closing date of 1st March and the draws going live on 1st April 2023. The reduced entries in both the Johns Trophy and the Amy Rose Bowls was discussed alongside the qualification numbers in National Championships and regional finals.

Competition Review

The review of competitions and wider participation will be a discussion topic during the Counties Conference with the objective of implementing any changes for the 2024 season.

Greens Seminars for 2023

Dennis/Sisis are keen to increase the number of seminars in 2023. Any counties who would like to be considered for inclusion on the programme to notify alistair.hollis@bowlsengland.com by Friday 18th November.

Affiliation Working Party

The Affiliation Working Party is conducting a review of Bowls England's affiliation – both an immediate review of the current affiliation offer and price, and a longer-term review of the affiliation model. The Working Party's considerations and recommendations will be reported to the Board for discussion and approval. Where appropriate, agreed recommendations will be put to the membership.

Counties Conference – Saturday 19th November 2022 (9am-3.15pm)

Any counties who haven't responded please do so asap. The Agenda and pre-reading will be circulated in advance.

Champions Dinner – Saturday 19th November 2022

Event sold out – thanks were expressed to all for their support of the event. Anyone willing to help with the raffle on the night please contact Lindsay Collin (Gloucestershire). All counties were asked to provide a prize in support of the raffle.

Awards – Saturday 25th February 2023

Nominations for the Awards close on 25th November. Counties are encouraged to nominate clubs and individuals within their area. Tickets will be on sale after the Champions Dinner. More information is available [here.](#)

Celebration Matches

30 matches are confirmed for 2023 season. Counties will be asked for player nominations in the coming weeks.