

# **BOWLS SURREY NEWSLETTER**

## **Issue 3/2020**

Hello Everyone. Well what a difficult month it has been for the World. I am sure that you all have questions with regards to what is happening. As at this date all the emails we have received from Bowls England are listed below and you can see that there has been an abundance of them this month. This is because the news from the Government and then BE has changed daily! I have attached one of the emails from BE to the email but if you want to read any of them in full just email **BowlsSurrey@gmail.com** requesting them and let me know which number(s) you want.

Notices from Bowls England (March) - If you would like to receive the full email with regards to any of these please email me letting me know which one you would like.

- 1) 2nd March - Official World Bowls Magazine
- 2) 3rd March - Coronavirus - this email just states that nothing is cancelled as at this date
- 3) 5th March - Safeguarding Flyer from BDA
- 4) 5th March - Standardized Weeks of the Year (2021)
- 5) 6th March - International Squad - Travelling Reserves Named
- 6) 9th March - Minutes of BE Board Meeting Feb 2020
- 7) 9th March - Regional Meetings
- 8) 9th March - John Bell has been re-elected to serve as President of World Bowls
- 9) 10th March - Minutes of BE AGM held Feb 2020
- 10) 10th March - Bowls England confirm that the draws for the 2020 National Competitions will be available in April.
- 11) 14th March - Regional Meetings Cancelled due to Coronavirus
- 12) 14th March - Coach Bowls has postponed all courses from Monday 16th March until further notice
- 13) 17th March - World Bowls cancel All WB Events in 2020
- 14) 18th March - Disability Bowls Cancelling all events
- 15) 18th March - BE Statement on Coronavirus - I have attached this email as it is long and important and contains everything you need to know (as at this date)
- 16) 18th March - British Isle Bowls Council - Cancelling most of its events
- 17) 19th March - BE Office Closures - They can be contact via emails as the staff are now all working from home
- 18) 20th March - BDA Packages
- 19) 20th March - BE & Sport England - How to stay active
- 20) 20th March - BE FAQ
- 21) 23th March - BE say 'Stay home, stay safe, stop the spread'
- 22) 24th March - Women's Bowling Benevolent Fund Benevolent Triples Cancelled
- 23) 24th March - BE release news of new Podcast and National Newsletter
- 24) 25th March - Coach Bowls FAQ
- 25) 26th March - BE Inter County Comp Draws for 2021
- 26) 27th March - BE You Tube Channel launched
- 27) 27th March - Message from the BE Board Chair David Tucker
- 28) 30th March - BE news on when they are going to refund affiliations - when BS receive it you Clubs will be refunded
- 29) 30th March - Official BE Podcast released
- 30) 31st March - New dates confirmed for World Bowls in Australia May 2021

Surrey Under 25's Men are keen to invite new players into our squad. If you have any players in your club that are U25 please contact Paul Manuel on 07548 686661 or email paulmanuel62@gmail.com

A message from Debbie Souter - Ladies Junior Manager

Firstly I would like to thank everyone for their support in 2019, and was looking forward to 2020, especially as two of our bowlers Yasmina Hassan and Rebecca Faye were in the final selection for the under 18 England Team. And to Stephanie Crates this would have been her last year with the Under 31's. One of our bowlers Rose Leach has had a little baby boy, Oliver, so congratulations from all the Team. All I can say is keep safe and let's hope we resume the bowling season soon.

SCBA Leopard Award nominations, date for applications extended to 31st May 2020. Forms available from SCBA Secretary John Tucker.



Do you want something to do over this summer?  
How about a bowls related activity that you can carry out even whilst in isolation?  
Why not start training to become an Umpire?  
You can carry out the first part of the process at home with our Home Study Manual and then when this horrible virus is over, and things return to normal, we will be running workshops where you can qualify as an Umpire.  
You can hone your measuring skills on your own back garden lawn or on the lounge carpet. All you will need is a couple of bowls and a measure. For a jack you could use a tennis ball or even an orange.  
Ken will be running a short course on the practical side of umpiring just as soon as the virus situation has cleared up and we can get onto a green together without worrying about social distancing.  
For further details please contact Ken Bickley or look at [www.ebua.org.uk/training.html](http://www.ebua.org.uk/training.html)  
For further details please contact Ken - [ken.bickley@btinternet.com](mailto:ken.bickley@btinternet.com) or 01483 455235

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Bowls Surrey have sent out 2 emails in the past couple of weeks in an attempt to give out the answers to questions that are being asked by a lot of people. I have included them in the newsletter as I feel it is important that as many people read these as possible.**

Email Dated 20.03.2020

Q. Do we have to close?

A. The government has not at this time said you must, however it has stated that we should not make unnecessary journeys, frequent Clubs, or have any large gatherings.

Q. How long will it last?

A. Nobody knows. However, you will have seen from the Bowls Surrey statement earlier, that we will be reviewing the situation on 2nd June. You may wish to do a similar thing, to give your members hope.

Q. What do we do about Club Subscriptions?

A. As you know both Bowls England and Bowls Surrey are refunding the Affiliation fees, we trust this will be taken into consideration when you are determining what to charge your members. Obviously, there will still be running costs, so each Club must do what it thinks is right & fair.

Q. With the affiliation fees being refunded, are we still affiliated with BE & Surrey?

A. Yes.

Q. Sutton Winson Insurance. Are we still insured?

A. Sutton Winson have confirmed that they will honour the Bowls England Civil Liability Insurance scheme for the 2020 season. If you are not with Sutton Winson we advise to check that you are covered.

Q. Will Surrey Comps take place this year?

A. No, Competition entry fees (excluding Champion of Champions), are being returned. Players will have to enter afresh for 2021. With regard to Champion of Champions, both male and female winners of the Club Championship 2019, will automatically be entered in to the SCBA and SCWBA Champion of Champions for 2021. Entry fees submitted for this competition will be held over.

Q. What will happen to the Anniversary games?

A. If the situation arises that we are able to open the Clubs and play, we will endeavour to fit the games in this year, if unable to do this, the Clubs will have the opportunity to celebrate in 2021.

Q. What is the situation with Council greens?

A. Bowls England are making enquiries currently, however our suggestion would be that you contact your Local Councils, as they all work differently, to see if they have made any decisions. It could be some time before BE get a definitive answer.

Email Dated 27.03.2020

Q. Can we still maintain our greens?

A. Bowls England are hoping to publish guidelines from the Greenkeepers Association next week. The Golf Association has already issued strict guidelines, I have sent a copy to BE.

Q. Are Councils going to maintain the greens?

A. Despite many phone calls and emails, I have not managed to get a clear response, they keep saying they will get back to me, but never do. I will keep trying.

Q. Will the Clubs be offered financial help, by Bowls England?

A. Bowl England are in talks with the EIBA and hope to put out a joint statement next week.

Q. When will the affiliation & Competition fees be paid back to the Clubs?

A. As soon as we get the money back from Bowls England.

Please note: Surrey Champion of Champion entry fees WILL NOT be returned as the entries will remain unchanged.

Q. Will the AGM take place in November?

A. Yes, unless the Virus is still with us.

Q. Are the, Top Four, Walter Cross & Combined Areas v U25 cancelled?

A. Yes.

As information becomes available Bowls Surrey will endeavour to keep the clubs informed. There will be a review on 2 June 2020.