

Spring 2012

SURREY BOWLS ASSOCIATION



## Surrey County Bowling Association



Welcome to a new season, one that in our Association's second Century sees a change in the structure of the County. Many of you will know that the County is now a unified body with the two Associations (SCBA & SCWBA) incorporated within a single entity. This change, required by Bowls England for the purposes of administration and to comply with Sport England WILL NOT AFFECT THE NORMAL WAY THE ASSOCIATIONS CARRY OUT THEIR OVERALL BOWLING ACTIVITIES.

My message to you all therefore is to continue to enjoy your bowls, support your club, and support your County .....for your County is endeavouring to support YOU.

Keep up to date with 'TWITTER' and 'VERTICAL RESPONSE' your connection to the County.

### Special points of interest:

- Loss of members slowed last year despite the loss of clubs
- Competition Entries were up overall despite a surprising fall in the Triples but an 8% increase in the Fours and 6% increase in Unbadged Singles raised the numbers
- Area Committees have been asked to consider changes to the 'Top Four' competition. Make sure your club knows what is being proposed
- All Clubs have been notified about the possibility of a County League. Make sure you have YOUR say
- Advance notice that the County Finals will be held on

**SUNDAY 4th AUG 2013**

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12th May-Middleton Cup Trial  
20th May-Middleton Cup Trial  
2nd June Middleton Cup v Bucks @ Iver Heath  
16th June Middleton Cup v IOW @ Egham  
24th June Walter Cross Matches Round 1  
1st July MC Team v Combined Areas @ Egham  
7th July Middleton Cup v Berks @ Egham  
8th July Walter Cross Matches Round 2  
29th July Walter Cross Matches Round 3  
August 2nd County Finals Day  
3rd November Annual Dinner  
10th November AGM @ Tyrrells Wood GC 10.15am

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### A NEW BEGINNING

It's always a sad event when the County has to announce that clubs are to close or de-affiliate, but there are sometimes events that help to soften the blow this causes.

South Norwood became a victim of the Croydon Council cuts (along with Sanderstead), but it has joined with Norwood to form South Norwood Lake.

Mellows Park was a victim of the Sutton Council cuts (along with Cheam Village) but 30+ members of the club have joined Carshalton to ensure that it survives.

What great news, these changes were not a simple matter but it does show that with the right attitude and commitment clubs can be amalgamated and greens saved.

The County Executive wishes the clubs and their members well in their new relationships.

Look out for the announcement regarding the changes to the PATRONS ASSOCIATION.

This will be communicated during March to your Club Secretary, make sure he communicates it to your Club members.

### SURREY BOWLS LEAGUE

Do you remember that last season the possible formation of a Countywide league was discussed?

Some may think this a good idea, others a waste of time but in the final analysis it is YOU and YOUR CLUB that must decide if this project is viable.

The proposers of the League have given the County Executive a resume of how the League could work with a structured formation of Divisions based upon the number and an initial assessment of the strength of each club that decides to participate. There would be promotion and relegation to and from each division. The League is not proposed to interfere with any existing Leagues and clubs will not be forced to take part.

If such a League is to be introduced it will be under the supervision of the County.

We need your opinion. I am asking Clubs to contact their Area Councillor or myself and let us know your club's feelings on this possible arrangement and whether your club would wish to be included.

Nothing will be decided without feedback from YOU.

### WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE COUNTY COACH?

You may ask the question! Both the Men's & Ladies County Coaches are no more. Coaching is now run on a National basis by "COACH BOWLS". This is an organisation within the BDA, to be responsible for all aspects of coaching. A Steering Group has been formed by Amanda Scriven-Purcell the CEO of Coach Bowls and each County now has Co-ordinators. Surrey is lucky? We have two Denise Smith (Donyngs) is responsible for the Surrey London Boroughs and David Pickering (Newdigate) is responsible for the rest of Surrey and North Sussex. The co-ordinators will communicate directly with the registered coaches within the County. Clubs will still be able to apply for seminars etc. by contacting Fred Knight (01737 763538) or Bette Wall (020 8647 9911). We await future developments with interest.