

## YBA April Newsletter 2023



I think I hoped for a less soggy and cold month as clubs opened their doors to the 2023 season at the start of last month's YBA Newsletter... well that worked didn't it?! Still it has to get better soon. The start of any season is usually a challenge with greens on the 'pushy' side and layers of clothing needed to keep warm but critically we are back on our greens and bowling.

### Safeguarding

Very soon all the talk will be of forthcoming matches whether in leagues, competitions or social bowling and that's what we should be focussing on. However, there are some things that also need to be thought of, ensuring we have a safe environment for all is one such issue that all clubs need to pay attention to. David Dearlove is the YBA Safeguarding Officer and he is the point of contact for you all as our National Governing Body, Bowls England (BE), issues guidance on just what all clubs need to be doing in this important area:

- All coaches are **currently** required to be qualified coaches and to have attended a Safeguarding Course, they also need to hold an Enhanced DBS Certificate which has been obtained via BE.
- All team managers are **currently** required to have attended a Safeguarding Course and hold an Enhanced DBS Certificate which has been obtained via BE.
- All Safeguarding Courses have to be completed via an accredited provider.

Note: Whilst a DBS Certificate has no official expiry date, it is BE's policy that they should be updated every 3 years. Enhanced DBS checks have to be obtained through the National Governing Body i.e. BE or the EIBA. There is an option to have an annual automatic update which is FREE of charge for volunteers. Please note that BE will no longer accept DBS certificates from any other source e.g. scouts, church, other sports – or certificates older than 3 years.

It will become compulsory and a condition of affiliation, for all clubs to have a Safeguarding Officer by **the beginning of the 2025 season**. They must attend an accredited Safeguarding Course and have an Enhanced DBS Certificate via Bowls England.

So please check that your club is BE Safeguarding compliant – any questions or issues then contact David Dearlove at [davidndearlove@gmail.com](mailto:davidndearlove@gmail.com).

### Coaching

I have had a few enquiries from people wanting to qualify with BE Coach Bowls as coaches. Additionally, some existing Coach Bowls coaches are looking to take on the correct level qualification to enable them to coach a different player skillset.

Lee Coutts has kindly taken on a co-ordinating role to assess the level of interest in the BE Coach Bowls courses for the YBA and the attached flyer is self-explanatory. So if you fancy making a difference to your club and the county by becoming a qualified coach or by gaining further qualifications, let Lee know and we will look to work with BE to get some courses in the area.

### Ladies' Bits & Bobs

The County Yorkshire Ladies Teams will be meeting up on Friday 5th May at York Railway Institute BC for their early season 'Get-Together'. This is the first occasion when all selected players, including reserves, have the opportunity to meet up and play together before the very competitive Northern Counties matches against Durham, Cumbria and Northumberland begin.

On 17th May at Copmanthorpe BC, Yorkshire Ladies will be holding their May Bowl. This is a friendly afternoon of bowling finishing with tea and scones. This event is open to ladies of ALL Yorkshire affiliated BCs and if you haven't attended before, you are very welcome. If you would like to come along please let Janet Farnsworth know (jsclueless@aol.com 01377 240108)

### **Men's Stuff**

Cumbria have decided not to play in this year's Muras competition, so all the Muras fixtures will be played on one date, the 27<sup>th</sup> May, at Blackhall BC, Durham. Details will be announced a little later as the teams are selected. This means there is **no** YBA Men's Inter County fixture on the 20<sup>th</sup> May.

Thanks to all those who have nominated for the YBA Men's Inter County matches this season. Our Team Manager, Mark Walton, will be selecting the Muras/Middleton & Balcomb Squads shortly. Graham Stephenson will be managing the Alsop teams on behalf of Mark.

### **Are you Young Enough?**

A YBA youth development day will take place at York Railway Bowling & Social Club on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 11am. This event is open to all under the age of 25, so lads and lasses make sure you are there!!! **Can all club secretaries please ensure that their U25s are aware of this event.** Any enquiries to Phil Parsons or Cressida Fordy (pkparsons1951@hotmail.co.uk fordycressida@gmail.com )

### **And Finally...**

It's taken nearly five months but the YBA Men's President eventually tracked Chris Turnbull down at his club (Thornton-le-Dale BC) where he was presented with the 2022 Men's Senior Player of the Year award. We always get our man, Chris!!!!

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