

# WELSH NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY FOR BOWLS

*Working Together For The Benefit Of All*

## NEWSLETTER

*Edition No 3 October 2020*



W.B.A.



W.W.B.A.



W.I.B.A.



W.L.I.B.A.



W.S.M.B.A.



Welcome to the October edition of your Newsletter issued by the Welsh National Governing Body for Bowls, as the outdoor season draws to a close many indoor clubs are preparing to open under Covid 19 Conditions. We have been working closely with Bowls Wales on the Return to Play Guidelines which can be found on the Bowls Wales website [www.bowls-wales.com](http://www.bowls-wales.com). These Guidelines are updated at regular intervals following any change of policy issued by Welsh Government.

**RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES CAN BE FOUND ON THE BOWLS WALES WEBSITE**

**[www.bowls-wales.com](http://www.bowls-wales.com)**

### Your National Governing Body & Bowls Wales

Since our last newsletter we have continued to hold positive and constructive meetings with Bowls Wales on a number of subjects, the following is an update of the progress made.

#### **Bowls Wales Articles of Association.**

The joint working group set up to review the Articles of Association have carried out a full review of Articles and their work is complete. The draft proposals now have to be approved by the Bowls Wales Board of Directors and the NGB's. Following their acceptance they will then be presented to the Annual General Meeting for acceptance. The draft proposals will be published shortly on the Bowls Wales website and constructive comments are welcomed.

The working group have turned their attention to the voting procedures and bye laws that will accompany the Articles of Association, a full update will appear in the next edition of the newsletter.

#### **Stakeholder Director.**

Bowls Wales have agreed to appoint a Director for Stakeholder Engagement whose main responsibility will be the Boards point of contact with the main stakeholders which include Sport Wales, NGB's and other relevant sports associations including Welsh Sports Association. We are currently in discussion regarding the role description for this new Director post, once agreed the vacancy will be advertised by Bowls Wales and will be open for anyone to apply.

## **National Governing Body Representation on Bowls Wales Focus Groups**

Bowls Wales have two focus groups, the Performance Group and the Development & Communication Group. Since restructuring the Performance Group have not met as discussions on the terms of reference of the group are ongoing with Bowls Wales. Your NGB's are ready to meet and have made several requests to Bowls Wales for this group to meet. Your representatives on the Performance Group are as follows:

WWBA: Hazel Wilson & Kathy Pearce

WBA: David Harding & Robert Weale

WLIBA: Cath Harvey & Roger Harvey

WIBA: John Phillips & David Phillips ( one will stand down when a Director of Bowls is appointed)

WSMBA: Wyn Jones

The Welsh Crown Green Bowling Association (WCGBA) will also be represented on this group.

The Development & Communication Group have met on 3 occasions and are currently working on a Communication Strategy and conducting a survey of all clubs to gain a better understanding of the challenges clubs face in relation to the effects of Covid 19. Your representatives on this focus group are as follows:

WWBA: Sara Nicholls & Anwen Batten

WBA: Peter Williams

WLIBA: Kath Blayney & Cath Harvey

WIBA: Mike Doody

WSMBA: Wyn Jones

WCGBA: Simon Walker.

Simon Walker from the WCGBA has been elected Chairman of the group with Mike Doody WIBA acting as Vice Chairman.

Full updates of the work of both groups will be published in forthcoming newsletters.

## **Be Active Wales Fund**

Just a reminder to Clubs that you can still apply for financial assistance via the **Be Active Wales Fund** . The fund is designed to help Protect and Prepare clubs that are at immediate financial risk and need support. A number of Clubs have already received grants from this fund. Full details on how to apply can be found on the Bowls Wales website, or you can contact your National Secretary who will advise you.

## **Commonwealth Games News**

The WWBA & WBA are in dialogue with the Commonwealth Games Committee regarding the protocols required for selection, accommodation and general rules and procedures for the games in 2022 which are being hosted by Birmingham. Further information will be published in future newsletters.

## **Welsh Indoor Bowls Association News**

### **Tournaments 2019/2020**

The WIBA had hoped to complete last seasons tournaments during October, however due to the flare up of the Covid 19 virus resulting in local lockdowns in Rhondda Cynon Taff, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Swansea & Llanelli has put these plans on hold, the WIBA will continue to monitor the position over the coming weeks and Clubs will be consulted on suitable dates for the finals.

### **Stadiums Re-opening**

Indoor stadiums have started to re-open with most stadiums starting the season with casual bowls sessions to test their Covid 19 procedures. Domestic league matches are due to start at some Clubs in October.

Sadly, some Clubs will not be opening until 2021 for a variety of reasons

### **Competitions 2020/2021 Season**

Following a meeting of the WIBA Management Committee held via Zoom on 24th September it was agreed that no Tournaments or Championships matches would be considered until January 2021. The WIBA will continue to monitor the Covid 19 restrictions and the affect these are having on clubs, should restrictions allow and there is sufficient interest within clubs a tailor made league programme for the remainder of the season will be put in place.

### **Membership Fees**

Because of the uncertainty of stadiums re-opening and with some clubs being unable to open it has been agreed that the WIBA will at this stage of the season only charge each Club an Affiliation Fee of £25 . This Affiliation Fee will guarantee the Clubs membership of the WIBA for the 2020/2021 season.

A decision on the Members Affiliation Fee which is normally £6 per member will be taken in January 2021 when Clubs will know what effect Covid 19 has had on their membership and whether any WIBA tournament of leagues are taking place.

## **Welsh Bowls Umpires Association Update.**

### **How To Measure Without Breaching Covid 19 Regulations**

At the recent Umpires Association meeting held on 14th September, one of the topics of conversation was how can an umpire carry out measures without breaching the Covid 19 regulations.

Two members Eddie Williams and John Jenkins had been working on a process that makes things safe for the umpires and the players.

When bowls resumes indoors and umpires are required there will be a few new pieces of equipment in the umpires tool kit, every umpire attending an event must take with them, a supply of disposable gloves, hand sanitiser and a face mask.

Measuring will take as normal, but the umpire will not turn any shot bowls or the jack, they will instead just point to the bowl or bowls that are counting as shot or shots.

## **Umpiring Candidates**

If anyone out there has a little bit of time on their hands during the long winter months then why not consider training to become an umpire. You are able to complete the theory side of the training on line from the comfort of your own home. The practical course and test will be arranged when Covid 19 allows.

**Look us up on the Bowl Wales website for contact details**

## **International Indoor Bowls Council News.**

At its recent Annual General Meeting Peter Brill from Merthyr Tydfil Indoor Bowls Club was elected President of the International Indoor Bowls Council. In his acceptance speech Peter said that he was Honoured to be elected to the position and would do his best to uphold the position of IIBC President.

Due to the affect Covid 19 will have on IIBC events Peter will hold the office of President until April 2022.

Previous Welsh bowlers who have held the position of IIBC President are: David Howells, Ron Thomas, Reg Turner, Brian Davies Hilary King, Shirley Williams & John Hague.



## **2021 World Bowls Indoor Championships**

With Covid 19 continuing to be a major threat globally World Bowls along with its partners the International Indoor Bowls Council and Bowls Australia have after much discussion agreed to cancel the 2021 World Indoor Championships scheduled for April 2021 in Australia.

As with all world championships they must be held in a climate which would ensure the best chance for competing countries to attend and send their elite players. The current restrictions on travel arrangements and quarantine periods would not allow that to happen.

World Bowls and its partners would like to convey their thanks to all stakeholders involved in determining this course of action which as been taken in the best interests of athletes, administrators, volunteers and spectators whose safety remains paramount in any decision making process.

The World Bowls Indoor Championships are scheduled to be rotated between the U.K. and Australia and we now look forward to the 2022 Championships which will be held in the U.K.

## **World Bowls Tour News**

Long standing Director, Chef Executive Officer & Tournament Director of WBT Richard Maddieson has stepped down from all 3 positions with immediate affect. Prior to a scheduled WBT Board Meeting Richard submitted his resignation which was accepted by the Board. In the short term Tom Weir who was Assistant Tournament Director has been appointed Tournament Director and will oversee the forthcoming World Championships at Potters in January. All other affairs will be handled by the Board of Directors.

## Award

Our congratulations to Ken Burton, Past President of both the WBA , WIBA and current Chairman of Bowls Wales on being Honoured for his outstanding services to charity.

Ken has been made a Commander of the Most Venerable Order Of St John of Jerusalem; the award having been sanctioned by Her Majesty the Queen who is the Sovereign Head of the Order Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, the investiture was conducted by the Lord Prior for Wales, Sir Paul Williams OBE and had to be a virtual event done online.



We wish Ken continued success with his worthwhile charitable work.

## Contact Details

If you have any news, views, opinions or comments on Welsh Bowls please do not hesitate to contact us and if possible we will include them in future newsletters.

**Newsletter Co-ordinator : David Phillips—Email: [davidphillips.bowls@ntlworld.com](mailto:davidphillips.bowls@ntlworld.com)**

## National Secretary's Contact Details

Welsh Bowling Association : Terry Hopkins— Email: [terry472@sky.com](mailto:terry472@sky.com)

Welsh Women's Bowling Association : Hazel Wilson— Email: [hazel222@hotmail.com](mailto:hazel222@hotmail.com)

Welsh Indoor Bowls Association Acting Secretary : John Phillips—Email: [jcphillips128@aol.com](mailto:jcphillips128@aol.com)

Welsh Ladies Indoor Bowls Association : Cath Harvey—Email : [cathwliba@gmail.com](mailto:cathwliba@gmail.com)

Welsh Short Mat Bowls Association : Wyn Jones—Email: [hwynjones@aol.com](mailto:hwynjones@aol.com)

Welsh Bowls Umpires Association : Tricia Best—Email : [welsh.bowls.umpires@gmail.com](mailto:welsh.bowls.umpires@gmail.com)