



Devon County Indoor Bowls Association

President Ian Turner

DEVON COUNTY CELEBRATES ITS FIFTIETH YEAR OF BOWLING BY FORMING OF THE ASSOCIATION IN 1973

**REPORT FROM THE COUNTY SECRETARY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF
THE COUNTY ASSOCIATION DURING THE 2022 /2023 SEASON.**

THIS IS THE 50TH YEARLY REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION .

**I COMMENCE THIS REPORT BY REPORTING ON THE MAGNIFICENT
ACHIEVEMENTS OF JAMIE WALKER OF TORQUAY UNITED WINNING
THE WORLD INDOOR BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP IN JANUARY THIS YEAR,
FOLLOWED BY VICTORY FOR DEVON IN THE LIBERTY TROPHY FINAL
AGAINST CAMBRIDGESHIRE IN MARCH.
CONGRATULATIONS TO JAMIE AND THE LIBERTY TEAM.**

HONOURS AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

WORLD CHAMPION: JAMIE WALKER

LIBERTY TROPHY WINNERS: DEVON

MEN'S PAIRS WINNERS: LOUIS RIDEOUT, SAM TOLCHARD (TORQUAY UNITED)

**MEN'S FOURS WINNERS: LOUIS RIDEOUT, RYAN WHITLOCK, JAMIE WALKER,
SAM TOLCHARD (TORQUAY UNITED)**

MEN'S TWO BOWL SINGLES RUNNER-UP: SAM TOLCHARD (TORQUAY UNITED)

OVER 60 INTER CLUB RUNNERS-UP: PLYMOUTH

**MIXED PAIRS RUNNERS-UP: SAM TOLCHARD AND CHARLOTTE ASPINALL
(TORQUAY UNITED)**

**MIXED FOURS WINNERS: JAMES HAMPTON, ROB PAXTON, CASSIDY HAMPTON,
NICOLE ROGERS (EXONIA)**

TOP CLUB WINNERS: EXONIA

COUNTY COMPETITIONS

**SINGLES CHAMPION: A. HAMMETT (SOUTH HAMS)
RUNNER-UP: D. BURT (MID-DEVON)**

**PAIRS (UNBADGED) WINNERS: D.BURT AND B.POOLE (MID-DEVON)
RUNNERS-UP: N.GODWIN +1 (TORBAY)**

**TRIPLES WINNERS: S.DAVIS +2 (TORBAY)
RUNNERS-UP: B.POOLE+2 (MID-DEVON)**

**UNDER-21 SINGLES CHAMPION: CONNOR FIELDER
RUNNER-UP: BRADY BOLT**

COUNTY TROPHY WINNERS: PLYMOUTH; RUNNERS-UP: ISCA

TOP CLUB WINNERS: EXONIA; RUNNERS-UP: TORQUAY UNITED

OVER-60s LEAGUE WINNERS: ISCA-A; RUNNERS-UP: TORBAY-A

CHARLES PARROTT SHIELD WINNERS: ISCA; RUNNERS-UP: DAWLISH

INTER-CLUB LEAGUE ONE WINNERS: PLYMOUTH-A; RUNNERS-UP: TORBAY-A

INTER-CLUB LEAGUE TWO WINNERS: MID-DEVON; RUNNERS-UP: ISCA SILVER

WESTPORT TROPHY RUNNERS-UP: DEVON

INTER-COUNTY SHIELD RUNNERS-UP: DEVON

COUNTY AND PRESIDENTS MATCHES: OVERALL 50% WINS AND LOSSES

MEMBERSHIP

AFTER A LOSS OF MEMBERS LAST SEASON, A SMALL RECOVERY HAS OCCURRED. THE TOTAL MEMBERSHIP NOW STANDS AT 1507. THIS IS A GOOD STARTING POINT AFTER A HORRENDOUS PERIOD OF LOSSES.

LET US ALL HOPE WE CAN RECOVER THOSE LOSS OF MEMBERS FROM 2019-2020

COUNTY TOUR

IAN TURNER LED US ON A POETIC TOUR TO HAMPSHIRE, ORGANISED BY LARRY CROXFORD. WE VISITED ATHERLEY, BANNISTER PARK AND RIVERSIDE BOWLING CLUBS WITHOUT A WIN. THEN ON TO TAUNTON DEANE FOR OUR ANNUAL FIXTURE ON OUR TOURS AND ON THIS OCCASION SECURED A GOOD VICTORY.

NEXT YEAR'S TOUR WILL BE TO DORSET AND ISLE OF WIGHT FOR WHAT WILL BE LARRY CROXFORD'S FINAL TOUR AS TOUR ORGANISER. WE WILL VISIT DORCHESTER, DOLPHIN (POOLE) AND ISLE OF WIGHT BOWLING CLUBS. THE TOUR WILL BE LED BY CHRIS FENNER.

OUR GRATEFUL THANKS MUST GO TO LARRY FOR HIS MAGNIFICENT EFFORTS OVER THE YEARS ORGANISING THE TOURS ON BEHALF OF SUCCESSIVE PRESIDENTS. WE WISH JILL AND CHRIS BEER EVERY SUCCESS AS THEY TAKE OVER THE TOUR ORGANISING STARTING WITH THE 2024/2025 TOUR.

LIBERTY TROPHY AND INTER COUNTY OVER-60s

OUR THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS GO TO KEVIN PHILLIPS AND HIS SQUAD FOR THEIR TRIUMPH IN THE LIBERTY TROPHY FINAL AGAINST CAMBRIDGESHIRE. THIS VICTORY CAME AFTER A COMPETITION OF IMMENSE MATCHES AGAINST SOME VERY TOUGH OPPONENTS, AND THE EXTRA LOAD IMPOSED ON THE SQUAD CAUSED BE INTERNATIONAL CALL-UPS.

WELL DONE DOESN'T EVEN COME CLOSE TO SOUNDING ENOUGH PRAISE AND THE ACHIEVEMENT.

THE OVER 60'S TEAM MARCHED TO THE SEM-FINAL STAGE, BUT UNFORTUNATELY NO FURTHER, BUT STILL A MAGNIFICENT EFFORT.

UNDER 25'S AND UNDER18s

UNDER THE REMARKABLE STEWARDSHIP OF ADAM AND HEIDI FIELDER, THE TEAMS CONTINUE TO MAKE PROGRESS. THIS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED DESPITE A LACK OF RESOURCES TO IMPROVE TO OUR RIVALS OVERALL STANDARDS.

THE CONTINUED RISE IN SUCCESS AND ACHIEVEMENT BY SEVERAL OF THE PLAYERS SERVES TO REMIND US ALL OF THE NEED TO SUPPORT HEIDI AND ADAM IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY.

DEVON COLTS

THE COLTS , ONCE AGAIN UNDER THE SOUND MANAGEMENT AND GUIDANCE OF ADAM AND HEIDI FIELDER HAVE INCREASED THEIR OVERALL IMPROVEMENT. THERE IS SCOPE FOR FURTHER PROGRESS, BUT SUPPORT (ESPECIALLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT) IS CRUCIAL. THIS HAS BEEN REPEATED OVER AND OVER AGAIN AT SUCCESSIVE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS. IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY SPONSORS ON THE HORIZON, CREATIVE THOUGHTS ARE REQUIRED FROM ALL.

VICE-PRESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

SADLY, A VOTE THAT WAS CARRIED OUT AT THE LAST EXECUTIVE MEETING DECIDED TO NOT CONTINUE WITH THE ASSOCIATION. THERE WERE CONCERNS FOR DEVON COLTS FUNDS TO WHICH THE VPS HAVE BEEN A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR OVER THE YEARS. IT IS HOPED THAT CLUBS WILL TAKE UP THE OFFER OF A SECOND PRESIDENT'S GAME AS OFFERED.

PRESIDENT AND HIS OFFICERS

IAN TURNER LED THE COUNTY MAGNIFICENTLY WITH HIS PROFESSIONAL MANNER WHICH HAS GREATLY IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTIES. IN PARTICULAR HIS LIGHT. (BUT HANDS ON) APPROACH HAS BEEN APPRECIATED BY ALL.

THANK YOU IAN AND THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY CHRIS FENNER AND RAY SANDERCOCK AS SENIOR AND JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENTS.

MATCH SECRETARY

THE COUNTY IN MARCH 2023 LOST PART OF OF OUR BEDROCK WHEN OUR MATCH SECRETARY, KEITH WEEKS PASSED AWAY. HE WAS A STRONG MINDED MAN WHOSE SENSE BROUGHT REALITY TO MANY SITUATIONS OVER THE YEARS.

HIS MEMORY WILL BE CELEBRATED BY A NEW TROPHY NAMED THE KEITH WEEKS CUP, WHICH WILL BE CONTESTED ANNUALLY BETWEEN DEVON AND SOMERSET. THE CUP WILL BE PRESENTED FOR THE FIRST TIME BY KEITH'S DAUGHTER KEREN. ONE THOUGHT THAT SLIGHTLY EASES US IN OUR LOSS, IS THAT WHEN HE PASSED, HE WAS IN THE COMPANY OF HIS FRIENDS AND FELLOW BOWLERS, BOTH PLAYING FOR HIM BUT ALSO HIS OPPONENTS ON THE DAY SOMERSET.

WE WILL MISS YOU KEITH.

CHRIS BEER HAD BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH KEITH AND STEPPED UP TO CONTINUE IN HIS PLACE. I AM TRULY GRATEFUL TO CHRIS FOR HIS TIME AND EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT THE POSITION OF MATCH SECRETARY IS BEING CONTINUED AS KEITH WOULD HAVE WANTED. THANK YOU CHRIS.

ONE LEGACY THAT KEITH AND CHRIS WERE ARRANGING WILL CONTINUE WITH A MATCH AGAINST CORNWALL TO CELEBRATE OUR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY . THIS HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR OCTOBER THIS YEAR AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING OUR GUESTS TO MARK THE OCCASION.

TREASURER

I REPORTED LAST YEAR ON THE COMMITMENT AND SERVICE OF DAVID BUTTERWORTH. DAVID HAS NOW DECIDED THAT NOW IS THE TIME TO STEP DOWN AS TREASURER, INTER LEAGUE SECRETARY AND WEBSITE MANAGER. HE HAS AGREED TO CONTINUE IN THE ROLE OF WEBSITE MANAGER UNTIL AN EARLY REPLACEMENT COMES FORWARD.

THANK YOU DAVID, NOT ONLY FOR YOUR CONTINUING EXCELLENT WORK CONTROLLING OUR FINANCES DURING THE PAST YEAR BUT ALSO FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE COUNTY THROUGH MANY YEARS.

FIXTURE SECRETARY

JILL BEER CONTINUES TO FULFIL HER ARDUOUS ROLE IN AN EXEMPLARY MANNER. THIS SEASONS ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT IN THE FACE OF MANY CHANGES IN VENUE AVAILABILITY AND OTHER CONDITIONS IMPOSED WITH TIME SCHEDULING. THANK YOU JILL.

COMPETITION SECRETARY

IN HIS FIRST YEAR IN POST, GEORGE HAS BROUGHT ALL TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. HIS EFFORTS ARE IMMENSE AND I THANK HIM FOR HIS WORK TO MAINTAIN THE STANDARDS AND INTEGRITY OF ALL COMPETITIONS.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

MY GRATEFUL THANKS GO TO GEORGE TAYLOR, AS ALWAYS FOR HIS CALM IN THIS, HIS LAST YEAR IN OFFICE. HE HAS HAD TO FACE AND DEAL WITH GREAT ISSUES THAT MUST TAKE GREAT PATIENCE. HE HAS TO DEAL WITH MATTERS RAISED WITH HIM THAT NEVER SURFACE IN THE DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT OF COUNTY AFFAIRS. THANK YOU GEORGE FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP.

CONCLUDING SUMMARY

THE PAST SEASON HAS SEEN SOME FANTASTIC HIGHS AND SOME DREADFUL LOSSES FOR THE COUNTY. IT IS A TRIBUTE TO ALL THE OFFICERS CONCERNED THAT HAVE HAD TO DEAL WITH ALL OF THESE EVENTS.

AS THIS IS MY FINAL COUNTY REPORT TO YOU ALL I WISH GEORGE COXWELL THE GREATEST OF LUCK AS MY SUCCESSOR . I KNOW HE HAS SOME GOOD OFFICERS TO WORK WITH AND I KNOW THAT HE WILL BE STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY YOU ALL, AS I HAVE BEEN LUCKY TO ENJOY.

KEN BRENCHLEY
COUNTY SECRETARY

MAY 2023