

**Development Manager report to the AGM  
13<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

It's great to see you all back bowling and the Bowls England big bowls weekend was a great success, not only across Somerset but the whole country.

The Under 18's open singles competition had a good turnout this year with 16 entries, playing a straight knockout. We played two sets of 10 ends, with the loser going into a pairs game also two sets of 10 ends, each had to skip one of the sets. This gave them some really good experience in a live game. We also got the markers to encourage them to ask questions and to ask for measures if it looked like it was worth a measure, this also gave them some great experience for the future. The winner of the singles was Jacob Crouch from Ilminster, Runner Up Kimi Powell from Congresbury, pairs winners Chloe Holmes (Purnells) and Lucas Powell (Congresbury), Runner ups Zach Broom (Congresbury) and Jack Vine (Purnells).

I would like to thank all the markers and umpires that made the day that bit more special for the juniors and to Ashcombe Park Bowls club for allowing us to use their greens.

I was asked to explore the possibility of a Youth Academy and have spoken to several people around the Counties. This is a complex process and to be an 'official Academy' requires registration as a charity. But, as a start, I am negotiating with Ilminster to hold an initial session with the juniors early next year.

I would like to say a massive congratulations to Stef Branfield for winning the National ladies singles and ladies 2 wood. And to our Amy Rose squad Imogen Cracknell, Madi King, Shannon Crouch and Kirsty Hembrow (captain), Chantelle Manns, Jade Poolman, Olivia Starr and Becky McMillan, Reserve Chloe Holmes and Katy Taylor.

The future is bright for Somerset juniors.

I would like to thank John for everything he has done as County Chairman and for the support he has given me, happy retirement John.

Brian Cracknell  
SBA Development Manager