



# BowlsWales Newsletter

Autumn 2018

## Time to listen, time for action.

BowlsWales is in the throws of putting together a four-year strategy for the game across Wales.

To ensure we get it right for you, we took the key points from the responses to the club survey (see graphic), added them to the feedback given at the roadshows and consulted with Sport Wales and other stakeholders.

Using this information BowlsWales have started to create a workable strategy that will look to build on the positives of our sport and help it develop the way you want it to.

Thanks to your feedback, we have been able to identify common issues that appear throughout all codes of the game and are working hard to create a plan that will address concerns and provide support where needed.

The strategy will be launched in the new year following the final consultation process, and together we will look to ensure the game gets the recognition and support it deserves.





## Insport Ribbon

Managed by Disability Sport Wales, the insport project, aims to support the physical activity, sport and leisure sectors delivering inclusively of disabled people.

The intention is to initiate and then support cultural change with regards to the approaches the sectors have towards disabled people and to support the identification of an understanding of what inclusion means to them as a collection of organisations.

The result will be that opportunity is widened, participation increases, disabled people become more active and engaged (either as players, or officials, coaches, or volunteers) and we collectively achieve the sector vision for a nation who is hooked on sport for life and one which consists of many champions.

The programme consists of 4 incremental standards, these being Ribbon, Bronze, Silver and Gold, against which a series of aims have been identified.

BowlsWales has been working towards the Ribbon standard and we

now have the final presentation in November which we have to demonstrate,

***'the extent to which philosophies of inclusion have been embedded throughout the organisation, and the difference that working towards inclusion has made.'***

We are genuinely excited at the opportunities our inclusive sport can provide, and we want to ensure we have the requirements in place to assist our members and their clubs.

### **Your club can achieve insport**

If your club would like more information on how they can achieve the insport Awards please visit [Disability Sport Wales](#) for more information.



# How Dewis can help...

Dewis Cymru is a website that aims to help people with their well-being. It has information about 6,000+ local and national services that can help with the things that matter to you.

The website has been developed to help people find information about organisations and services that can help them take control of their own well-being. It is also useful for GPs, Librarians, Social Workers and lots of local organisations who offer information to the public as part of their work.

The site currently averages over 65,000-page views per month and as bowls provides so much more than simply sport, it is a good idea to add details of your club to Dewis Cymru as it will make it easier for people to find you.

## Dewis Cymru

Have choice and take control

Do you offer a service to improve people's well-being?

**Dewis Cymru** is a website that aims to help people with their well-being. It's **THE** place to go for people who want information or advice about well-being – whether that's their own well-being or the well-being of a family member or friend.

### Why should I add my information to Dewis Cymru?

Lots of reasons. If you've got a service that helps people with their well-being, adding your details to Dewis Cymru will make it easier for them to find you. Basically, if you help people with their well-being, Dewis Cymru wants to know about you and about what **YOU** do!

Other good reasons to use Dewis Cymru include:

- It's free
- It's easy to register and add your details
- It will remind you every six months to check your details, so you'll know they are up to date
- It provides maps and directions to help people find you
- It's already being used by many advice agencies to direct people to local services that can help them, so having your information on Dewis Cymru will mean that people can be directed to your service.

### So, what do I do next?

To add your information, you'll need to register. Go to [www.dewis.wales](http://www.dewis.wales) and 'Sign up' to create your account. Once you've done this, 'Sign in' to the site and go to 'Manage resources' and 'Add resources' to add information about your services.

### Can I add information about any service?

Yes. We encourage people to add information about specific services that they offer. So, if you run a community group you can add details of what it's about, where and when it meets, and how to get in touch. If you represent an organisation which provides a range of services, please add the services individually so that users of the site can find the services they're looking for.

### How to contact us

You can contact us by:

- using the 'Contact us' link on the website
- emailing us at [help@dewis.wales](mailto:help@dewis.wales)



@DewisWales



/DewisWales



## Crowning glory for the 'Dragon'

As the 2018 season was coming to an end, it seemed the 'dragon' was not quite ready to hibernate at the Waterloo Champion of Champions event in Blackpool.

This prestigious competition, held in Blackpool, is the highlight of the men's and ladies' crown green game. The tournament is classed as the toughest competitions to win, as you must be a winner to take part and, participants will only play winners to claim the title.

Over the course of the competition Wales had much to celebrate. In the men's competition John Bailey and Mathew Worden were flying the flag for Wales, with Linda Williams and Sarah Nicholas in the Ladies competition.

Young Mathew Worden displayed maturity and determination which took him into his first Champions Quarter Final showing talent that will no doubt, leave his name on some prestigious trophies in the future.

Seasoned player John Bailey secured his place in the final and had his sights firmly set on gold. Both players were on form and provided a thoroughly entertaining match, with the winner to be decided on a tension filled last end.

John bowled brilliantly and accurately to end it 21-20. Surrounded by his family, he looked stunned but elated to be this year's Champion of Champions.



(John Bailey and his family, courtesy of WCGBA)



(Waterloo Green—pic from 'BowlsComps.com')

The Ladies Champion of Champions on the Sunday was by no means less exciting. Sarah Nicolas was the first lady from Wales to head out. Sarah – the British Ladies Champion this year – played well to earn a place in the Quarter final where she fought to win 21-17. This brought her face to face with fellow Welsh lady Linda Williams in the Semi Final.

Sarah played a tidy game across the green, whilst Linda was happiest in the corners. There was some superb bowling by both players, but Linda pulled away to win 21-9.

Linda found herself in the final up against last year's winner. The match started off point for point and, for the first seven ends, there was nothing to choose between these two great players.

With another nail-biting final for the dragon watchers, Linda put up a wonderful fight to be crowned Champion of Champions with a 21-19 victory.



(Linda Williams, courtesy of WCGBA)

# The importance of safeguarding in sports clubs

By Laura Whapham

Child Protection in Sport Senior Consultant (Wales)

Everyone in society, including sport has a role to play in keeping children safe. Everyone involved in sport should know what to do if they have any concerns about a child or an adult working with children. In order for clubs to safeguard children from abuse or poor practice it is pivotal that robust safeguarding policies and procedures are in place and that the welfare of the child is paramount.

Child safeguarding policies and procedures may vary between clubs and organisations; however, best practice indicates that all clubs should have policies regarding the following areas of safeguarding:

- safe recruitment procedures (e.g. DBS checks for relevant roles)
- procedures for reporting concerns
- parental consent requirements
- codes of conduct for coaches/volunteers
- Named welfare or safeguarding officers.

It is not the responsibility of anyone working in a club or organisation to decide whether or not child abuse has taken place. However, there is a responsibility to act on any concerns by reporting these to the appropriate officer or the appropriate authorities.

All concerns about a child or adult working with children in Bowls should be reported to the club welfare officer or national safeguarding lead, following [BowlsWales procedures](#).

## What are the benefits of having safeguards in place?

Having the right safeguards in place will help you as a club to:

- respond appropriately to any concerns raised about children or adults working with children.
- have confidence to recruit volunteers/staff responsibly
- manage bullying and harassment
- protect your clubs reputation and help make your club more attractive to children and parents
- keep your sport safe and fun for children and young people

It's important to remember that the welfare of the child is paramount. However, it's not up to you to decide whether or not a child has been abused, but to report concerns appropriately. **If you think a child is in immediate danger or requires medical attention**, you should call the emergency services on 999. You can also ring the NSPCC helpline on 0800 800 5000 24hrs a day.



## Healthy and Active Fund

Welsh Government, Sport Wales and Public Health Wales have come together to deliver the Healthy and Active Fund (HAF) which aims to improve mental and physical health by enabling the adoption of healthy and active lifestyles across Wales.

Phase 1 of the HAF will provide £5million of financial support, over a period of 3 years (April 2019 - March 2022), to projects that strengthen and develop community assets.

Priority will be given to projects that actively promote the reduction of inequality in outcomes for one or more of the following groups:

- Children and young people
- People with a disability or long-term illness
- People who are economically inactive or who live in areas of deprivation
- Older people and those around the age of retirement from work

Statutory and non-statutory bodies, as well as organisations that have the structure and capacity to deliver the objectives of the HAF are encouraged to apply.

Successful applicants will need to demonstrate value for money, along with a clear business case for the continuation of the project beyond initial funding. Clear evidence of partnership working and engagement with the local community in the development of proposals will also be required.

Although the Roadshows have now been held, if you have any queries please email:

[healthyandactivefund@gov.wales](mailto:healthyandactivefund@gov.wales)

(Information Source: WCVA.org.uk)