

Rhos Park Bowling Club

Rhos Park Bowling Club is situated on the North Wales coast in a delightful seaside town and is fortunate enough to have a stable membership. With a good mix of abilities from those playing at representative level through to social members and beginners who are new to the sport.

In 2022, the committee took the decision to actively encourage more juniors into the game of bowls. Unfortunately, last year we only managed to attract a couple of young members. Mainly, because we didn't have the infrastructure in place to target and/or encourage more juniors down to our green. This year, having received a grant and encouragement from the WCGBA, we set about doing things differently. We recognised the potential we had in the numerous old sets of wooden bowls we had accumulated over the years. So we set about having 6 sets turned down and made suitable for juniors. Even more appealing when they came back re-lacquered in bright colours. We also ordered some kit from Bowls Buddies to give us a starting point in our introduction for juniors into the game of bowls.

Our journey began by offering the local junior school a couple of taster sessions. These went down a storm and it was fantastic to see, 30 or so youngsters on the green, enjoying themselves. This gave us the encouragement to take further steps forward. We created a flyer, advertising a Junior Academy which will run every Saturday throughout July and August. This has been circulated widely on Facebook, advertised in local shops and sent to the junior school for circulation.

We have also taken on several other projects this year, running a programme of sessions for Conwy Connect, a local adult learning disability group. What a joy this group have brought to our bowling club. The delight on their faces when they are on the green is infectious and for those of us who have been assisting them, so rewarding. These continue until the end of July, when we make the switch for the school summer holiday to Conwy Connect Juniors with learning disabilities, which will run until the end of August.

Busy times, for a club like ours. However, Rhos Park has always strived to be a forward-thinking club which takes the promotion of bowls as the fantastic sport it is and the legacy it creates of paramount importance.