

# Bowls Oxfordshire



Volume 1, Issue 2  
February 2026

## Juniors Shortlisted for National Award



**Carterton** Bowls Club's junior programme was shortlisted by Bowls England as one of four contenders for the first ever Junior Development Programme of the Year. The club has established a thriving junior programme since 2022. It now hosts weekly sessions for 19 young bowlers across all age groups. Unfortunately the club didn't win the award overall but being shortlisted is a mega achievement and bodes well for the future.

### Outdoor and Indoor Merger at National Level???

Delegates at the Bowls England AGM on 21 February were given an update on the work being done on the viability of merging the bodies that govern the indoor and outdoor game. Sport England has financed a feasibility study into the merger of Bowls England and the England Indoor Bowling Association.

It seems there are a considerable number of hurdles to be overcome before any changes can take place, not least the very different structure between the two organisations with Bowls England being county based and the EIBA club based. The working party thinks that even if a way forward can be agreed the earliest any proposals would come to members would be the end of 2027

### It's YOUR county!

The next Bowls Oxfordshire delegates meeting is on 11 March at Kidlington. This is the opportunity for clubs and bowlers to get their voices heard and help the executive shape the county in the way that members want. Please make sure your club representative attends and participates.



## Kit Roadshows

have taken place across the county and proved very popular.

Many who attended placed orders. Craig Morphet, who chaired the uniform working party, is shown here modelling the new kit - in the correct shade of blue!



## Dates for your Diary

**Intercounty** competition dates have been announced by Bowls England for all sections

30 May	Balcomb Trophy
31 May	Walker Cup
6 June	Johns Trophy
6 June	Middleton Cup
13 June	Middleton Cup
14 June	Amy Rose Bowl
16 June	Over 60s Mixed Trophy
20 June	Johns Trophy
20 June	Middleton Cup
21 June	White Rose Trophy
4 July	Middleton Cup

Put the dates in your diary now..Full details of venues and opponents will be on the county website. Please come and support **your** players.

**The County Finals** will be played on the weekend of the 1 and 2 August 2026 with the semi finals two weeks earlier on the 18 and 19 July.

**Editor:** Ann Lattimore

**Bowls Oxfordshire**

**County Communications Officer**

**bo.countycommsofficer@bowlsoxfordshire.co.uk**

## Etiquette

As we approach the new season it's a good time to remind players of the basic etiquette that ensures the game remains enjoyable for all.

- Be ready to bowl when its your turn and concentrate on the game.
- Be quiet and not move at the head when a player is preparing to bowl..
- Don't block the rink number and rink markers from the bowler on the mat.
- Be aware of players on the next rinks. Keep to your own rink. Do not walk past the end of a rink when somebody is about to bowl.
- Encourage and praise the rest of the team including the skip. Don't applaud a team member who has outrageous luck and admit a fluke shot with grace.
- Compliment your opponent's bowls and don't wave your opponent's bowls through the head.
- Minimise the distraction and interference with bowlers on adjacent rinks when changing ends by walking, as far as possible, along the centre of the rink.
- Be gracious whether you win or lose.
- At the end of the game shake hands with your opposition.
- In a singles game thank the marker and offer to buy them, as well as your opposition, a drink.