



**NORFOLK COUNTY INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION**

## Hon. Secretary Report - AGM

Mr President, fellow colleagues

The continued success of our clubs is due solely to the considerable effort and commitment, you our Executive and delegates, your committees, volunteers and of course members give to our sport. Coupled to this is the work the officers of association undertake in providing the various events and activities organised by the association and I thank each and everyone.

Our Liberty team again did not make it to the latter rounds, although as I said last year our area includes several strong counties. Our O60s team had a good run before defeat in the semi final against the eventual winners Durham and the U25 team fell at the first hurdle in a close game against Lincolnshire. In all cases the players are thanked for their support and of course the team managers are to be thanked for their commitment. I would like to thank Ian Wones and Steve Pope, who have chosen not to continue in their roles, and we wish Tim Stone and Clive Wright along with Richard Summers the best for the coming season.

Once again, we have had difficulty in fielding teams, although we are not alone in this, for the inter county friendly games specifically those played away, but the President's Invitation games remain well supported. In some cases, it was only with the inclusion of the County Ladies that matches were able to go ahead, and I think with various other governance changes in the pipeline that mixed matches may be the best way forward if we want to continue with these types of games.

I would like to thank all my fellow officers, specifically John who has undertaken with great consciousness his role as President, Gordon who manages almost seamlessly the various friendly matches and Tim for their support and dedication to the roles they undertake on behalf of the Association.



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Tim specifically in his first year managed the transition of our competition format and whilst I know there were some issues the events completed without major problems. In addition, Tim has been instrumental in bringing forward regularly constructive challenges to various things in how the association is governed for which I thank him.

The lack of junior players coming through remains a concern, but I am aware that Tim, in his role as U25 Manager, is keen to work with clubs to raise the profile and get more young players engaged.

Once again, I must single out David for all the roles, because they are multiple and wide reaching, he has undertaken and where once again he has done a truly excellent job. This association would not be as well thought of by others who often question how we operate such an extensive league programme and which would not be so well controlled or financially robust without his continued work. I wish him all the very best for another year as President of the association.

Having mentioned the work and commitment of your officers it would be remiss of me not to raise the topic of where we will be at the 2027 AGM. As you are aware, both David and Gordon have already stated that they will not be seeking re-election at the 2027 AGM, leaving the association in need of filling a number of critical positions if it is to continue in any form.

I don't think I can stress this enough, without club members stepping up to take on the work David and Gordon cover you will be here considering dissolution. There will be no association, no leagues impacting your club revenue incomes, no competitions, no friendlies and no county team national competition entries. I am not trying to sound alarmist, but this is a fact which must be faced head on.

I know that all clubs rely on volunteers, but this applies equally to the association, and I hope that new blood will step up.



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I wish to place on record the thanks of the association to Wymondham Dell for the use of their facilities for various meetings. I would also place on record our thanks to all clubs who hosted county matches, competition playoffs and other events, and also to those clubs who hosted President's Invitation games.

As you are aware I have chosen not to continue in my county roles and indeed I have also decided to leave Norfolk BC and step away from any involvement with bowls whilst my wife and I focus on other things. I want to thank everyone here, and with whom I have worked, for their support to me in the various positions I have held with the association.

In conclusion I wish all our representative county teams the best of luck next season. Equally I wish all of our club teams and members success domestically and in the national and county competitions.

Chris Taylor  
Hon. Secretary

5<sup>th</sup> July 2026