



## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

### AGM 2018

After the very busy year in 2016, this last season was always going to be a “little” quieter. However, looking back at the WCGBA calendar for 2017 there managed to be an event where WCGBA teams or individuals were involved from March right through to October. Not forgetting all the meetings and AGM's! I would like to pay tribute to the work of the Executive Governance Board and all the Officers of the WCGBA. These (sometimes) invisible volunteers make the bowling calendar tick, and without them, together with all League Secretaries and officials bowling would just not happen in North Wales. These “jobs” can be thankless tasks but I would just like to put on record my sincere thanks for all the work, time and effort undertaken.

I'm pleased to report that WCGBA Hall of Famer, Linda Williams, once again did Wales proud by retaining the Ladies Waterloo in Blackpool, making it a hat-trick of wins. As I reported last year, to win the event once is some achievement, but putting back-to-back wins together takes some doing by a remarkable bowler.

I would like to pay tribute to the work undertaken by your President, Dusia Price and your Deputy President, Brenda Jones. Both ever present at events organised by the WCGBA and at all representative matches. Your support has been most appreciated. Similarly, without the work of Pauline Lindley as Secretary and Peter Scott as Financial Officer this Association would grind to a halt. Without question my left and right hand Officers and I thank you both very much.

Sadly this year Mr John Lunt, Life Member to WCGBA passed away. A much respected bowler and gentleman who will be missed by all who knew him.

### **2017 – Team events**

Unfortunately a leaner season this year when it comes to successes. However the **Junior Team** led the way by qualifying from their Group in the Drakes Pride Junior County Championships with wins over Staffordshire, Derbyshire and South Yorkshire. This set up a semi-final fixture with the mighty Yorkshire. Held at Craig-y-Don Bowling Club on the 13 August the Juniors lost overall 437-369. A tough defeat for some of our brightest stars, but credit to the away Team who actually won in Yorkshire. Well done to all the Players, selectors, parents and relatives for all your commitment. Yorkshire were the eventual winner beating Warwick & Worcester by 7 chalks in the final.

The **Ladies Team** lost all three of their group games to Greater Manchester, South Yorkshire and North Lancs & Fylde respectively. Although this did not enable them to qualify for the Supplementary competition they did take accept a last minute invitation but were narrowly unsuccessful on the day.

The **Senior Team** also had an unsuccessful campaign in the Endsleigh Senior County Championship in 2017 losing all three games to Derbyshire, Shropshire and Warwick & Worcester. Credit to Joey Williams for putting himself forward as Senior Team Manager in what was undoubtedly the “Group of death”.

The **Veterans Teams (Men’s & Ladies)** both failed to qualify this year. Due to lack of interest and no-one coming forward as Ladies Veterans Team Manager, with regret, Wales will not be entering a team into this competition in 2018.

For a full and comprehensive list of all the results please see the respective websites of the WCGBA and BCGBA.

### **Competitions Committee**

Another busy year continues on the calendar. I make no apologies again for thanking David Walker, Tournament Officer for his tireless commitment to this job. David has had his own health issues this past year, but I’m grateful for your continued support. Also to the committee who work hard to ensure that the calendar of events runs as smoothly as possible.

### **Roll of Honour**

Winners this season have included:-

WCGBA Champion of Champions: Tommy Johnstone (Cheshire)

Gwyn Morris Welsh Senior Merit: Keiron Roberts (Esclusham)

Welsh Ladies Merit: Gay Cooper (Connah’s Quay)

Don James Welsh Junior Merit: Sam Williams (Cunliffe)

Ken Hardman Welsh Junior Ladies Merit: Nia Jones (Coed Talon)

Welsh Veterans Merit: Graham James (Esclusham)

Welsh Club Championship: Broughton & Bretton

Welsh Veterans Club Championship: Rhos Park

The Calendar of Events for 2018 can now be found on the website: [www.wcgba.com](http://www.wcgba.com)

On-line entries for Open Competition certificates are still available.

### **Development Committee**

Simon Walker continues the magnificent work with the Development Committee. There are some exciting projects in the pipeline to look out for. All members, of course, will be kept informed. The Development Report is available on the WCGBA website.

As a reminder your Area Development Officers are:-

Phil Maddocks (Flintshire)

Stuart Lewis (Glyndwr)

Dave Ll. Jones (Gwynedd)

Geoff Pugh (Wrexham)

All contact details will be on the WCGBA website. Please do get in touch should you require any assistance or indeed if you have an idea which you would like to see promoted.

## **Finance Committee**

This committee continues to govern the finances of the WCGBA. There was significant investment into new equipment this year, something that hadn't been undertaken at such a scale for over 20 years. As you can see the finances of the WCGBA are still in a healthy state, despite this investment and there are no proposals to increase fees for the 2018 season. Hand-outs are available at the AGM to see the amount of fundraising raised from raffles and programmes etc. A huge thank you to our fundraisers and for those you supported the WCGBA in purchasing.

A very big thank you also to George Wallett our Registrar.

## **National Performance Committee**

Full reports from the various Co-ordinators and Team Managers are available on the website.

## **Safeguarding Committee**

The Safeguarding Committee continues to work with the Area Safeguarding Officers and counter-signatory, Pauline Lindley to ensure that every club has a nominated Welfare Officer. The BCGBA Safeguarding Officer has updated the procedures in line with safeguarding bowls. Details can be found at [www.safeguardingbowls.org.uk](http://www.safeguardingbowls.org.uk)

If you have any concerns in relation to child protection or protection of a vulnerable adult then please contact your Area Safeguarding Officer:-

David Walker (Flintshire) [dmcwalker22@gamil.com](mailto:dmcwalker22@gamil.com)

Roy Mills (Glyndwr) [secretary@glyndwrbowlingassociation.co.uk](mailto:secretary@glyndwrbowlingassociation.co.uk)

D T Evans (Gwynedd) [dtevens182@googlemail.com](mailto:dtevens182@googlemail.com)

John D Lloyd (Wrexham) [johnlloyd48@btinternet.com](mailto:johnlloyd48@btinternet.com)

### **\* IMPORTANT NOTE \***

**All copies of DBS certificates have to be verified by the WCGBA Safeguarding Lead Officer. Can all Club Welfare Officers and WCGBA Officers who have DBS certificates ensure that copies are forwarded to the WCGBA Secretary. Once verified these copies will be destroyed in line with Data Protection laws**

## **Insurance**

The system for obtaining insurance this season for Clubs, Leagues and Association alike will continue. You will need to do this direct from Endsleigh to comply with guidance from the Financial Conduct Authority. Alternatively you can organise your own insurance. You are still responsible for informing the Chief Executive Officer that you have up to date insurance in place. This is non-negotiable and insurance must be in place for every club, league, association and society as per the WCGBA constitution.

## **Vacancies**

There are still vacancies for the following personnel:-

- Commercial Officer
- Safeguarding Lead Officer
- Tournament Officer

I am also announcing, with regret, that I am standing down as Chief Executive Officer after nearly 5 years at the helm. There have been some very trying times but a lot more rewarding memories. I believe it is time for another person to pick up the work which I have started and take the Association forward.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the Board Members and Officers who have supported me over the past years. I have been extremely lucky to work alongside such dedicated bowlers and administrators. Mark my words, the WCGBA is the envy of other Counties within the BCGBA.

## **Conclusion**

I would again like to thank all clubs who hosted WCGBA and representative events during 2017. Your co-operation is always greatly appreciated.

Again I make no apologies for repeating to Members that the WCGBA is not just here to serve and facilitate to what some term the “elite” end of the game. The WCGBA is here to serve all its members in whatever capacity it can. Should a club find themselves in any kind of difficulty please do not hesitate to contact your Area Secretaries:-

Flintshire: Cath Rogers  
Glyndwr: Frank Jones  
Gwynedd: D.T. Evans  
Wrexham: Pauline Lindley

I would like to pay tribute to our various Partners, sponsors and donors:- Threeways and our Patron Mr John Percy. Thanks also go to Ram Leisure Wear and Design2Print for assisting with clothing and programmes and to Sage & Co for presenting the year-end accounts.

**Matt Foster**  
**Chief Executive Officer**