#### South Yorkshire County Crown Green


#### Bowling Association

*Development Officer: - Robert S Mollekin*

*19 Broom Close, Wath-upon-Dearne, Rotherham S63 7JU*

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 *In 2014 I received completed surveys from almost every club in South Yorkshire and working with South Yorkshire Sport Sheffield put in a bid in for £9,055 funding from Sport England (Lottery Funded) which was successful first time. It was decided which twelve clubs were going to used and these clubs were spaced out covering all districts in South Yorkshire and open days would be run in 2016 and 2017.*

 *Once we had the funding in place we did run the twelve open days. In addition to these open days we planned to upgrade existing Coaches, train new Coaches, run Emergency First Aid courses and Safeguarding and Protecting Children courses. We also purchased new equipment (Adult Bowls, Junior Bowls, Targets, Footers, Large Cones, Small Cones and Advertising Banners) to be used on the family days and any open days run in the future at any club in South Yorkshire.*

*It is important to remember that if something is not done to encourage more people of all ages to become involved in bowling the future of the sport could be lost. Any positive move to promote the game is welcome and this project has helped to support the game in South Yorkshire. Having run the twelve open days, I am delighted to report that we greatly exceeded the set target which was 180 people of all ages trying out the game of Crown Green Bowls. We, in fact, achieved 446 in total and 185 were under the age of 26.*

*Looking forward, I will be seeking funding in three areas 1: - help so that I can produce a power point presentation to take into schools and other organisations to explain what we can deliver, 2: - to get the word out by advertising through the media, 3: - buy pull-up information screens to use with presentations and to display at greens when we have an open day. I will also be working with Disability Bowls England to get disabled bowlers of all levels onto as many greens as possible.*

*I have sent out another survey this year to all clubs to find out which of them need help. I have also asked other general questions about disabled access to greens, if they have First Aiders or a defibrillator. I am also in the process of finding out what funding is available to help clubs, for example, some clubs don’t have access to toilets all day or a water supply or electricity. I have started getting surveys back and this is giving me a good start to help clubs.*

*I would like to repeat what was in my last report I will be putting over the point to all funders and other associations that with a lot of sports the parents stand at the side and watch while the young ones participate but crown green bowls allows the parents and grandparents to play and get as much enjoyment out of the sport as the younger ones. It is also beneficial from a health point of view, providing exercise for all fitness levels.*

###### *Yours sincerely*

###### *Robert S. Mollekin*

 *SYCCGBA Development Officer*

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*I have been asked to update everyone on what has been happening since I submitted my report to the British Crown Green development meeting last October.*

*I would like to make it very clear that I will not remain the development officer if I don’t get 100% support from all clubs in South Yorkshire. The survey that I sent out only needed a short time to fill in by a club member, the time-consuming part is for me to sort through the information received in order to identify the needs of each club. This information can help me when I am talking to funders about the possibility of them helping us with each of the different difficulties we are facing. I will be looking at the surveys to see if I can help with issues that have been highlighted but I will be focusing on issues one at a time and this will take a lot of time.*

*I am working with a group who specialise in the production of DVD’s and advertising, we are going to produce two DVD’s; one is to let other groups and organisations know what we have to offer in South Yorkshire and the second is for education/training.*

*I am also working with Disability Sport England to encourage disabled bowlers onto our bowling greens this would boost income through green fees and possibly add more members to clubs. I am putting in a bid in for two Special wheelchairs that will be available for any bowling club in South Yorkshire to use. I have also included in the bid funds to run four open taster days for any of the disabled organisations to bring along its members to try out this great sport. Crown Green Bowls will be added to the disabled website if we support them.*

*One other suggestion I wish to put to all clubs is that each club has an extra name attached to its club name to attract more people to the game of Crown Green Bowls.*

*Listed below are just some ideas for names: -*

*Dolphins, Titans, Steelers, Ravens, Chiefs, Raiders, Charges, Rhinos, Eagles, Jets, Broncos, Colts, Gladiators, Warriors, Jets and many more.*

*This could be linked to a sponsor or local pub.*

*e.g.*

*Cortonwood v Thorncliffe Cortonwood (Bulls) v Thorncliffe (Tigers)*

*Roundwood v Hickleton Roundwood (Rollers) v Hickleton (Hot-rods)*

*This works in other sports so why not try it, if any club wishes to run with this idea I would be willing to take any clubs idea of a name for them. I would also be able to make sure no name is used by two different clubs, we must not use any reference to old, I am still trying to get over that this not just a game for the older generation.*

###### *Yours sincerely*

###### *Robert S. Mollekin*

 *SYCCGBA Development Officer*