



Newsletter of the EBUA

Autumn 2012

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### Secretary's Report

At the last executive meeting it was discussed and agreed that the structure of the EBUA should be reorganized into just six areas and no Zones. Listed below are the new areas which are now called by number instead of Midlands or North etc.

#### **AREA 1 Lancs & Yorks - Cumbria, Durham & Northumberland**

Mrs Valerie Coldwell, 50 Harrington Avenue, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1QE  
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#### **AREA 2 Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Warkwickshire, Worcestershire**

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#### **AREA 3 Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk, Suffolk.**

Trevor Hackett 1 Corriander Drive Elsenham Bishops Stortford Herts CM22 6DL  
Phone: 01279 813735  
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#### **AREA 4 Kent, Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex.**

Allan Thornhill 8 Ontario Close Smallfields Surrey RH6 9RA  
Tel :01342 844780  
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#### **AREA 5 Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Oxfordshire, Somerset, Wiltshire**

Ray Keen Compromise Cottage

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Email: [rayjkeen@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rayjkeen@yahoo.co.uk)

#### **AREA 6 Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Hampshire. Isle of Wight,**

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Tel: 01202822219

Email: [gjohndavies@btinternet.com](mailto:gjohndavies@btinternet.com)

An Area Secretary is selected by the members in an area nominating candidates and then electing one of them by a ballot at the Area meeting.

Each Area Secretary will appoint a Coordinator for each County who will be nominated at an area meeting. The Area Secretary and County Coordinator posts will then be ratified at the National AGM.

In liaison with the Development Officer a Tutor and examiner will be appointed within each area, as well as Tutor / Examiner assistants.

### Future Funding

The letter below has been sent to all county's in an attempt to explain and standardise funding for the EBUA. If questioned by anyone in your county about the content when they receive it you will now know what they are asking about.

Dear County Administrator/Secretary,

No one becomes an umpire to get rich. Equally, no one becomes an umpire in order to subsidise the rest of the bowling community. We have recently

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## Area 2

In April we ran our first Workshop of the year at Leicester IBC with 25 attending, including 5 of our Examination team and 2 Tutors up for retest. Nerves were on edge, as whilst they were all competent umpires, a wrong multiple choice answer will be picked up by the others. Also as Area Secretary, I did not want to go down in history as the first A.S. to fail.

The standard was very high, much I believe to do with the Training Manuals & DVD which allow a more leisurely opportunity to study the various measuring techniques and to improve ones marking ability.

All our upgrades passed, including a number of our lady colleagues who had taken this opportunity to upgrade from Club to Regional.

Our congratulations go to :

Trisha Basford(Northants)	Upgraded to Regional
Gillian Cliff (Worcs)	Upgraded to Regional
Peter Daghish (Warwicks)	Upgraded to National
Jean Daghish (Warwicks)	New Club
Ron Forster (Leics)	New Club
David Ward (Leics)	Upgraded to National
Brenice Willmott (Northants)	Upgraded to Regional

Plus all the other successful retests – well done

Two new Club umpires Stewart Barton & John Scott who completed their first stage last October also attended which will put them in good stead for the end of their first year.

The Tutors and Examiners are also more clearly in tune with the requirements of the course, although the usual enemy of waiting around for your turn can sometimes be annoying. We are currently looking at ways to eliminate waiting time.

The Workshop was also attended by Patrick Hulbert of Bowls International who was interested to find out more about Umpire training and admitted that even as an international bowler himself he found the Workshop very illuminating. Keep your eyes open for an article in Bowls International.

Our thanks go to Leicester IBC and especially to Harold Palmer, who not only set out the facilities, arranged all the meals, was barman and then took on the role of examiner. He obviously does not have enough to do!!

Also we must thank the other unsung heroes - the team of Examiners & Tutors who by their contribution make such an event as successful as it is.

Our congratulations also go to Graham Gibbins who has been selected to umpire at the Games in Australia later this year

We are in conversation with the Midland Counties Association (Outdoor) with a view to ending the problems of payment for umpires and all those appointed to the Midland Counties matches this season will have received a claim form (you can donate and receive Vernon's undying gratitude!!). That's 42 umpiring appointments which we may not have had. Here again, the umpiring duties have been spread across both men & women umpires and the men players are slowly getting used to a touch of beauty at their matches. On the other hand, we have a mixture of men & women at the John's matches but here I am not stupid enough to ask questions.

The two different methods of appointing umpires is slowly getting put to bed and we are now appointing umpires to both men's & women's matches, rather than through the local county official. It is certainly spreading the appointments more fairly and seems to be going fairly well although we still have a couple of counties where the local officials don't seem to want to lose their grip. We shall resolve this before long.

We also hosted two PBA rounds very successfully, ably handled by Harold Palmer & John Sleight.

Brian P. Burton  
Acting Area Secretary

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## Area 1

Hi there folks.

I have just returned from a holiday in Australia, and whilst in Adelaide I decided to take a look at Lockley's Bowls club.

This is one of the venues of World bowls 2012. I was shown around by a helpful member of the club. There are four greens and I saw where the umpires will be situated. I also was shown where the television cameras will be placed so that when I watch it on TV I will feel as if I am there.

I should like to send my best wishes to Ray Keene, Graham Gibbins and Angie Watkins who are our EBUA ambassadors and have been invited to umpire there during World bowls, I hope you have a really good time.

Best wishes Val Coldwell.  
Acting Area Secretary

## Area 6

The Area will be holding its Annual Meeting on Sunday 28th October 2012 at Exonia IBC.

A Training workshop was held in Taunton in September when 5 new umpires qualified. Further workshops are planned for Poole 23rd & 24th March and Ryde 27th & 28th April 2013.

John Davies  
Acting Area Secretary

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## Area 5

It has just been decided that our Area will include the usual Herefordshire, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire with the addition of Somerset.

We have held one Assessment Weekend this year in May at Westlecot IBC with the following results:-

I invited 19 Umpires that needed to be reassessed of which I had 4 retire, 6 no replies, 2 that could not fit in with the dates and 7 attend.

On top of that I had 3 Upgrades, 4 Potentials, 2 Assessments from 2011 and 1 Potential Retake.

All of the reassessments and the Potentials passed, 1 with 100%, and the 3 Upgrades failed.

We also held a reassessment day for 3 Umpires that had previously failed their tests and all 3 passed.

We had an Area Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October again at Westlecot with 23 Umpires attending. All the normal topics were discussed and it was felt generally that most of the attendees were reasonably happy with the Association and the way it was going.

We have 21 Umpires in Berks, 18 in Bucks, 21 in Glous, 9 in Herefordshire, 7 in Oxon and 12 in Wilts. I do not have the figures for Somerset yet.

Peter Stewart, County Coordinator from Wiltshire, decided to retire this year due to ill health after working tirelessly for our Association for the last 8 years for which I thank him greatly.

I also thank Dan Bluett for taking over the position who has already settled in and carrying out his duties to a high standard.

Well done to all of my Umpires and County Coordinators, despite our numbers dropping I feel the Area is working well and covering the required duties.

Ray Keen  
Acting Area Secretary

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## Area 3

We held a Training Workshop at Cambridge Chesterton IBC on June 23rd & 24th. We were well looked after by the club during our two days there with their chef coming on site at 8AM to cook us breakfast and returning at 12 Noon to cook our lunches.

We had 11 potential umpires on the course, 10 of whom passed the assessment. I would therefore like to welcome the following Club umpires to the Association:

Richard Lunn	Norfolk
Sylvia Jones	Herts
Brian Davies	Suffolk
Vince O'Connor	Essex
Jeffrey Tucker	Norfolk
Carol Hogg	Notts
Roger Carter	Herts
Pauline Cunningham	Essex
George Coxwell	Herts
Janine Edwards	Beds

There were also 8 successful retests and one upgrade. I would like to congratulate George Adams who successfully upgraded from Regional to National Grade.

Special thanks to all the examiners and training assistants for all their help in making the event so successful.

I have been trying to arrange a further training workshop during either November or December this year but have so far failed to accomplish this. When a venue has been available, either the National Tutor or the National Examiner have been unavailable. The search goes on but it seems more likely to take place at the end of January or even February now.

I should like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the Area 3 Annual Meeting will take place on December 1st at Elsenham Bowls Club.

Trevor Hackett  
Acting Area Secretary

## National Development Officer

Having been in post for a few months now, one of the common issues and concerns I have relates to the opportunity for new members to gain experience as umpires. I have put forward a proposal to the Executive which has been supported and I propose to introduce in January 2013. In summary it will mean that once a new member has completed and passed their home study Module 1, instead of waiting for a workshop to be arranged in their area, new members details will be passed to the Area Secretary who will put the new member in contact with a regional examiner/tutor for a 1:1 practical demonstration of a few basic measuring exercises as taken from the training manual. This will enable the new umpire to prove their physical abilities on the rink having previously demonstrated their theoretical knowledge by passing the Home Study Module.

If the new member demonstrates their ability to competently and correctly carry out the basic measuring exercises they will be issued with a Provisional Umpires certificate. As well as the certificate they will also receive an Observation Log and will be allocated games to attend with a qualified and experienced umpire on a mentoring basis. At this stage they will not be required to wear an umpires uniform and will attend in greys or whites as appropriate. The Observation Log will remain with the Provisional Umpire until it has been fully completed after which it will be passed on to the Area Secretary for updating the Membership records.

At each of the games the Provisional Umpire will observe the umpire and will be picking up knowledge and tips from the umpire on the day. They may also assist in pre game activity such as rink measurements, checking bowls etc. Both the Provisional Umpire and their mentor for that game will complete the Observation log, capturing any particular comments, issues or tips. After a few "mentored" sessions the new Provisional Umpire may be asked to assist the qualified umpire with on green activity such as line measures, mat measures etc. After several games the Provisional Umpire will be ready for their workshop and examination. This arrangement requires the support and involvement of existing umpires and I ask all experienced umpires to support your new colleagues and give them plenty of information and encouragement when you are mentoring them. Further details about the Observation log and the mentoring role will be provided.

It is proposed that those who pass that examination will become Regional Umpires and will be able to assist at any games up to and including county competitions. The Club Umpire category will eventually disappear as umpires come forward for their 4 yearly reviews.

National Competitions and National finals will continue to be attended by National Umpires and it will be for the County Coordinators to ensure the appropriate caliber of umpire for the given event.

More details will be provided on the EBUA website in due course. It is intended that this new arrangement will provide more opportunities for new umpires to gain experience quicker.

## Request for help

Many Area Secretaries are struggling to find venues to stage workshops and examinations. If your club has access to a meeting room that can be used for the tutorials and 2 rinks for the practical exercises, please let your Area Secretary know so that we can arrange more of these important sessions.

Many thanks and I hope you have enjoyable and rewarding umpiring and marking activities

Bob Penny

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## Vernon Findell

Vernon Findell, our Association treasurer has made it known that he will not be seeking re-election at the end of his 3 year term, which ends at the AGM 2014.

If anyone out there is interested in this post please make it known to him in the first instance so you can have a resume of the work involved. His e-mail address is [findellvernon@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:findellvernon@yahoo.co.uk) or 01983297036.



## Secretary's Report

(Continued from Page 1)

amalgamated the EBUA (men) & the EWUA (women) umpires organisations into a single new unified EBUA.

This has thrown up some anomalies and has forced us to look closely at our funding arrangements.

Traditionally, the EBUA worked on a system of direct donations from clubs and counties, whereby umpires could be recompensed for out of pocket expenses via the EBUA Treasurer.

Additional donations from the governing body covered such expenses for a number of major National competitions & towards the training of umpires.

On the other hand, the EWUA have never had donations, except for a levy on bowlers to cover the Leamington finals. They have always charged the participating clubs on the day (typically £10-£15).

However, this system has to be fair and over the last few years has become progressively unfair with the clubs / Counties who make sensible donations subsidising those who make very little or none.

Looking at the Midland Counties Men's Associations (Outdoor) in the table below, it can be seen that we receive varying donations from the different counties.

Although these Counties have differing numbers of clubs, their umpiring requirements are broadly the same, but as you can see, there are many variations in donations if any are made at all.

If Warwickshire play Nottinghamshire, do we ask Nottinghamshire to pay on the day, as Warwickshire have already made a sensible donation? Does the umpire then claim the other half of his / her expenses from the EBUA? This is a nonsense scenario and it is unfair to ask either the EBUA members or

the other counties to subsidise the non payers.

We are therefore asking that each County should make the same donation. This would be a fairer system and would enable us to continue as the old EBUA system.

We would also prefer to operate just one system for both men and ladies. All County Associations should be, or about to be, unified in line with the requirements of Bowls England and Sports England.

To that end we would suggest that only one donation per outside County should be made i.e. £150 / £200 (or whatever figure you decide with Vernon Findell E.B.U.A Treasurer Tel: 01983 297036, email: findellvernon@yahoo.co.uk ) per County which would allow the EBUA to provide umpires at each County's Quarter / Semi / Finals of their competitions which lead to National Finals at Worthing and Leamington Spa and at John's Trophy and Middleton Cup games.

If any County requires an umpire for events which are not covered by these arrangements, then the umpire will expect to receive a set fee for providing their services, currently, of £10.00 per session. If a meal is provided, such meal is expected to be provided free of charge. These arrangements are for any requirements for an umpire within the County in which they reside. Counties must bear in mind any instances where the umpire has been required to travel long distances with the current rising cost of fuel, particularly to another County. Arrangements will have to be made, by each County, to pay the umpire on the day; it would be a very happy situation for all umpires if they did not have to ask for this payment!

Most umpires simply want to put something back into a game which they have enjoyed for a number of years, but this does not mean subsidising it! In these trying times, we all know that money is tight, but I cannot expect an umpire to travel several miles in many cases, without any consideration to some form of recompense.

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County	Donations		
	2009	2010	2011
Derbyshire	£25.00	£0	£65.00
Leicestershire	£100	£100	£0
Lincolnshire	£50.00	£50.00	£50.00
Northamptonshire	£35.00	£.0	£0
Nottinghamshire	£0	£0	£0
Warwickshire	£100	£100	£100
Worcestershire	£50.00	£75.00	£75.00

### Secretary's Report

(Continued from Page 5)

From April 2013 we will have in place 6 regions with a Regional Secretary organising all activities for umpire requirements.

Each region will have a County Coordinator, (one for each county in a region), in some counties there may be two Coordinators because of the geographical area being to large for one Coordinator. You as County Secretary/Administrator will be furnished with contact details of whom to contact for what duty.

It is anticipated all requests for umpires goes through the umpires association using the contacts we will furnish you with and a clear cut who does what detail.

If you would discuss this with your colleagues at your next meeting, I would be grateful. I look forward to hearing a positive response from you with regard to our funding requirement. If, in the meantime, I can be of any assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,  
English Bowls Umpires Association

Rick Moore  
National Secretary

The year has moved along quite nicely without any serious incidents, and with your help and advice I hope it will continue. If any member can think of doing something different the officers are willing to listen.

One thing that was a problem is the way marking a game is carried out. It was nothing really major and will rectify itself over the coming year.

The difference of opinion came from male umpires who were invited to umpire and mark at Leamington. What became evident was the different styles of marking, the men over the last few years have developed time management whilst marking. The men asking bowlers to turn the board when they were at the board end and the marker would do it when they were at the board end. This is of course totally foreign to the ladies and almost anyone other than male umpires / markers.

All of the bowlers who had men as markers fell in line with the request and got on with their bowling, (bowlers are used to board turning; they play without umpires / markers most of their games).

As members attend the seminars prior to re-qualifying they will have the benefit of being taught time management whilst marking.

The Training manual covers this subject in detail and if anyone wants a manual prior to a seminar they can most certainly have one. The manual is now part of an umpires kit and will be made available to you when you attend a seminar.

It's unfortunate that I did not foresee the problem it would have been so easy to sort. A chat between ourselves would have done the trick.

Rick Moore  
Secretary

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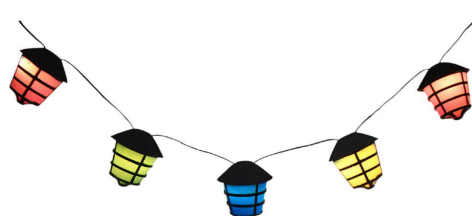
### Senator Spirolux Pocket Diary with Executive Eurohide Cover

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**£3 per Diary (excluding Postage and Packaging)**

(If you would like one of these diaries, please order direct from Rick Moore on 0116 276 1753. Ed..)



### WHO SAID UMPIRES CANNOT BOWL

How many times have you heard the phrase “ I umpire because I am no good at bowling”?

Well that has all changed now.

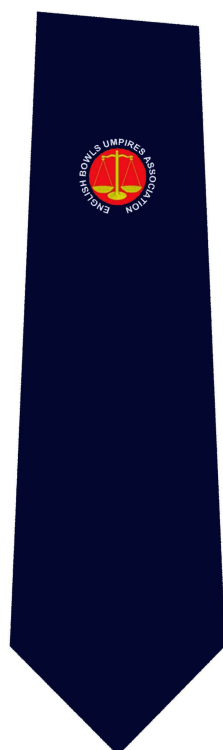
On the week-end of 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> October the Warner’s Champion of Champions took place at Hayling Island. It was for the weekly winners of Warners Bowls Breaks at venues all over England, and the highest prize money of all National finals, being £3000-00 for the winning rink, and £1000-00 for the runner up.

The Eales family, ably led by Kimberley, a Club umpire went on to scoop first prize, also runner up was an ex umpire Joe Ciplinski’s rink, who not only came second, but actually picked up an eight in an earlier round. So do not give up bowling completely, bowl and umpire at the same time, there is still a chance!!

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### EBUA TIE

For those of you that requested an EBUA tie and do not have one, it is available from Karen Wood on the website at a price of £7 plus £2 p & p,



### Margaret Sanders

We are sad to report of the death of Margaret Sanders.

Margaret was a long standing member of EWUA, She served on the executive committee for many years and had the overall responsibly for stock, so will be known to many women members.

She was also a member of the executive of EWIBA and the new EIBA Ltd and had been President of Lincoln.

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I would like to express my thanks for the Honour of receiving Life membership of the EBUA.

I have been a member since 1982/3 and always enjoy being part of some outstanding events by the use of my measure.

Jessie

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### Summer Jacket

There is a summer jacket available now. It looks very similar to the navy blue shirt in style and is shower-proof.

If you would like more details of this jacket please contact Tony Hatch (Essex umpire) on 01708 470339. He is acting as our contact point between the EBUA and the manufacturer.

Tony can supply you with size information and pricing details.



If you have received this newsletter by snail mail, and you now have a computer, and you have an e-mail address please send the following message to: [findellvernon@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:findellvernon@yahoo.co.uk)  
"my name is..... and this is my e-mail address.

## **AND FINALLY**

### **2013 SUBSCRIPTIONS**

**It's that time of the year again.**

**If you have got a membership card dated 2013 or later, this does not refer to you.**

**But if you have got one dated 2012 and you have not filled in a standing order mandate please be aware that your subs are due by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013.**

**If they have not been received by the treasurer by then your name will be deleted from the Associations Membership list, and you will no longer be able to act as an umpire, but more importantly not covered by our insurance.**

**If you have not filled in a standing order mandate please seriously think about it. No records are kept anywhere on the Associations computers.**

**VERNON FINDELL "SCROOGE" TREASURER**

### **2013 SUBSCRIPTIONS**

