

Report for Kent Junior Bowlers 2020-2021 to be held 20/08/2020

Kent ICC squads for 2020

U16 Boys

- Shea Warren
- Jarod Nowlan
- Henry Connor
- William Herbert
- Harry Mitchell

U22 Boys

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Robert Abbott | Louis Westlake |
| Nathan Smith | Joe Trevor |
| Hayden Baxter | Henry Connor |
| Jack Welch | |
| Shea Warren | |

There were not enough Kent bowlers who entered the trials this year for the U12 division and no girls teams.

Inter County Championships 2020

This year has been exceptional in many ways and for the first time in my experience we have watched as one tournament after another has been postponed or cancelled due to the ongoing pandemic.

The U16s at Guildford Spectrum on 25th April and the U22s at Nottingham Bowl on 4th/5th July both had to be cancelled and KTBA have made provision to offer the trials money back to our bowlers as no team had been selected.

Junior Bowling News

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic the 2019/2020 Youth Bowling Tour was forced to cancel all events after the Northern and Southern Challenge Tournaments and the season was declared complete at this point.

William Herbert (TWYBC) achieved 3rd place in Div C Boys and Henry Connor (TWYBC) achieved 2nd place in U15 Boys, we have their trophies and will be happy to present them to them as soon as is practical.

It was announced in the BTBA 2020 Annual Review that having the National Association of Youth Bowling Clubs operating with a separate Chairman no longer fits with the direction the BTBA is progressing. On 15th March 2020 Youth Bowling England (YBE) was established within the BTBA to develop youth and junior bowling at all levels in England, from the “grass roots” using our network of Youth Bowling Clubs (YBCs) to “Elite level” with Youth Team England. The country has been divided into three regional areas to support our junior bowlers and for our area it will be headed by Stuart Watson, Youth Bowling Support (South). It will be the responsibility of him and his team to work with bowlers, coaches, YBC's and parents to learn the specific needs and requirements which YBE can support them with.

Now the bit I wish I didn't have to write. It has been announced that at the beginning of July, and within days of each other we lost two of my former colleagues and friends from NAYBC Junior England Academy, Jim Missen and Lee Hart. Many of you who went through the Academy will remember them with affection and they will be sadly missed.

Covid 19 Return to Bowling Update

At the time of writing this (24th July) we have probably all just received the email from Lisa John, BTBA Chairman advising that although the Bowls may reopen on 1st August the news for leagues is not that optimistic, and that is providing and hoping that the major chains do want us back at all.

By the time of the August meeting things may be clearer and the KTBA Chairman may have further and better news,

Peter Leeke

Kent Youth County Manager