ENGLISH INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION LTD



JUNIOR ACTIVITIES FOR BOWLS CLUBS

Activities for the Junior Section

There are plenty of coaching manuals around to assist coaches who are responsible for the juniors at a club but it is also imperative that we provide other activities to keep their interest and this Guide will provide some suggestions.

As is the case with all Guides produced under the EIBA Projects banner we would like it to be a living document and should you have other games/activities that your club have found successful please let us know so we can include it in the next edition.

In this age of recycling it is a good idea to ask club members to return any unwanted bowls trophies so that the junior section can re-use them for their various events.

1. Football League

Popular with adults, as well as children. Teams (triples usually) dress in their favourite football club replica shirts. A team can only score a goal if they hold at least 3 bowls closest to the jack. If a skip fires and destroys the head, then that is a penalty and the opposition in the next end can remove one bowl from the head at the end of the game.

2. Squash League

As in squash the weakest player is placed at the bottom of the list and you can only challenge the player above you on the list to a game of singles so that you then replace him/her on the ladder.

This is quite useful addition to the list of activities as the children can challenge each other before a session gets under way or at the end of the session with little supervision required.

3. Cricket

Set up a wicket and bales at the end of the rink (plastic ones you see for sale at the seaside), place a board across the centre of the rink approx 4 feet long to prevent firing and the object of the exercise is to knock the bales off.

To add interest when bowling back down the rink, with the board still in place, a cardboard box is placed in the centre of the rink with a mars bar on top and whoever knocks it off wins the mars bar.

4. Target

There are two types of target on the market, the bulls eye type laid flat on the carpet and the wedge shape. Both very useful to be introduced at the end of a training session. A league table could be set up with a prize for top scorer at the end of the season.

5. Golf

With the aid of old carpet and coloured baize you can set up a golf course on the green with the usual bunkers and obstacles .If the club have artificial trees or bushes on display around the club they can be used as obstacles to add interest, even a litter basket would suffice.

6. One Bowl Singles

A very quick, end of session, singles tournament with a difference. Each player is only allowed one bowl. It will be over in no time at all, and is a great leveler.

7. Team Cricket

Set up six mats in a circle in the middle of the green and the other six mats are placed at different distances from the central mats. Chalk the mats with the scores 1 to 6, with the furthest placed mat scoring a six etc.

The first team (any number of players) in to bat then nominate which mat each player will bowl to. Highest team score wins.

Of course you can make it as difficult as you wish by insisting at least one player must have a go at each of the scoring mats, with as many innings as you wish.

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