

Bowls Midlothian urge clubs to sign up for radical new format

In a bold move to re-define the landscape of bowls and usher in a new era Bowls Midlothian have looked to Australia for inspiration and announced the launch of the Bowls Midlothian under-35 Ultimate Bowls League (UBL).

Organisers claim a significant step forward has been made to embrace innovation, inclusivity, and a vibrant spirit in seeking to captivate both seasoned enthusiasts and newcomers.

A statement regarding what many will see as radical development says: “For too long bowls has carried the stereotype of being a sport reserved for the older generation.

“But with the recent surge of interest and participation in dynamic bowls events globally the time is ripe for change. Inspired by the success of initiatives like the Ultimate Bowls Championship (UBC) in Australia, we are thrilled to introduce a league that not only pays homage to the rich heritage of the sport but also embraces the evolving tastes and preferences of modern audiences.

“At the heart of the Bowls Midlothian under-35 UBL lies a commitment to re-imagining the traditional bowls experience. Gone are the days of quiet greens and subdued attire; instead,

we invite players and spectators to immerse themselves in a dynamic environment filled with colourful teamwear, attractive team logos, and fast-paced scoring systems. The league promises an adrenaline-fueled spectacle that will leave participants and onlookers alike on the edge of their seats.”

Across Midlothian teams like the Dalkeith Dragons, Gilmerton Gators, Buccleuch Bulls and LMW Lions, amongst others, are agearing up to compete for the inaugural title.

In a strategic collaboration aimed at enhancing the visual appeal and professionalism of the teams, Bowls Midlothian has partnered with locally-based teamwear specialists XX:20.

Led by Director and Scottish Internationalist, Megan Grantham, XX:20 is renowned for its commitment to modernising teamwear within the bowls community.

Megan Grantham said: “XX:20 was built on the foundations to modernise the teamwear in bowls, and this exciting new competition fits that bill! We are delighted to be part of the buzz!”

Participating teams can look forward to donning stunning, high-quality teamwear claiming to reflect the dynamic spirit of the league.

The new set-up allows teams to score up to a maximum of 25 shots by getting points for touchers, lead bowl and then 10 for first shot, five for second shot and three for third shot. Each team plays six bowls but ultimately only three out of the 12 at each end will score points.

Normally players would only be able to score between four and a maximum eight or nine shots per end.

Clubs have until 10 March to enter their teams with the league due to get underway at the end of April.

David Kelly, Bowls Midlothian Secretary, affirms that the

league has sparked conversations among bowlers not only within Midlothian but also further afield and emphasises the league's potential to invigorate interest in the sport, particularly among younger demographics.

Bowls Midlothian is also unveiling a new youth coaching initiative, called BowlsBoost.

With these combined efforts, David envisages a revitalisation of youth participation in bowls

For more information about the Bowls Midlothian under-35 UBL, including how to get involved or support the league through sponsorship, please visit www.bowlsmidlothian.co.uk or contact David Kelly.



U35

**ULTIMATE BOWLS
LEAGUE**