

The background is a photograph of a bowls club session. A male coach in a blue t-shirt and black shorts stands with his hands on his hips, watching a young boy in a black hoodie and black pants who is in a crouched position, preparing to bowl a red ball. Several blue balls are scattered on the green. In the background, other people are visible, including a woman sitting on a bench and a group of children standing together. The scene is outdoors on a sunny day with trees and a building in the distance.

CLUB, COACH AND VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR 2026

WELCOME

Welcome to Bowls Scotland's Club, Coach and Volunteer Development Calendar 2026.

All our club development, coach and volunteering courses and workshops are bookable via our Online Club and Membership System where you will find a description of the event. To book a place, click on the booking link relevant to your workshop and use the Booking a Course Guide, available on our website:

www.bowlsscotland.com/club-development/online-membership

The opportunities showcased in this document are not exhaustive, and if you or your club are looking for support in another area, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us and we can look to support as much as possible.

Places are limited for each course so please book your place early to avoid disappointment.



KEY CONTACTS

For further information on the Coach and Volunteering courses, workshops, and forums or for any other coach and volunteer support, please get in touch;

Alan McDonald - Coach & Volunteer Manager
alanmcdonald@bowlsscotland.com

For information on the Club Development opportunities available or if you require any other club development support, please get in touch with your National Development Officer:

National Development Manager East: Stuart Bell
07525 134385 stuartbell@bowlsscotland.com

National Development Officer West: Holly Hamilton
07715 025736 hollyhamilton@bowlsscotland.com

National Development Officer North: Vacant
info@bowlsscotland.com

Disability Development Officer: Stuart Chesby
07907 867026 stuartchesby@bowlsscotland.com



REQUEST A COURSE

We want our clubs to have as much flexibility and opportunity as possible and we are fully aware of challenges around travelling long distances to Development Courses. Our Development Calendar has opportunities all over Scotland, but in addition to these opportunities we are now accepting requests from clubs who would like a development opportunity at their own club to ensure everyone can access our resources.

If any club would like to enquire about running their own course, please check the criteria below;

- **Minimum of 6 participants**
(Multiple local clubs can link together)
- **Be able to provide a suitable green/venue for course/workshop**
- **Work with Bowls Scotland to find suitable dates for tutors**

To request a bespoke development opportunity, please **[CLICK HERE](#)** or contact info@bowlsscotland.com



COACHING QUALIFICATIONS

Bowls Scotland is committed to developing and delivering accessible education and development opportunities for coaches and club volunteers across Scotland. A benefit of affiliation to Bowls Scotland is 50% discounted coach education courses.

See below a full list of courses currently available to all clubs in Scotland. Thanks to feedback from clubs, we deliver a large proportion of education courses during the winter months at Indoor clubs to avoid outdoor calendar clashes, however we can deliver at outdoor clubs should upon request. Coaches do not need to be Indoor Bowls players to access indoor education opportunities.

If you cannot access any of the opportunities available, please look to our Request a Course option.

Coach Education Subsidy Fund

Thanks to **sport**scotland investment, eligible individuals or clubs can apply for 50%, 75% or 100% discount on their Bowls Scotland education costs.

The following five target areas are open to application for financial support:

- Female coaches
- Coaches aged 16-25 years old
- Coaches with a disability
- Coaches from rural areas
- Coaches from areas of social deprivation

For more information on eligibility or to submit an application, please [click here](#).



COURSES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Introduction to Bowls Coaching Award (IBCA)

Play your part in introducing new players of any age to the brilliant game of bowls. Coaches will leave with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to deliver fun and safe sessions to new bowlers of any age whether at regular club sessions or a Try Bowls event. The main focus is on coaches leading fun activities with an aim to create a social, safe & inclusive environment in your sessions and providing the entry level skills to start your coaching journey.

Structure: 2 Hours online learning & 2 Hours on-green training (4 Hours)

Cost: Affiliated Clubs - £40 or Non-Affiliated Clubs - £80

Introduction to Coaching Para Bowls Award

The Introduction to Coaching Para Bowls award is aimed at allowing coaches to experience and understand navigating adaptations for coaching bowlers with a disability. The course provides introduction to Visually Impaired Bowls as well as Physically Disabled bowlers. Coaches get the opportunity to try out some specific Para Bowls equipment, as well as gather hints and tips to make their coaching sessions more inclusive and open to all players with a disability.

Structure: 2 Hours online learning & 3 Hours on-green training (5 Hours)

Cost: Affiliated Clubs - £40 or Non-Affiliated Clubs - £80



IBCA COURSES

Date	Time	Venue	Booking Link
29/03/2026	2PM-4PM	East Lothian IBC	Click Here
22/04/2026	6PM-8PM	Ladybank BC	Click Here
25/04/2026	10AM-12PM	Stranraer BC	Click Here
28/4/26	6PM-8PM	Tarbert BC	Click Here



INTRODUCTION TO COACHING PARA BOWLS COURSES

Date	Time	Venue	Booking Link
15/03/2026	10AM-1PM	Midlothian IBC	Click Here



LEVEL I BOWLS COACHING AWARD

This course is designed to allow coaches to learn how to develop and improve existing players within your club or take them from beginner level to a more intermediate standard.

Coaches will leave with the knowledge, skills and confidence to deliver fun, safe and progressive sessions that develop club players using skills-based practices to produce a more consistent line and length. Coaches will also design and deliver practices to improve the decision-making abilities of players, discuss technique and tactics and learn how to adapt coaching sessions for a variety of situations and individuals.

Structure: 2 Hours online pre-course learning & 8 Hours on-green training (10 Hours)

Note – All online learning information will be sent out approximately 7 days before the event

Cost: Affiliated Clubs - £80 or Non-Affiliated Clubs - £160



LEVEL I BOWLS COACHING COURSES

Date	Time	Venue	Booking Link
11/01/2026	10am-6pm	Blantyre BC	Click Here
01/02/2026	10am-6pm	Cumbernauld BC	Click Here
08/02/2026	10am-6pm	Glasgow IBC	Click Here
22/02/2026	10am-6pm	Stirling IBC	Click Here
01/03/2026	10am-6pm	Aberdeen IBC	Click Here
18/04/2026	10am-6pm	Ladybank BC	Click Here
19/04/2026	10am-6pm	Nairn BC	Click Here



LEVEL 2 AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Level 2 Bowls Coaching Award

Our Level 2 Award enables experienced coaches to use their skills and knowledge to understand their players better. Coaches learn the skills required to create individual development plans to help their players improve.

The course will focus on working with one-to-one coaching or small groups and will help coaches understand Player Testing, monitoring of progress and Podium Pathway to better help players progress into higher level opportunities. The course takes place over a full season and involves coursework to be completed at your own club during that season. There is also mentoring support available for coaches throughout the season to help develop their individual needs as a Level 2 Coach.

This course allows experienced coaches to develop their coaching abilities across a range of areas. Coaches will examine technical and tactical aspects of team and individual play and will learn how to profile bowlers and develop action plans to help improve their player's game. The course will explore – profiling, bowler assessments, nutrition, fitness, tactical approaches, planning linked sessions, coaching teams, and coaching through games.

Structure: 2 Full days in-person training, 3 hours online training mid-season and 10 hours coursework at home (25 Hours)

Cost: Affiliated Clubs - £120 or Non-Affiliated Clubs - £240

Requirements: Coaches must have achieved Level 1 and be actively coaching at a performance level to register. Sign up for the Level 2 course is done through an application process.



SAFEGUARDING COURSES

CWPO and CWPS

Bowls Scotland requires all those working with children (i.e. coaches, officials and helpers) within a club as well as those accompanying children on trips, regardless of whether in a paid capacity or as a volunteer, attend the relevant Child Protection courses. Child Protection Training should be repeated every three years.

It is mandatory for Clubs with players or members aged Under 18 to have a trained Wellbeing & Protection Officer (WPOs) in place.

It is recommended that anyone coaching or working with children also attend CWPS training once every 3 years to ensure the children you are working with are as safe as possible.

The cost of both CWPS and CWPO courses is FREE.

Bowls Scotland absorb all costs and are committed to keeping these courses free of charge to ensure clubs can easily comply with government legislation.

If your club requires support with PVG applications, please email safeguarding@bowlsscotland.com

More information on safeguarding can be found on our website:
www.bowlsscotland.com/safeguarding



SAFEGUARDING COURSES (CWPS)

Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport (CWPS) supersedes the previous Safeguarding and Protecting Children (SPC) course. The training will provide you with the knowledge on child wellbeing and protection that will give you the confidence to deal with issues that may arise in your role working with children.

Structure: 1 Hour online pre-course learning & 3 Hours on-line training session (4 Hours)

Note - these courses will close two weeks before to allow time for attendees to be registered and pre-course reading to be completed. Online learning will sent out after this closing date

Date	Time	Venue	Booking Link
10/02/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
26/02/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
18/03/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
20/04/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
12/05/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here



SAFEGUARDING COURSES (CWPS)

Date	Time	Venue	Booking Link
04/06/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
08/07/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
01/09/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
28/09/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
29/10/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here

CWPS Renewal Training

This online training course is available to anyone who's CWPS certificate has expired. Learners should receive an auto generated e-mail from **sportscotland** 3 months before their CWPS Certificate expires, but you can also self-register. Further information about the renewal award can be found via our website. This renewal course is valid for 3 years, after this the standard CWPS course must be completed again.



SAFEGUARDING COURSES (CWPO)

Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer (CWPO) Training is suitable for individuals responsible for leading their club or organisation in the wellbeing and protection of children and young people. Learners will have the opportunity to develop knowledge of the roles and responsibilities associated with child wellbeing and protection.

It is mandatory for Clubs with players or members aged Under 18 to have a trained Wellbeing & Protection Officer (WPOs) in place. It is recommended that anyone coaching or working with children also attend CWPS training once every 3 years.

Structure: 1 Hour online pre-course learning & 3 Hours on-line training session (4 Hours)

Date	Time	Venue	Booking Link
10/03/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
27/04/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
15/06/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
09/09/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here
12/11/2026	6pm-9pm	Online	Click Here



CLUBS CONTINUE TO BE AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO...



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Please get in touch with the Development Team, they are always happy to help.