



Syston Bowling Club

"Highly Commended" National Club of the Year 2007

PRESS RELEASE



Dateline: 21 July 2008

Towards the Special Olympics?

FRIDAY 4th JULY marked the first in a planned weekly series of coaching sessions organised by Syston Bowling Club for local people with learning disabilities. Six members of the **Syston Project** had their first lessons from Club and County Coaches, **Des Eggitt** and **Ralph Yates**, ably assisted by Men's Club President, **Ian Oxman** and Vice-President, **Colin Grimes**.

Based in the Community Centre, **The Syston Project** is part of a community outreach service, managed from the Mountsorrel Day Centre, and provides a drop-in centre service for people living in the Syston area.

Sue Smith, Community Co-ordinator explains: "*Our primary aim is to give local people with learning disabilities the opportunity to participate in a wide range of skills-based activities within their local community. Bowling seems to be an appropriate sport to get involved in and we greatly appreciate the co-operation of Syston Bowling Club in giving us the opportunity to try it out.*

Our fond hope would be to discover some talent within our group which might then be nurtured with a view to our entering the Special Olympics scheduled for next year."

Club President, **Ian Oxman**, says: "*We are delighted to be able to help the **Syston Project** as part of our general Club commitment to offer a service to all parts of the local community.*

Bowling is a truly non-discriminatory sport. Any sex of any age, with the necessary physical strength, can compete on an equal basis. The sport makes no demands for a range of expensive equipment. Anyone who wants to try the game needs only a pair of flat soled shoes - trainers are ideal. We can provide all of the other necessary equipment to help the individual discover any latent talent.

*It would be great if we **could** find such talent within the **Project** sufficient to merit an entry into next year's Special Olympics. Rest assured, if the talent is there, our experienced coaches will find it and will give all the help necessary to enable those involved to realise their dream."*

Anyone wishing to give the sport a try can contact either of the Club Secretaries - **Rob Wilbourn** (Men) Telephone: 01664 424813 or **Chris Biddles** (Ladies) Telephone: 2609061.

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Notes to Editor: For further information about this Release, please contact: **Colin Grimes**, Vice-President/PR Officer, Syston Bowling Club **T:** 0116 2608412 **E:** systonbowling@btinternet.com from whom details of Club membership can also be obtained.