

## Bowls England Statement: BOWLS ENGLAND ISSUES WARNING TO CLUBS ON THE USE OF PESTICIDES AND 'GRANDFATHER RIGHTS'

Bowls England wishes to inform clubs that anyone using or purchasing chemicals for their greens maintenance programme must have undertaken suitable training.

The Plant Protection Products (PPPs) Regulations 2012 state that all users must have a recognised certificate of competence, and it is illegal to purchase PPPs unless the user holds a certificate of competence.

The exemption for those who spray using the 'Grandfather Rights' clause (for those suitably trained and competent to do the job born before 31<sup>st</sup> December 1964) ceases on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015. A new City & Guilds qualification has been introduced to enable who currently apply chemicals under the 'Grandfather Rights' exemption to comply with the legislation.

Funding is now available via the Bowls England Greens Maintenance Scheme to assist members of affiliated clubs that wish to attend a spraying course.

Tony Allcock MBE, Bowls England Chief Executive, said: "There has been some confusion amongst our members with regard to the legislation regarding spraying, particularly with regard to the 'Grandfather Rights' exemption. We would encourage all clubs to ensure that anyone that is spraying chemicals on the green meets the requirements of the PPP Regulations, and to assist we are pleased to be able to make funding available to support those who wish to attend a relevant course."

Anyone wishing to apply for assistance should forward copies of the appropriate certificates and receipted invoices to Arnold Goad, Bowls England Greens Maintenance Scheme, on 01926 612280 or e-mail: [arnold.goad@talktalk.net](mailto:arnold.goad@talktalk.net)

### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

The Plant Protection Products Regulations 2012, effective from 18<sup>th</sup> July 2012, state:

1. No person shall use a plant protection product authorised for professional use unless they hold a specified certificate or work under supervision.
2. No person shall cause or permit any other person to use a plant protection product authorised for professional use unless the person using the product holds a specified certificate or works under supervision.
3. This regulation does not apply to any person who uses plant protection product authorised for professional use if:
  - (a) he or she was born before 31<sup>st</sup> December 1964; and
  - (b) he or she uses plant protection products authorised for professional use on crops, land, produce, buildings, or the contents of buildings, or other areas intended to be treated which are owned or occupied by himself or herself or by his employer and he or she is competent to use such products.
4. Paragraph (3) ceases to have effect on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015