

Shropshire Premier League Secretary, Treasurer & Webmaster reveals his journey so far...



“ Winning the Flowfit Shropshire Premier League Averages was something I won't forget ”



ROB BURROUGHS



Q Can you remember the details of your first competitive game?

A Winning 21-5 at Edgmond for St Georges in Division six. The week after I was 7-0 up at Maddocks, thought to myself this game is easy, then didn't score again!

Q Who was the biggest influence on your bowling career?

A My Dad. He got me into bowls but it was Marge Deakin who kept pushing me to play a league game as I was reluctant at first. Also Tony Rhodes being captain on a Monday night gave me my chance in Division six and then five.

Q What is your worst habit?

A Chucking mats!

Q What do you consider to be your best individual performance?

A Winning 21-20 at Bylet last game of last season against Nick Powner and winning the averages. I was determined not to lose and blow my chance. Competition wise, beating Graeme Wilson 18 in 2014, after being 9-1 down. Also deafting Greg Smith 13 in the Kings Norton Masters semi finals and over coming Tommy Johnstone at Smithy Manor 21-20 in 2013 after being 19-7 up.

Q What is your worst individual/team performance?

A In July 2014, I got one at Haunchwood in a Super Cup tie. Three weeks later I got two against Burway on Old Shrewsbury at number 12 in the County Cup Semi Final, with the team being up and then losing by 20. Followed up by being dumped out with Penn in their County Cup Semi Final the day after, definitely the worst bowling weekend of my life!

Q Most memorable bowls games that you have played?

A The Junior final is a game I'll never forget! The Premier League game at Archibald Worthington last season was a memorable one. One player didn't get picked up so we had to put a reserve in. We ended up winning the game by 2 thanks to a MVP performance by John Newey winning last on. This was rounded off when Nick Mullinder lost his bowls in the bush after chucking them in there after losing 20. He did eventually find them after a while!

Q What do you consider to be your best team performance?

A Winning the Junior County Championship against W&W in 2006 was an incredible team performance from 1-12 home and away. This was an incredible day and one that I will not forget in a hurry!

“ A young man always with great potential who seemed to have matured overnight and started to realise his potential. Great effort whilst at the same time taking on so much extra responsibility with the league. Fantastic effort from Rob and a platform from which to really establish himself as one of the leagues leading performers. ”

- Tony Rhodes



2015 SEASON

RESULTS

V PETER GAUT 21-19	W
V KEITH WALTON 21-6	W
V MATT BENBOW 21-13	W
V PHIL CLEE 21-16	W
V ADRIAN ROWE 21-12	W
V NEIL BOXALL 21-16	W
V RUSSELL PEGRAM 21-8	W
V GORDON HAWKINS 19-21	L
V DAVE BOND 21-12	W
V ANDY MOSS 8-21	L
V KEV DOVEY 21-15	W
V JASON GROOM 21-16	W
V ADAM JONES 21-14	W
V RICHARD LAWSON 21-19	W
V STEVE HEATH 16-21	L
V SIMON RHODES 14-21	L
V JOSH COTTON 21-11	W
V DARREN WELLINGS 21-9	W
V ROBERT RODEN 21-17	W
V CURTIS METCALFE 21-15	W
V STEPHEN HANDLEY 21-19	W
V SPENCER CLARKE 21-15	W
V GERAINT WILLIAMS 14-21	L
V PAUL LATHAM 21-11	W
V CHRIS DOVEY 21-4	W
V NICK POWNER 21-20	W

HOME AWAY

P26 W21 L5

“ Great achievement for any Shropshire bowler to win the Flowfit Shropshire Premier League averages. Well done Rob. ”

- Simon Parsonage



Q Do you have any nicknames and where did they come from?

A Statto is my main nickname because I'm so good with stats and took maths at degree level. Stadco is a new one this season because one of the mums thought that was my nickname as I worked there!

Q What changes would you like to see to improve Crown Green Bowls?

A I would love to see more Juniors getting involved and I hope that being part of a Junior Development Policy by the Mid-Shropshire League will be the start of this. Getting more and more coverage of the game out there at national and local level. Mel Evans has done a wonderful job getting bowls back on TV and I reckon this is just the start. Making sure players are informed from county and league level as without them you wouldn't have a league or county! I hope that what I do with the Flowfit Shropshire Premier Bowling League website will inspire other leagues and counties to update their websites regularly and get more information out. Dwindling numbers aren't good for the game, especially locally, and it would be nice to get back to the good old days when you had to play about 4 games just to qualify for the Merit instead of just the one which happened last season!

Q Who is your funniest team mate?

A Dave & Colin Price.

Q Most memorable bowls games that you have watched?

A The County Cup Final of 2006 between Sir John Bayley and St Georges was an absolute classic from the sidelines and was the last big match I saw my Dad play. County Semi Final between North Midlands and Shropshire in 2002 which ended in a tie and playoff games being played. Winning the Crosfield Cup in 2009 against Yorkshire was a great day which I'd love to repeat as a player rather than supporter! The 2013 playoff at Hadley USC between Archibald Worthington and Hanwood as it went down to the wire.

Q What is the highlight of your bowling life so far?

A Winning the Shropshire Premier League Averages was something I won't forget but it doesn't beat winning the Juniors with Shropshire in 2006. Was just an incredible day and it took me a week to get over it after putting so much effort into it and celebrated so much after!



CLUB HISTORY

