**Under 25s 2025 Four Counties Festival**

**Venue / Host: Highworth BC, Bowls Wiltshire, 5th May 2025**

**Match report:**

The time most of you have been waiting for, the Four counties under 25 match report.

This season as with most years, its always difficult for us to field a team. This is mainly due to numbers of juniors within the county. We did how ever full fill the fixture, with an extra player.

Mainly due to the introduction of the new youngsters coming through. So, a massive change to the Worcestershire team and one of the youngest I can recall in my 13 years of being part of the Four counties.

Introduction of 5 new player, 2 lads and 3 girls.

Lenny Bourne (Vines Park), George Moule (Vines Park), Olwyn Stockford (Hewell), Olivia Sippitts (Hewell), Annabelle Kavanagh (Hewell).

With the new format of this event, we were always going to struggle due to experience of the players and the way we had to set up the teams.

The new youngsters, we tried to be as fair as we could, so they played with the older experienced players, that way they were all in a comfortable position. Only issue was, Alfie had to take one for the team and play the singles. Which to be fair he didn’t disgrace himself, just he doesn’t really play that format often.

Format on the day: Fours, Triples, Pairs and Singles. The format if you all recall used to be 3 rinks. To prepare them for the White rose / Amy rose nationals





Going into the final game we were sitting bottom of the division, which didn’t do the team any justice really. Some of the games could have easily gone either way. Our pairing Will and Harry won all three games; they played steady all day. Over the three games, our triples were swapped about playing all three of the young girls from Hewell. This was to help assist the Amy rose team manger so she could view the players in depth.

So, with only Wiltshire to play and us trailing on points, the Worcester team got swapped about, with Alfie dropping into the fours and Harvey playing the singles, this giving us the chance to gain some valuable points to lift us off the bottom of the table. Which worked out well, as we had three wins, pairs winning their final game, triples getting their first win of the day and Harvey playing the singles. Beating the undefeated Wiltshire singles player. This gave us 6 points to take us above Wiltshire.

A great day of bowling, always great to see so many youngsters starting their bowls journey. Our new youngsters fitted in well with the team and all seem to enjoy the day. Thanks to all at Highworth who helped make the day for all the kids. A big thank you too all the parents, family members, players and supporters. With out all of you the day wouldn’t be such a success.

2026 will be Worcestershire turn to host: So, will be on the lookout for an 8 rink green to utilise. Next adventure for the kids will be White rose (Welford) and Amy Rose (Stroud) games both on the 31st May.

**Well done to the Gloucester team who ran out winners in the end, a close call between them and Somerset**.

**Thank you all Regards Allan**