

No.	Highley (Blue)	Scores		Sir John Bayley (Red)
1	Danny Statham			Peter Grimston
2	Stuart Gittings			Scott Harries
3	Jacob Ash			Chris Worthington
4	Phil Chester			Paul Evans
5	Frank Leek			Stuart Rutter
6	Jon Heath			Reece Farr
7	Dave East			Dan Taylor
8	Dave Scriven			Joe Dicken
9	Jamie Taylor			Scott Simpson
10	Bruno Heath			Owen Evans
11	Sam Mantom			Spencer Clarke
12	Simon Rhodes			Tom Roden
Totals:				
Reserves: Kris Johnson, Sean Lockley & Andy James				Reserves: Ayden Smith, Michael Cooper, Josh Bradburn

SHROPSHIRE CROWN GREEN BOWLING ASSOCIATION

President: Simon Fullard



2025 KGJ Insurance
County Cup Final

HIGHLEY
VS
SIR JOHN BAYLEY

at Edgmond

Sunday, 9th August 2025 (6.30pm start)

Referee: Christine Sayers

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Preview

Welcome everyone to the 2025 KGJ Insurance County Cup Final at Edgmond. Highley take part in their first ever County Cup Final while Sir John Bayley look to win this for the third consecutive time, the first time since Castlefields did so in 1997.

For this reason the Bayley will start as heavy favourites, but Highley did win the Shropshire Cup back in 2018 and some of those players take part today. Highley also currently find themselves in the top six of the Premier League, looking for their highest finish in the league. They have players to call on like Staffordshire Merit runner-up Dave East, as well as the experienced Frank Leek and Stu Gittings and Danny Statham who lead the line today, two players who play the game every day of the week! They've also got some youth in their line up in Jacob Ash and Bruno Heath, Bruno holding his nerve in the Semi Finals to bring the game home for them.

The Bayley are currently 2nd in the Premier League but hope this will provide at least one piece of silverware this season like it did last year. They've even added more quality to the side who comfortably beat Castlefields last year with Josh Bradburn, Joe Dicken and Pete Grimston coming in, Pete leading the line tonight for the team. Scott Simpson is having a great season in the Premier League, and Reece Farr reached the final of the Edgmond Open on this green in April.

It promises to be a great night of bowls. Thank you to Edgmond for hosting, KGJ Insurance for sponsoring and to Christine Sayers for refereeing and to the measurers tonight. Good luck to both teams.

Highley Player Profiles

1. Danny Statham - aka D.O.N.

Danny is genuinely one of the nicest lads in bowls and underestimate him at your peril, a seasoned County player and going from strength to strength in the Premier League.

2. Stu Gittings aka Big Un

Another seasoned county player (although which county is anyone's guess) and very experienced player on any type of green who has always got another gear to shift in to when the going gets tough.

3. Jacob Ash aka Jerk

One of our youngest players in the team but bags and bags of talent he's been having a steady season this year in the Premier League and had some really great scalps this season.

4. Phil Chester aka Chest or Phillipe

This bowling stalwart has seen and bowled it all and has a cheeky answer for everything - but we are lucky to have such a talented and experienced player in our team.

What would you like to get out of sponsoring it?

It gives KGJ the chance to get better known in Shropshire and the decision to sponsor this event has proven a success. So far I have helped nearly 30 bowling clubs within Shropshire with their insurance requirements and hope this number continues to grow.



Colin, left, presenting the Shropshire Cup to Gary Beff of Woore in last week's KGJ Insurance Shropshire Cup Final, along with County President Simon Fullard.

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Thank you to KGJ Insurance for sponsoring the County & Shropshire Cup again this season.

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Contact Number(s): Office – 01902 796 796 / Colin – 07545 788163

E-mail: colinbeaman@kgjgroup.co.uk

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Your position within the business: Commercial Account Executive

History of your business:

KGJ are one of the UK's largest independent insurance brokers and are proud to remain 100% family owned and retain our "family values" in our approach to our clients. Originally KGJ was formed in 1967 however parts of our Group can trace their history as far back as 1873.

We specialise in Business Insurance such as Motor Fleet, Commercial Combined, Combined

Details of your business (what do you do):

I am a Commercial Account Executive – I deal with the insurance's for a wide range of clients such as Hauliers, Motor Traders, Contractors, Retailers and plus many more types of businesses – basically if your in business I can help you arrange the appropriate, cost effective insurance covers.

KGJ have a big presence in Staffordshire and the West Midlands and I was approached to join KGJ as they wanted to expand into Shropshire which was an opportunity I could not turn down.

What can you offer bowlers?

There were 2 reasons for sponsoring some SCGBA events – firstly to give something back to the great sport of Crown Green Bowls plus to assist individual clubs with their insurance covers. I had noticed that a lot of clubs had policies in force that really didn't meet their needs and was confident that the combination of my knowledge of both insurance and bowls would result in me providing a local service, premium savings and more importantly making sure the right covers are in place.

As a result of arranging insurance policies for numerous clubs in Shropshire word has got around and individual bowlers who own businesses have also placed business with myself.

5. Frank Leek aka Fun Time

Frank is one of our go to bowlers and one of the stalwarts of Warwick and Worcestershire which you would never guess from watching him deliver a wood - heads fall off following him but underestimate him at your peril!

6. Jon Heath aka Heathy

Having yet another amazing season and how this man has not been picked for County is beyond me as his talent is immense even though he plays with woods which should be banned - he has had some really great wins this season and is capable of beating anyone!

7. Dave East aka Easty

What can I say! The stalwart of bowls in Staffordshire and one of the most consistent and effortless players in the game, Easty is capable of dismantling the most talented players on any green, freakishly quick or dog heavy, but the challenge is to get a smile out of him. I've been waiting all season to witness one.

8. Dave Scriven aka Scriv

Another very talented and underestimated bowler in Shropshire (and yet not in Warwick and Worcestershire!) This man has been quietly getting on with his job, turning heads and delivering performances throughout the season and another one to watch.

9. Jamie Taylor aka Hulk

This is big game night and the player you want in your team for a huge match like this is the Hulk - very reliable, very consistent and 100% a team player - but he can go up some gears and smash it up when required.

10. Bruno Heath aka Big B

Our second youngster in the team but again bursting with confidence and talent - and with a father as talented as his, it's understandable - do not discount this young man until the last bowl has been delivered as he has several gears in his arsenal and is not afraid to use them!

11. Sam Mantom aka Mant

Our newly discovered talent, Mr Mantom has left a career as a professional footballer to take up bowls, but don't let that fool you! He is a fierce competitor and proven to be a truly and naturally talented bowler on any type of green - one to watch!

12. Simon Rhodes aka The Judge

He may be only 45 but he's been around these greens for what feels like a millennium, with lots of experience on all types of greens and relishing his new role as captain this year - steady and consistent and one to have in your team when matches are tough

Sir John Bayley Player Profiles

1. Pete Grimston
Nickname(s): Peeeetty! Grimpa
After making his return to the Bayley this year, he has slotted in as part of the furniture. Deserves to lead this team out on a green he isn't overly familiar with.....but if he starts smirking and those size 3's of his get after some he will be absolutely fine!
 2. Scott Harries
Nickname(s): Hair
'Scott this is 'insert expletive' awful – get me off here' has probably been the most heard phrase on the green this year. Not bad for someone who has only dropped 6 shots in the league all year!
Consistently brilliant over 12 yards!
 3. Chris Worthington
Nickname(s): Pel
Difficult year last year for the Pel but has bounced back this year. Thriving in his new found position and he's even staying off the beer before he plays – or so we've been told! LEGend!
 4. Paul Evans
Nickname(s): Evo/Meat/Glass/Ma Mate
Made his debut for the Bayley in 2009! Anyone travelling across county borders to play for another club for this long needs knight-ing! If Edmond has any sort of pace in it, expect to see Evo playing 50 yards just to hold them back – speaking of backs, has he had a new one??
 5. Stuart Rutter
Nickname(s): Strut
Playing in his 5th consecutive county cup final. That takes some doing. Senior player of this team and someone a fair few look up to in this team and around the county as to how the game should be played. If we need anyone to make a decision on an end – 'Where's Strut?'
 6. Reece Farr
Nickname(s): Rico/The Crab
No point standing behind him, sends them at 45 degrees straight at the pig. Travelling the country far and wide has developed this kid's game a stupid amount. Top player – He can even play on one leg!!!
 7. Dan Taylor
Nickname(s): Tan/Danielle
Plays the game properly and battles for everything. Had to get him on earlier than usual though – the lad is always tired! Question is, has he paid his sweep on time?
 8. Joe Dicken
Nickname(s): JM
Roy Keane! No, doesn't look like him or as hard! Developed massively over the last 2 years by sending 44,000 bowls per week and it has showed on the green. Gets them out like shoeboxes but it doesn't matter when you're taking the scalps he is!
 9. Scott Simpson
Nickname(s): Ass/Big'Un
Another player crossing the border long term and it's no surprise the rewards the club has reaped since he signed. You know his opponent is in trouble when he turns up on time to the game (usually when the green is like glass). Big match player and will relish this game as captain and leader whilst remaining quiet on the sidelines!
 10. Owen Evans
Nickname(s): Big O
Unfortunate to miss out on the last couple of finals but no doubt he deserves to be in tonight! Arguably one of the first names on the team sheet, nothing phases him! Expecting him to be upsetting a few people from the off with his loud intimidating nature!
 11. Spencer Clarke
Nickname(s): Goose
By the time the final is played, G will have made 650 premier league appearances. To be around for this long and at this level is a credit to him, not only as a player but as a person to have the mentality to stay at the top! Pity he cannot drink at the same level!
 12. Tom Roden
Nickname(s): TD
TOM!!!! A 'season off' apparently but impossible to keep him away and out of a big game. Brilliant player to have at your disposal especially when he has testicles as big as his forehead when it matters!
- Reserves**
Ayden Smith/Josh Bradburn/Michael Cooper – All played their part throughout the cup campaign and we wouldn't be here without them. Unreal squad to pick from and a pleasure to be captain of.