

APPENDIX A

U3A LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY NETWORK

COUNTY OLYMPICS 2011 -2012

In order to have some fun in the year running up to the Olympics, Lincolnshire U3As are planning to compete against each other in their very own, very special, Olympics.

Initially this will be run within the three neighbourhood groups:

- Lincoln
- South Lincs (based around Grantham, Bourne, etc.)
- East Lincs. based around Louth.

Winners of each competition in each Neighbourhood will go on to play the other Neighbourhood winners to find Lincolnshire's champions. These may then go on to play other County champions within East Midlands region.

THERE IS NO BUREAUCRACY behind this, and no big organization. It is up to each group to decide whether they wish to participate. If they do, they challenge groups in the other U3As in their neighbourhood, or respond to a challenge received from another U3A.

COMPETITIONS CAN BE ARRANGED FOR MANY ACTIVITIES:

For all games, the possibilities are obvious – badminton, ten pin bowling, new age curling, bridge, canasta, scrabble etc etc. We do not even have to have a formal group to take part. For instance, in Grantham U3A we do not have a Golf group, but we have members who play golf. If another U3A challenged Grantham at golf, we could recruit a team and accept the challenge.

For other activities the possibilities are less obvious. Cycling groups and walking groups may not want to race, for instance, but they could agree with other U3As on a route and take part in a Treasure Hunt over that route.

Wine Study groups could participate in a blind tasting and collect points that way.

Gardening groups could surely come up with some variations on the 'weight of potatoes grown in a bucket' competitive theme, or even arrange a neighbourhood horticultural competition and show.

There are numbers of TV formats that could be used or adapted by Antique based groups.

BE BOLD AND EXPANSIVE in your thinking and find a way to participate. You set your own challenges and rules – the only requirements are agreement between competing teams about those rules and challenges, and that everyone has fun.

DATES

Competitions within Neighbourhoods should be complete by Easter 2012 so that County finals can take place during the summer of 2012 leading to regional championships in September 2012.

SCORING IS SIMPLE.

For each competition within a Neighbourhood, the winner gets 3 points, the loser gets 1 point, a draw earns 2 points each. If you don't take part, you get 0 points. The winner is the U3A that amasses the most points – either by being very good at some things, or taking part (and therefore scoring points) in lots of things.

Here are contact details for the group coordinator in each U3A in the South Lincs Neighbourhood. Please contact them to get details of specific group leaders so that you know who to get in touch with to start the ball rolling. Or simply send your challenge to the group coordinators for them to deal with as appropriate.

<u>U3A</u>	<u>Group Coordinator</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
Bourne	Peter Birch		pb.hb@talktalk.net
Deepings	Liz Noble	01778 342855	liznoble@lineone.net
Grantham	Brenda Butters	01476 566757	johnsdown@tiscali.co.uk
Sleaford	Keith Troughton	01529 302442	keithbetty@talktalk.net
Spalding	Ray Saunders	01775 821523	randi6@tiscali.co.uk
Stamford	Linne Robinson	01780 740882	
Welland	Brian Lewis	01780 751729	brianlewis26@talktalk.net

When you issue a challenge and it is accepted, please inform Liz Noble, 01778 342855, liznoble@lineone.net of the participants and the activity. Afterwards, please tell Liz the result. Liz will act as our neighbourhood group scorer.

FUNDING

These events will be self-funded, because we will largely only do what we normally do, but with some different people and in different places. However, I am applying for grants to make a small amount of money available to meet extraordinary costs – for example to hire a leisure centre so that we can have a swimming gala with associated watery activities.

Have fun!

Please contact me if you have any questions about this.

Best wishes

John Down
Grantham U3A
Treasurer, U3A Lincs.County Network