

BOWLS DURHAM AFFILIATION FEES

In the past a number of issues have been raised relating to the payment/collection of Affiliation Fees including,

1. Are the payments retrospective or in advance
2. Refunds for members leaving during the closed season
3. Members transferring Clubs during the closed season
4. What is the position if a member belongs to more than one Club

Whilst Bowls England itself cannot prescribe how Counties administer the collection of affiliation fees the Executive Committee of Bowls Durham has reviewed its policy in order to introduce a more flexible approach to the issue, particularly to address the above associated issues.

It is therefore proposed that the following Scheme be introduced.

1. The Bowls Durham membership year will continue in its present format from 1st October to 30th September with the date for the payment of fees continuing to be by 31st October annually.
2. The County Secretary will establish a data base (names only) of all affiliated members in each Club as at 1st October. This is the number used for the payment of affiliation fees.
3. If during the closed season a member transfers to another club then that is acceptable and the name is deleted from the data list of the old club and added to the list of the new club. No additional payment is required.
4. If during the closed season a member(s) leaves the club then the name is deleted and substituted by the name(s) of any new member(s) joining for whom an affiliation fee has not previously been paid. This process can continue until the maximum number of members registered by the club at 1st October has been reached. Once it is exceeded then an affiliation fee is required.

EXAMPLE 1 – At 1st October Club “A” registers 50 members. During the closed season two members transfer to other clubs and five members do not rejoin. At the beginning of the new season ten new members join for whom an affiliation fee has not been paid. After adjustment of the data base the Club is required to pay for three additional members.

EXAMPLE 2 – At 1st October Club “B” registers 50 members and during the closed season five of those do not rejoin. At the beginning of the new season three new members join for whom an affiliation fee has not been paid. After adjustment of the data base no additional payments are required and **no refunds are made.**

5. Registration of new members continues throughout the season. There is no cut off date. The data base is updated annually on 1st October.
6. If a member belongs to more than one club then an affiliation fee for each club is required.

It should be noted that the success of the Scheme will be dependent on Club Secretaries/Treasurers completing membership returns and paying affiliation fees on time