

GENERAL CIRCULAR 3/2013

Dear Secretary,

(A) Membership Returns

You will recall that in accordance with the Rules of Bowls England and that of the Association it a requirement for all Club Secretaries to forward to their County Secretary, a list of the names of all affiliated members on 1st October each year.

As a result of the above the Executive Committee of the County requests that all clubs be asked to provide the Association with a list of affiliated members as at 30th September 2013. Can you therefore supply a list of your membership by 31st October 2013. This should be sent along with your affiliation and championship entries to the County Treasurer whose details are shown in paragraph (C) below.

Please note that we do not require addresses as the list will be used for no other purposes than to record membership numbers and compare it with the list of entries into County Championships each year, and nominations for the County Teams.

(B) Club Subscriptions

As you are aware the Bowls England and Bowls Durham Membership Fees for 2013 were set at £5.00 and £3.00 per affiliated member, respectively. Bowls England have undertaken a review of the financial position of the organisation including the payment of affiliation fees and have decided that the affiliation fee of £5.00 for both male and female members will remain the same for 2014.

The Executive Committee of Bowls Durham has undertaken a review of the proposed financial structure for both men and women of Bowls Durham for 2013 and have decided that it too will keep the subscription levels at the existing levels. The level of fees is as follows...

Membership Fee for Bowls England - £5.00 per member

County Membership Fee - £3.00 per member.

In addition the County Year Book will once again be produced for distribution free of charge to all Clubs in 2014.

(C) County Championships 2014

So far as the Women's County Championships are concerned the Women's County Secretary will be contacting clubs regarding next year's competitions.

Regarding the Men's Competitions enclosed for your use are two copies of the entry form and contact sheet for next year's County Championships. One copy of the form, bearing the entrants signature and a copy of the contact sheet should be kept by the Club Secretary for record purposes. The second copy, together with a completed contact sheet, printed in BLOCK capitals and including post codes should be sent with the entry fees to reach the County Treasurer, **Mr S.Crowe,**

3 Ridley Drive, Norton, Stockton on Tees TS20 1HE to reach him not later than 31st October 2013. (Tel: 01642 534139)

CAN YOU PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL ENTRY FORMS APART FROM THE SINGLES COMPETITIONS MUST BEAR THE NAMES OF ALL PLAYERS ENTERED INTO A PARTICULAR COMPETITION DISCIPLINE. FOR EXAMPLE A FOURS ENTRY MUST CONTAIN THE NAMES OF ALL FOUR PLAYERS AND SO ON.

IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT ANY NAMED ENTRANT OF A TEAM CANNOT BE A MEMBER OR SUBSTITUTE OF ANY OTHER TEAM IN THE SAME CHAMPIONSHIP.

Entries received after that date may not be valid. An entry which does not comply with the above rule will be returned to the Club(s) for alteration and resubmission.

Players should be reminded that they should not let their names be submitted for more than one club in any one year and that the qualifying date for entrance into the Championships is that they are members of an entrant club as at 30th September 2013. The level of fees for National Championship are £2.00 per player and with the County proportion set at 75p this makes all National Entry fees £2.75 per player.

It should be noted that the County's element is not used for the general running of the County Association or the Championships but is used solely towards supporting the expenses incurred by the County's representatives at the national championships along with grants received for the purpose by Bowls England.

(D) Annual Luncheon and Presentation of Prizes

The Annual Luncheon and presentation of prizes will be held this year at the Whitworth Hall Hotel, on Sunday 17th November 2013 at 12 noon. The County has moved to this new venue because it provides much better parking facilities and we are being offered a table de hote menu with four choices of each of the three courses available which can be chosen on the day. Tickets priced at £20.00 are available from District Secretaries in late September/early October. All Championship finalists are expected to attend. All members of the County Teams are urged to support this event, as well as Affiliated Clubs.

(E) Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Bowls Durham will be held at Houghton Dairy Lane Club on Tuesday 19th November 2013 at 7.00 p.m. Notices of Motion for consideration by the Meeting should be received by me not later than 15th October 2013.

(F) Change of Club Secretaries

Where appropriate, outgoing and/or incoming club Secretaries, are reminded of the need to inform me of the change, in order that communications are addressed to the proper person. Addresses should include post codes and telephone numbers.

Yours sincerely

F Johnson
Honorary Secretary

1st August 2013