

## **BOWLS DURHAM**

### **CIRCULAR 3/2015**

**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 2015. Can you therefore supply a list of your membership by 31st October 2015. 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. In this connection I also draw your attention to the Paragraph (C) below regarding the County Championships for 2016 and the Rules and Regulations governing the submission of entries and management of the Competitions.

#### **(B) Club Subscriptions**

As you are aware the Bowls England and Bowls Durham Membership Fees for 2015 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 2016. The Executive Committee of Bowls Durham has undertaken a review of the proposed financial structure for both men and women of Bowls Durham for 2015/16 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 2016, as well as being included in the County Website.

#### **(C) County Championships 2016**

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 2015. (Tel: 01642 534139)

To assist entrants in the County Championships I also attach a Calendar and Fixed Dates Schedule which details all the information competitors need on where and when the Second Stage of the County Championships will be held and also the dates of the various National Championship Competitions at Leamington Spa.

**CAN YOU PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE RULES OF THE COMPETITIONS REGARDING ENTRIES AND ELIGIBILITY AND USE OF SUBSTITUTES IN COUNTY COMPETITIONS. ALL ENTRIES MUST COMPLY WITH THESE RULES.**

### **RULE 1**

“ Each entry shall be made by one named player only, and that player shall be excluded from being a substitute in the same discipline. Should the named entrant in a County Championship event be unable to participate from the outset in the Championship due to exceptional circumstances, the team may request the use of an additional player if required (in addition to the original players that formed the team in the first match). Such a request must be made in writing to Bowls England via the County Association for consideration”

The remainder of the Rule is unchanged

### **RULE 2**

“In order to ensure that the County can confirm that all members of a particular team(s) for which an entry is being submitted into a competition(s) are affiliated members of Bowls England and are members of the club from which an entry is being made, in accordance with the closing date for entries, all entry forms, apart from the Singles Competitions, must bear the names of all players entered into a particular competition discipline”

The remainder of the Rule is unchanged

### **RULE 3**

A new section( d) is added as follows :-

“d) The consumption of alcohol at any time during any of the stages of any County Competition or Championship Match either on the green or within its environs is strictly forbidden. Similarly in accordance with Bowls England and County Rules and Regulations smoking on the green is not permitted and only designated smoking areas shall be used. Anyone not conforming to these conditions will be disqualified from the competition”

Can you also note that entries received after the closing date may not be valid. An entry which does not comply with the 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 2015. The level of fees for National Championship are £2.50 per player and with the County proportion set at 75p this makes all National Entry fees £3.25 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 will be held this year at the Whitworth Hall Hotel, on Sunday 15th November 2015 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 six choices of each of the three courses available which can be chosen on the day. Tickets priced at £25.00 are available from District Secretaries in late September/early October. 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 17th November 2015 at 7.00 p.m. Notices of Motion for consideration by the Meeting should be received by me not later than 14th October 2015.

**(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 2015