

# National Competitions Update

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Last Update: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

#### Capitation

##### **1. Will you be returning the full capitation amount to clubs this year?**

*We will return competition entry fees to clubs; however, we will retain the £3 per person clubs pay for affiliation to Bowls Scotland. Last year we repaid all capitation fees to clubs as well as utilising the furlough scheme, reducing costs in programme spending and utilising some of our reserves. We are acutely aware of the issues many bowling clubs continue to face during these difficult times, however we also have a responsibility to protect the long-term future of the sport.*

*During 2020 we provided a comprehensive programme of support to clubs including the Bowls Scotland Club Crisis Fund; updates and support accessing government grants and funding; COVID-19 club guidance, expertise, updates, and resources; club development workshops; and human resource via our National Development Officers.*

##### **2. Can my club still affiliate, even though the decision has been made to cancel all National Competitions?**

*Of course, we would encourage all clubs to renew their affiliation if they can. Clubs renewing membership allows Bowls Scotland, as the governing body, to continue to support and develop the sport. We are grateful to all the clubs who have renewed this year and the support we continue to receive from our member clubs. Whilst there continues to be challenges, we are confident that working together, we will safeguard the future of our sport for generations to come.*

##### **3. What support do we get for our capitation fees?**

*Bowls Scotland is committed to working in partnership with clubs to grow our wonderful game through developing modern clubs that are welcoming, sustainable and at the heart of their local communities. Our Bowls Scotland Club Support Guide was created based on feedback from clubs and provides an overview of the support and services available to affiliated clubs with some new resources being developed for the 2021 season.*

*The Bowls Scotland Club Support Guide can be found here:*  
<https://www.bowlsscotland.com/clubs/club-support-guide>

##### **4. What are the benefits of affiliation and what do clubs receive for their £3 p/p membership fee?**

*General benefits of club affiliation include, but are not restricted to, the following:*

- *Access to support, resources, and guidance outlined in the Bowls Scotland Club Support Guide and delivered via National Development Officers*

- Access to education, learning and development opportunities for coaches
- Access to education, learning and development for volunteers and Wellbeing & Protection Officers
- Access to the Bowls Scotland Online Club and Membership System
- Safeguarding advice, case support and PVGs
- Club featured on Club Finder
- Monthly Newsletter
- Partner offers, discounts and benefits
- Entry to Bowls Scotland competitions
- Right to organise Bowls Scotland licensed events (with permission)

## Competitions

### **5. Why has Bowls Scotland taken the decision, at this time, to cancel the National Championships, Andrew Hamilton Trophy and the Ladies Top 10 competitions?**

*There have been months of scenario planning and looking at all the various options available to enable us to make an informed decision. For competitions to take place there is a lot of planning and organisation to ensure the safe and smooth delivery. Together with the financial implications and wide-ranging challenges with hosting large scale events, the decision has been taken to not delay the outcome any longer. By communicating this to clubs prior to the season starting, this will allow our members to plan for the year ahead.*

### **6. When will I receive my refund of competition entries?**

*Competition refunds will be processed as soon as we can, we would ask our members to be patient while we do this.*

### **7. Would Bowls Scotland consider putting in place some form of competition this year if restrictions allow?**

*We are aware many of our members missed competitive play last year and if government guidance and easing of restrictions allows us to run some form of competition later this season, we will endeavour to offer this to our members.*

### **8. If restrictions allow and we choose to run our club championship this year will the winner be able to enter Stage 1 of the District Championships alongside our 2019/2020 winner(s) in 2022?**

*For future National Championships, clubs will have the option to submit 2 Gents & 2 Ladies Singles entries. If a club chooses to play their Club Championship in 2021 it will be at the discretion of the Club to decide the method of selection for Stage 1 of the National Championships in 2022.*

### **9. What are the dates for the National Championships in 2022?**

*The calendar of events for 2022 has still to be confirmed and we will release the details as and when we can.*

## Tournament Licences and Open/Invitational Competitions

### **10. We have entered and paid for Tournament Licences for our clubs open/invitational competitions, will these still be able to go ahead?**

*Our members should risk assess appropriately and refer to our "Return to Green COVID-19 Guidance" for 2021 to ensure open/invitational competitions can adhere to the published advice and legislation from the Scottish Government.*

### **11. Can we apply for a Tournament Licence throughout the season for our club open/invitational competitions?**

*Yes, all open/invitational competitions must have a Tournament License approved prior to the competition taking place. To complete a Tournament License Application, please visit our website for further information: <https://www.bowlsscotland.com/competitions/tournament-licenses>*

### **12. We have received our official tournament licence certificate but need to change the dates of the open/invitational competition - how do we do this?**

*For any changes to open/invitational competitions please contact our Competition & Events Officer, Eve Wallace by email: [evewallace@bowlsscotland.com](mailto:evewallace@bowlsscotland.com).*

### **13. What if we choose to cancel an open/invitation competition, can we get a refund of the tournament licence fee?**

*Any cancellations of open/invitational competitions must be made in writing 7 days prior to event to receive a full refund. Please contact our Competition & Events Officer, Eve Wallace by email: [evewallace@bowlsscotland.com](mailto:evewallace@bowlsscotland.com).*

## Further Enquiries

### **14. If we have any other questions, who do we contact?**

*If you still require assistance, please contact our National Development Officers:*

- Districts 1-10: Stuart Bell - 07525 134385 or [stuartbell@bowlsscotland.com](mailto:stuartbell@bowlsscotland.com)
- Districts 11-24: Daniel Baker - 07821 118774 or [danielbaker@bowlsscotland.com](mailto:danielbaker@bowlsscotland.com)
- Districts 25-32: Lawra Cox - 07715 025736 or [lawracox@bowlsscotland.com](mailto:lawracox@bowlsscotland.com)