



Dear members,

Over the last few tournaments, both adult and juniors, and national league round 1 we have received several queries regarding the management and standard of these events. We would like to thank all that have taken the time to submit constructive queries, and proposed solutions to help resolve some of the issues we have faced. We would like to re-assure our members that we are working hard to resolve the issues raised, thus we are issuing the following statement.

Public and STB Member Safety

We recognise the concerns raised about the dangers to public safety when members of the public play directly next to tournament bowlers. Furthermore, we aim to ensure distraction free tournament play wherever possible to provide the best tournament experience for our members. Unfortunately, with the increase in popularity for recreational bowling and increase in pressure from centre management to maximise profits it is difficult to guarantee buffer lanes at every tournament.

Going forward we would like to propose that buffer lanes be included in the cost of the tournament entry for each event. If such a cost is infeasible we will aim to have lane marshals available to monitor and intervene if necessary to minimise distractions and potential harm to our members and the public. In addition, we are investigating how insurance may benefit our members with this regard.

Tournament Conditions and Lane Maintenance

Lane conditions and maintenance are central to providing our members with the quality experience they deserve during competitive play. It has been difficult to deliver the standards expected during competitive play, but we would like to re-assure our members that we are working hard to improve this experience for all by working closely with our technical delegates and centres alike. We recognise the importance of working closely with existing centres to build stronger relationships, which will give our members increased opportunities in the future.

Most recently, Bargeddie's management team and our technical team have worked closely to inspect and improve the lane conditions prior to our next event at this centre (Adult Doubles). We are confident that these conditions will show an improvement compared to previous events at this centre. We would like to thank all the staff at Bargeddie and our technical team for the great work and effort in this area.

Tournament Rules and Regulations

The STB will be updating Tournament Rules and Regulations throughout the season to better reflect the changes within ETBF and World Bowling, and will be enforcing these rules at every tournament. This is to resolve issues regarding:

- Bowling Attire
- Slow Bowling
- Foul Language, Behaviour, or abuse of centre equipment

This will allow us to build stronger relationships with our centres by finishing on time and acting with due diligence and professionalism.

Tournament entry forms will include these rules and regulations and it is our member's responsibility to ensure they read and comply with these rules, otherwise appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

National League

The National League is an ever-evolving event of our sport. It aims to increase team competition and increase team dynamics within our sport. We hope this year that the new league rules are a step forward from last year and offer increased transparency, but we understand further opportunities exist to enhance your experience in the league. Thank you to those that have suggested improvements and we will be looking to incorporate some of the suggestions in the future.

Ranking and Selection Criteria

The new ranking criteria across Juniors, Adults, and Seniors incurred a long deliberation process to better reflect increased transparency requested by members. We believe this is a strong foundation but recognise improvements can be made for the future. We thank all that have submitted feedback and improvements on the criteria.

Diversity and Inclusion

It is our mandate to ensure we promote the sport of bowling for ALL, regardless of sex, ethnicity, age, or any other form of differentiation or demographic. With International Women's Day just passed it is worth taking some time to highlight the significant importance of women bowling in Scotland and we will continue to drive inclusion on this front! In addition, we would like to recognise Louise Gillespie, in her newly co-opted board member role, who has a passion for promoting Scottish senior bowling; we thank her for the amazing work and effort she is already contributing in this area and to the many other areas in the association. Please read her introduction statement available on the STB Website.

Member Actions:

- Please vote for the decision regarding buffer lanes via the Facebook poll

Sincerely,

STB Board