

BRITISH TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION



2017 BTBA Championship Tours for Adults

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Issued:,

1. Introduction:

Since the introduction of the BTBA Adult tour in 2014 participation numbers have been below our expectations. The disappointing participation numbers in 2016 which saw only 6.3% play more than 3 events and only 1.8% play enough tournaments to match the Masters criteria meant that we need to look at the Tour and investigate how we can increase continued participation.

Unfortunately for the 2017 Tour we have lost the previous support we had from Storm Bowling. Throughout 2017 we will continue to actively look for partners and sponsors.

For the 2017 season we would like to bring back the original ethos of the BTBA Tour. We want to offer a decent competitive tour for bowlers of all abilities not just the perceived elite demographic of the game.

So with this in mind we are insistent that entry fee, excluding the Nationals, does not exceed £50. The tournament has to offer Handicap and scratch elements or have average based divisions. The tournament also has to offer the bowler value for money in terms of games and prize money.

We are aiming to improve the flow of information regarding the events and tour standings. To achieve this it is now a requirement of the tournament manager to set up a facebook event page prior to each tournament and actively keep the information on it up-to-date. Also after the event will be looking for a quick result service and a full report with photo's to go inside the BTBA Inside Line publication.

Were also creating a dedicated 2017 Tour Facebook page – there you will find entry forms, links to the event pages, lane graphs, tour standings and all the Tour news.

In previous years we have looked directly at centre owners or individuals to hold and put together the Tour events. In 2017 we are empowering the local associations to bid for the right to hold an event. All bids will be weighed up with lineage, amount of games, entry fee, venue, format, sponsorship considered. Ultimately we are looking for an innovative tournament that offers the bowler something exciting and value of money.

One of the BIG changes you will see in the 2017 Tour is the scrapping of the end of season's masters. We have analysed participation numbers and consulted with players and have decided that at the end of the 2017 season bowlers will be rewarded a cash prize depending on their final position in the tour standings. More details on this can be found in section 5.



Qualification:

The qualification criteria for entry into the tours will be as follows:

- The individual Championship tour events will be open to BTBA members only. If you're not a BTBA member you will be asked pay £21 on the day of the tournament which will be used to pay for the bowlers yearly BTBA membership. This will permit the bowler to play in the tournament.
- Bowlers who claim to be members but are unable to provide a valid membership card, will be permitted to play on the payment of a fine as detailed on the entry forms. After the tournament an audit check will be carried out and if the bowler is found not to be a valid member then BTBA tour points will be null and void for that particular tournament
- Electronic proof of membership on the BTBA website will be accepted as proof of membership. Please note that it is still the responsibility of the player to ensure that they can provide proof of membership.
- Members of other recognised associations must be able to present valid membership cards for their association. No provision will be made for expired/lapsed memberships.
- All participants must be prepared to act in accordance with the instructions of the tournament manager and other tournament officials.

2. Dates and Locations:

The Adult Tour will consist of ten tournaments consisting of varying formats, therefore offering formats for everyone, not just the singles competitions that dominated previous calendars. With the exception of the National Championships, the Adult and Senior Tour events will in the majority of cases be held on separate dates. But in order to increase attendance it is possible that some events will be a common event for both Tours. i.e. the Generation Doubles in Stroud.

We have tried to spread the tournaments around the country to give people an equal opportunity to play in their own region or travel.

Some of the dates and venues are currently still in final negotiations but the following should give you a good indication of our intentions. Details will be made available on the website and the BTBA calendar as soon as they have been confirmed.
www.btba.org.uk



**British Tenpin Bowling Association
2017 BTBA Championship Tours for Adults**

Adults		Location
29 th January	BTBA / BUTBA Scotch Doubles	Nuneaton
11th to 26th March	National Championships	MFA Nottingham
8th – 9th April	TBA	TBA
13th - 14th May	BUTBA Doubles	Airport Bowl
17th - 18th June	Jim Brewer	Poole
1st – 2 nd July	Shropshire Open	AMF Shrewsbury
12th – 13th August	TBA	TBA
23 rd – 24 th Sept	TBA	TBA
21st – 22nd October	TBA	TBA
18 th – 19 th November	Generation Doubles	Stroud



3. The Formats:

Working closely with tournament managers we will ensure that formats are interesting and enticing for all. While there will be a mixture of patterns we do not intend to use Sports patterns for these events. Whenever it is practical details of the patterns to be played will be made available on the BTBA website www.btba.org.uk wherever possible.

Age Bonuses, Handicaps etc. may apply within individual events. Please refer to the Tournament entry forms for details. However bonuses & handicaps will not be used when determining points awarded for qualification for the BTBA Tour. All Tour points will be awarded based on scratch scores over a minimum of 6 games / tournament

4. What Is The Cost And How/When Do I Apply?

The cost of participating in each event will be appropriate to the event and will be determined by the local Tournament Manager. In general we are aiming to provide a reasonable prize fund while at the same time keeping general costs down.

Included within the tournament fee will be:

- Lineage costs
- Tournament Expenses (printing, advertising etc)
- Local Association Contribution
- The Team England contribution, this will be set at a minimum of £1.00, but may vary depending on the nature of event. The Nationals for instance.
- Prize fund for the event
- A £5.00 contribution towards the cost of the end of season "Tour Standings" award. Which will be awarded on the bowlers placing in Tour standings after playing the required number of tournaments. Full details in section 5

All entry forms will be made available on the BTBA website and the dedicated 2017 BTBA tour facebook page, and wherever possible on all of the normal Bowling websites i.e. TalkTenpin. Details of when and where to enter will be contained within the individual entry forms.



5. End of season Tour Standings awards

A minimum of 6 events are required for qualification for the cash Tour prize and the top positions will be based on points awarded at each player's best 6 events.

Event	When points are awarded
Adult Scratch Singles	Final positions at end of tournament
Adult Handicap Singles & Senior Singles	Positions at the end of qualifying round
Doubles, Trios, Teams	Individual scores at end of qualifying round
National Championships	Individual scores combined across all categories

Note: (All Players competing in National Championships will be awarded points based on pin-fall for games played in order that they can still use this as a qualifying event).

Points will be awarded using the following formula:

Adults, Men and Ladies:

1st place 120 pts, 2nd place 110 pts, 3rd place 100 pts.

4th place 95 pts, 5th place 90 pts etc decreasing thereafter by 5 pts per place to 10th place 65 pts.

11th place 64 pts, 12th place 63 pts etc decreasing thereafter by 1 point per place to final place

After the final event of year the money in the Tour pot made up of the bowlers £5 contributions throughout the year will be divided thusly

- **Men:** 1st 33%, 2nd 20%, 3rd 15%, 4th 10%, 5th 8%, 6th 6%, 7th 5%, 8th 3%
- **Ladies:** 1st 35%, 2nd 22%, 3rd 15%, 4th 12%, 5th 10%, 6th 6%

A running total of the money that is in the "tour pot" will be confirmed on the official tour facebook page after every tournament.

End of season Tour cash prizes will only be awarded if the bowler plays the required number of tournaments. In case of any draw in the Tour standings then pin fall will be considered in the awarding of the cash prize.