

# BRITISH TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION



## 2020 BTBA Championship Tour for Adults

Presented by: Daniel Bonfield, BTBA Adult Tour Manager  
Issued: 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## **1. Introduction**

2019 saw 1149 bowlers take part in the BTBA Tour events an average of 104 bowlers per event and we gave away £7,009 in through the “Tour Pot”.

Back on board for 2020 as Tour partners are Striking Shirts and PDQ Printing Services. Our Thanks to Mark Barwick and Alison Blyth. Unfortunately, we say goodbye to B&P Fabrications and I would like to thank Mr. Pat Byrnes for their support over the last 3 years. Also back supporting the Tour in 2020 is Bowling Vision and their brands, my thanks to Graham Waller for his support. We also welcome two new partners in 2020 – Alman Engineering, and KC Components. I look forward to promoting your companies throughout the year.

Again, entry fees will be set at a maximum of £50, with the exception of the BTBA Nationals. We will endeavor to make sure all Tournaments have scratch and handicap or average based divisions/prize funds. The Tour is offering a series of events throughout the year at centres around the county that appeal to bowlers of all abilities.

In 2019 I introduced a Senior Ranking list. This was because at that specific time the seniors had just lost their own BTBA tour and I saw how popular the BTBA Tour’s Generation Doubles tournament was and concluded that there must be an appetite from the Seniors to bowl and compete amongst the Adults. However, the Senior calendar is too congested to warrant another “Tour” and excluding the Generation Doubles the perceived desire from the Senior bowlers just didn’t materialize as I had hoped. So, for 2020 we are going back to just an Adult tour, which of course Seniors (Bowlers over 50 years of age) are more than welcome to participate in, they just won’t be categorized in the rankings as a “Senior”

Also changing in 2020 is the women’s payout. In 2019 I changed it so we paid down to 7<sup>th</sup> but in 2020 I’m reverting back to the top 6. I had forecasted that more women would play the required 6 tournaments, but unfortunately the numbers remain static. The men’s will payout will remain at the top 10.

### **1.1 What are we trying to achieve in 2020?**

The purpose of the tour has always been to provide competitive tournaments to bowlers who are looking to bridge the gap from league to a tournament player.

In 2019 as the tour has got more popular, we refocused on offering more prize fund to the handicap section of tournament.

Ultimately, we are aiming to get more bowlers playing competitively, looking to improve their game, gain confidence and then go on to the next level

At the time of writing, securing sponsorship for the 2020 has proved more difficult. I have approached 7 companies – Recruitment specialists, companies involved Fitness and Nutrition, Engineering, Cabling solutions, as well bowling ball manufactures and bowling suppliers. Without their funding growing the tour may be more difficult in 2020. But we have a great platform and in 2020 I’m still hoping we can sustain the previous year’s attendance figures.

I’ve always believed the tour is and should be treated as a “product” of the British Tenpin

Bowling Association, and like any product it's subjected to supply and demand. The demand for tournaments has grown over the last 3 years and I now think it's time to expand the tour, so in 2020 there will be 11 tournaments, and it will now be a bowlers best 7 from 11 tournaments that count towards their end of season ranking.

There was some criticism that people who weren't on social media were missing out on Tour news and so we will try and capture peoples email addresses on entry forms and build up an email database so we can send news out electronically.

Tournament formats will continue to be a mix of singles, doubles, and teams as well as the occasional mixed tournament. I really want to continue trying to get more women out bowling competitively.

## **1.2 2020 Continuity**

Ranking "majors" will continue in 2020 with extra points available.

All BTBA Tour tournaments will now have a universal number of games that a bowler has to declare their highest average over, set at 12 games.

All BTBA tour averages will be rolling on a calendar year from 2019.

## **1.3 Qualification**

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

- Tour events will be open to BTBA members only. If you are not a BTBA member, you will be asked pay £25.00 on the day of the tournament to join the BTBA. 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.
- 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.

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

Date		Location
11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Nottingham 4's	Nottingham
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	TBA	Newbury
14 <sup>th</sup> to 29 <sup>th</sup> March	National Championships	Stroud
26 <sup>th</sup> April	Lancashire Open	Wigan
16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Mixed Trios	Worthing
13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> June	TBA	Dunstable
11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Doubles	Shipley
1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	Singles	Romford
20 <sup>th</sup> September	TBA	Millbrook (Southampton)
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Northants Open	Wellingborough
14 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Generation Doubles	Stroud

### 3. Format

Working closely with tournament managers, we will ensure that formats are interesting and enticing for all. While there will be a mixture of oil 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 at <http://www.btba.org.uk>.

Age Bonuses and handicaps etc. may apply within individual events - please refer to the tournament entry forms for details. However, bonuses and 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 per 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. 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 £2.00, 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. This will be awarded to players who place in the Tour Standings at the end of the year. Full details in section 5

All entry forms will be made available on the BTBA website and the dedicated BTBA Tour Facebook page, and wherever possible on other bowling media e.g. 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 7 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 7 events.

Event	When points are awarded
Adult Scratch Singles	Final positions at end of tournament
Adult Handicap 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 pinfall for games played in order so that they can still use this as a qualifying event.

Points will be awarded using the following formula:

Adults, Men and Womens':

1<sup>st</sup> place 120 pts, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 110 pts, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 100 pts.

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

11<sup>th</sup> place 64 pts, 12<sup>th</sup> place 63 pts etc. decreasing thereafter by 1 point per place to final place

Rankings points for a **Major** will be awarded thusly

1<sup>st</sup> place 200 pts, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 180 pts, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 160pts

4<sup>th</sup> place 150pts, 5<sup>th</sup> place 140 pts etc. decreasing thereafter by 10 pts per place to 10<sup>th</sup> place 90pts

11<sup>th</sup> place 89 pts, 12<sup>th</sup> place 88 pts etc. decreasing thereafter by 1 point per place to final place

After the final event of year, it is anticipated the money in the Tour pot - made up of the bowlers £5 contributions throughout the year - will be divided as follows:

**Men:** 1st 31%, 2nd 18%, 3rd 14%, 4th 10%, 5th 7%, 6th 6%, 7th 5%, 8th 4% 9th 3%, 10th 2%

**Women:** 1st 32%, 2nd 24%, 3rd 16%, 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 the event of any draw in the Tour standings then a bowler’s average over the 7 qualifying tournaments will be considered in the awarding of the cash prize.