

BRITISH TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION



2020 Trials and Selection Criteria for the Senior Team England squad for 2021

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1. Introduction

I **must first apologise** for having to change the Qualification criteria for the Senior Squad and in doing so, I hope that this does not create too much inconvenience at this time.

This year we were trying to follow similar criteria as that used for the Adult Squad by including the Senior Nationals as a Qualifying event for the following year. I failed to take into account the need for all participants to be in their 50th year for the Senior Nationals and yet for qualification into next year a player could still be in their 49th year. This conflicts with the Senior Nationals protocol, so please accept my apologies, as I have to reinstate the third qualifying weekend.

As always, our focus remains the support of our players and members along with the need to keep the cost of qualifying events to a minimum. Therefore, based upon the success and support from the players, we plan to continue with the current qualifying format to help us establish next year's squad of players. In doing this we will continue to focus on supplying three quality events that are able to test the player's strengths and abilities, whilst maintaining the Quality of the Team.

To digress slightly, the first major event of the year will be The Senior National Championships at Nottingham Bowl, Belward Street, Nottingham. NG1 1JZ and from this event, the top twelve Men Scratch score and Top eight Ladies Scratch Score, (depending upon the level of entries), will be invited to attend the first ever UK Senior Masters Championships. This will be held later in the year, on a date to be advised, and I hope that all of you will greet this new award with the support that it deserves.

This group will then participate in an 11-Game and 7-Game Round-Robin final respectively, to decide the years 'UK Senior Masters Champions' and along with this accolade, the two Champions will be invited to attend this year's Gibraltar Open Championship which normally runs during November. We understand that at this time the Gibraltar Open is not confirmed and should this fail to materialize, then the players will be invited to attend a Tournament of similar stature.

Now to focus on the Senior Team England Qualifying events. Depending upon the number of participants registered, we may struggle to find quality centres that are both large enough to accommodate us and also willing to entertain us, so we may have to separate the Ladies and the Men into two separate days as we have had to do for the Adult Events. However, our focus will continue to keep costs to minimum by reducing hotel and other expenses.

Should we experience a lower number of participants than expected, or we are fortunate to be hosted by a larger centre with increased capacity, we will then look to combine all players on a single day.

The top ranked player from both the Men's and Ladies Qualifiers will also be invited to continue into the 2022 Squad, providing that they participate in the following years Qualifiers, which will begin to allow some continuity within the squad as we go forward. Should one or both of the players choose not to participate in the Qualifiers for the following year, or, alternatively declines their place, then that place(s) will be taken up by the next ranked Qualifying player(s).

As noted above, controlling the costs represents a significant challenge to the BTBA and T.E. Management. Personal and Team Sponsorship can play a huge part in helping to reduce costs, so we ask that all players remain active in finding both National and International sponsors which can only serve to reduce the financial burden on our Team players and ourselves.

2. Qualification

The trials are open to everyone that wishes to participate in these events, providing that they can meet the "Qualification Criteria" listed below:

Qualification Criteria

- Must be a member of the BTBA in good standing.
- Must be prepared to sign a Code of Conduct/Terms of Reference, to which it is essential to adhere.
- Must be prepared to give priority to all Team England training sessions.
- Must be willing to train and develop to become a world class bowler.
- Must be prepared to act in accordance with the instructions of the Squad/Team Manager, Coaches and Officials.
- Must be prepared to be a good ambassador for their Sport and Country, at all times.
- Must be eligible to bowl for England.

3. Dates and Locations

There are three events that will decide the Rankings and subsequent Squad for 2021 and players will be expected to play in all three events, with the two highest Rankings points total deciding the final position. All three Qualifying events will be decided over twelve games, on two blocks of 6 Games on 2 separate approved World Bowling patterns or patterns taken from the Kegel Library of patterns.

Senior National Championships

2nd/3rd May

Nottingham

** overflow squad either 9th or 1st May, Nottingham*

Depending upon the number of players registering for the Senior Team England Qualifiers, the 1st UK Senior Masters may be held on Saturday May 30th, alternatively, this event will be scheduled for later in the year.

Senior Qualifier	May 30 th /31 st	Stroud
Senior Qualifier	August 8 th /9 th	Stroud
Senior Qualifier	November 28 th /29 th	Stroud

**The closing date for entry is on or before Friday 24th May 2020, along with a £40 deposit
After this date acceptance will be at the discretion of the Team England Management Team.**

4. The Formats

Details of the set up for the Qualifying weekends will be explained briefly and players will also be informed what to expect and what is expected of them along with an open question and answer session between players and officials.

The Qualifiers will be played on two approved Patterns which the players will be told in advance of the event, along with the order in which these will be played which will be determined by the bowling centre and their lane technicians.

Overview

- Every bowler will be expected to play 6 games on two different patterns
- At the conclusion of the twelve games, the cumulative pin-fall over the twelve games will decide the final standings and the Ranking Points awarded

Outline schedule

- Registration and Lane Draw 0930hrs
- 0945hrs – 10 minutes Practice on Pattern 1
- 1000hrs – Commence 6 Game Block on Pattern 1
- 1330hrs – Lunch break, Redress Lanes and Lane Draw for Pattern 2 as you finish playing
- 1430hrs – 10 minutes Practice on Pattern 2
- 1445hrs – Commence 6 Game Block on Pattern 2
- 1815hrs – Finish – Question & Answer session

Lunch will be provided, but any accommodation required will be the responsibility of the participant

5. Ranking Points

The cumulative pinfall over the twelve games will decide the final standings and the ranking points awarded. The maximum points over one weekend will be 120, with the following breakdown:

1 st	-	120	5 th	-	85	9 th	-	60
2 nd	-	105	6 th	-	80	10 th	-	59
3 rd	-	95	7 th	-	75	11 th	-	58
4 th	-	90	8 th	-	70	12 th	-	57

and then reducing by one point thereafter.

6. Team England Squad Selection

The following criteria will determine the squads from which teams and players may be chosen to represent TE at international events in 2021:

Men's 8	-	Top 7 from qualifying events plus 1 exemption or management pick*
Women's 8	-	Top 7 from qualifying events plus 1 exemption or management pick*

* Management pick can be from players either from the trials or from outside the trials.

All bowlers will be expected to compete in all of the qualifying events for the 2021 Squad.
The two best ranking point scores from the three events will be taken.

7. Team England Squad Selection

The selections for Team England representation will be made from the squad by a Selection panel that will include some or all of the following: Team Manager, all coaches that have had involvement with the trials or will be training with the team in 2020/2021 and a member of the BTBA Executive Council. All selections will be reviewed by the BTBA Executive council before being published.

They will consider achievements at the trials, performance at BTBA Sanctioned Events and the bowler's ability to win medals.

Consideration will also be given to behaviour and attitude both on and off the lanes including but not limited to:

- Ability and willingness to accept instruction, both on and off the lanes.
- Interaction with Team members and Officials
- Versatility and ability to react under pressure

In addition, Team England players will be expected to give up some of their time in support of other events organised by the BTBA to further promote the sport of bowling throughout the UK.

After the selections have been made, the management team will endeavor to advise the squad members as to the approximate costs for each event so that squad members are able to indicate their availability as soon as the squads are announced. Any changes to availability must be made known to the Team England Manager immediately as the information becomes available.

8. What is the cost and how/when do I apply?

The cost of participating in the Qualifying events will be £75 per person per event, so £225 (less the £40 deposit), the balance to be paid by Friday 22nd May.

To register your participation, please email: ianoakley@btba.org.uk

Deposit and Final Payment for the above will be through the Team England Bank Account:

Barclays Sort Code: 20-44-22 Account 60203351

Please give your reference as: STE/Your Initials/BTBA Number - e.g. STE/IO/009999

9. What is included in the price?

The participation fee will cover all Lineage fees for 12 games of trials bowling plus lunch.

Finally, all players selected to form the Men's and Ladies squads will be invited to attend at least one Team England Training weekend, where players may be asked to contribute towards the cost, which will be used as an opportunity to select the teams competing in the 2021 International and Domestic events.

When you are selected to play for England for the first time, two Team England shirts will be provided.

In addition to the above, we are intending to run Training/Coaching on the Saturday prior to the Sunday Qualifying events, unless player numbers prohibit this. (t.b.c.)

10. Outline Diary for 2021 Under Consideration by TE Management

April	Host - Wales	Senior Triple Crown - Venue t. b. c.
June 2021	Norköping, Sweden	ESBC
August	XXXXXX	World Championships

Players Contribution - we will always endeavour to keep this as low as possible, but obviously we cannot control the external financial demands.

11. Special Note 1

Players wishing to participate in the Qualifiers for the 2021 Squad MUST register their participation 'on-line' on or before Friday 22nd May 2020, along with a £40 deposit, which will be refundable in the event that personal circumstances change and they decide to withdraw from the events.

12. Special Note 2

At the last World Championships held in Las Vegas, the Presidium discussed the possibility of forming a Super-Seniors division (Grand Seniors in the USA), that would potentially take place at the same time as the Senior World Championships. To date we have heard no more on this subject, but we do understand that a player can only enter one of the above categories.

Super-Seniors are those that reach the age of 65 years in the year of the event.

So we would ask all those that may wish to be considered for the Super Seniors to please let me know by email to: ianoakley@btba.org.uk so that I can record your potential interest as we go forward. We will also endeavor to keep you all up to date on these developments.