

BRITISH TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION



Annual Review 2020

Presented by: Martin Webster, Chairman

Issued: May 2020

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1 Introduction – Martin Webster, Chairman

I am writing this introduction at a very worrying time for everyone in the UK and indeed, Worldwide. We have had to make some extremely difficult decisions in these last few months which I hope you, as members, fully understand the reasons and actions that had to be taken. Without the help of the many volunteers and Council Members, a lot of the objectives and decisions that were made would not have been completed. To this end, I would like to formally thank everyone concerned for their support and dedication and look forward to another successful year ahead with exciting projects and initiatives planned.

I firmly believe that we have a much stronger association now and are continually building relationships with important organisations such as the TBPA, manufacturers and government departments and this will only help us to achieve the standing we need within the sporting world to attract new members, sponsorships and government grants in the future.

Income for 2020/21 will be significantly reduced if we do not receive subscriptions, sponsorships or tournament contributions and this is why it is so important this year for all our members to continue to re-new their annual membership to ensure that we have an association that survives these unprecedented times and can continue to flourish once things get back to some form of normality.

We have provided the foundations and support for our international teams at all levels to continue to grow, sustain and improve their performance while representing us at World and European Championship events. Their successes this year have again been fantastic with many medals being won for Team England.

However, the association will struggle to survive without the membership of the BTBA increasing with new full members, sanctioned leagues and non-playing members and this has to be a major priority for the next 12 months once bowling starts up again. We are constantly looking at new initiatives and benefits for our members to enable you to get value for money for your membership fees and the Tastecard linked to membership has proved to be a real success with our members during 2019/20.

Please take the time to read this report as it contains a lot of the information that we hear people asking about and is one of the ways that we maintain our transparency and try to explain some of the background to the events that are happening around us and within the world of Tenpin Bowling.

As I come to the end of my 2 years as Chairman, I hope that you are all able to keep safe. Some of you have said that you are actually enjoying your isolation, catching up with long neglected activities, but of course this does not make up for not seeing friends and family. Hopefully, sometime in the near future we can all get together and meet up again at tournaments and social events, albeit still at a 2-metre distance from each other!

Martin Webster

2 The Office of the Chairman – Martin Webster

2.1 Vision



The British Tenpin Bowling Association was established to promote and improve the sport of Tenpin Bowling. It aims to ensure that all people, irrespective of their age, disability, ethnic origin, marital status, sexual orientation or social status have a genuine and equal opportunity to participate in the sport at all levels and in all roles.

2.2 Our Values

Focus on our membership
 Commitment to equality
 Working together with respect
 Commitment to excellence
 Pride in our heritage

The BTBA provides opportunities to bowlers from across the country to bowl in organised leagues and tournaments. From the most junior (barely able to walk) to the most senior (barely able to walk) there is a tournament for everyone, and yes, we do mean everyone because bowling is a truly inclusive sport.

2.3 Team England – Ian Oakley, Executive Director Team England

I was originally asked to take on this responsibility in September 2019 by Martin Webster (Chairman) and Ron Griffin (Treasurer).

The role being one of working with and assisting Chris Hillman (Team England Manager) by bringing together and developing the different aspects of Team England including Team Management and the various responsibilities of Coaching/Training.

In the past eight months Chris and I have appointed a new Youth Team Manager in Steve Allen, whilst Dave Steiner remained as Senior Manager and I acted as caretaker Manager for the Adults. As a Management Team we have set and managed personal budgets, managed various Qualifiers and selected squads to attend various Competitions, although sadly, most of which are now 'on hold' due to the current Global crisis.

In January of this year our Senior Team attended the first of the Senior European Championships ever to be held, this was in Vienna, Austria. Much to the delight of most, Kimberley Oakley returned home with four medals and on her first outing wearing an England shirt, Gaye McCully won Silver in the Doubles with Kimberley. This was by far the best result Senior Team England have ever achieved in a

major International and bodes well for the future.

During these eight months I have reinstated the UK Masters Championships and introduced the same for the Seniors and endeavoured to encourage participation in the National Championships by making it one of the Qualifying events. At this time, I would like to thank Dave Steiner for taking on the responsibility of Managing the Adult Nationals and John Strettle for taking on the same role for the Senior Nationals. Without volunteers like these, our Championships just would not survive.

I believe that Qualifying events should continue to be held, as they represent the most cost-effective way of assembling the various squads, as not all players wish to tour the country playing in various events, due to the constraints of life and the potential restriction placed on one's disposable income. This may well become even tighter as we emerge from this current environment.

As I write this brief report, I wish to thank Martin and Ron for their support and belief in my vision for the future of Team England, and must leave this challenge for others to endeavour to introduce, as I have resigned this position as of today, 30th April 2020.

2.4 Sanctioning - Jerry Moll

For the period 1 January to 31 December 2019, 156 events were sanctioned. Apart from the loss of the BTBA Senior Tour, this is on a par with 2018.

Applications continued to be processed within a couple of days of application. The vast majority of payments of tournament sanction fees have been made in good time and, with only two exceptions, have been paid by bank transfers which is obviously far more efficient than cheques. My thanks therefore to the tournament managers/treasurers for helping this process to run so smoothly.

Looking at the breakdown of sanctions granted during 2019, most events have, as usual, been held at independent centres however 10 Hollywood/AMF centres have hosted occasional events. It was disappointing to see Hollywood Branksome (Poole) take the decision not to host tournaments as it was a popular venue on the calendar.

Centres hosting the highest number of sanctioned events were Airport (strings), Shipley, Dunstable, and Stroud. The DiscoBowl group who acquired some of the previous MFA centres are hosting tournaments at Nottingham Bowl. Our thanks to them for their support. New for 2019, it was good to see events being sanctioned at Strikes Dereham, Hollywood Portsmouth (strings) and Stevenage.

I would like to conclude by reminding tournament managers not to submit their TFRs (tournament finance reports) until they are certain that payments have actually been made! Thank you.

2.5 BTBA Tours

2.5.1 BTBA Adult tour – Dan Bonfield

Again, as in previous years, we continued with the ethos of providing a series of events that were both affordable and competitive. 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".

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the 2019 sponsors Striking Shirts, PDQ Printing Services, Bowling Vision and B&P Fabrications for their support of the Tour.

In 2020 we welcomed new sponsors KC Components and Alman Engineering, who joined returning sponsors Striking Shirts, PDQ Printing Services and Bowling Vision. The season had started off very promisingly with 209 bowlers attending the first 2 events.

At the time of writing the country is still in lockdown and we will have to see how the bowling and the whole country move forward and if we can get some events on later in the year we will.

Full details of the BTBA tour can be found on the BTBA website.

2.5.2 BTBA Tenpintour – Ron Griffin

The Tenpintour continues to grow with average entries of 60 men and 24 ladies. Our best turnout for the year was once again at the Airport where we had 101 entries.

A few of the rules were changed again this year mainly to do with the calculations of handicap and bonus pins which once we had completed our end of year survey with all members

The order of merit winners for 2018 were Kim Oakley and Gary Christopher who are pictured here receiving their trophies from our OOM sponsor RBS Proshops.



This year's Masters was once again held at Stroud bowl but as an added treat we also held the Friday night and Saturday night festivities at the bowl. The staff did a wonderful job of organising a full 3 course banquet that would rival any first-class hotel in the area. Well done guys and thanks for all the effort.

The Masters honours were taken by Lynn Squibb and Gary Christopher and are pictured below with the runners up and third place positions.



3 Management and Administration – Ron Griffin, Treasurer

All tasks associated with the administration of the BTBA continue to be outsourced with overall costs being held well below the previous levels.

Reducing numbers of members makes it even more important that we keep administration costs to an absolute minimum and that we try to cut our cloth according to our means. This is of course not helped by World Bowling and the EBF adding additional International Championship events onto the calendar each year so we need to be really careful that we don't just get dragged along with the escalating costs but work out which events offer us the best opportunities for success and positive exposure within the media.

We are still firm believers that the distributed service model is the only one that can sustain the administrative services at an affordable cost. As we said last year it would be good to be able to include other people in the mix but that would require some people to start to apply for the jobs that we post on the website.

We are still working on further automation and have recently had a few successes managing tournament and TE trials entries using the membership system. Hopefully, this will continue to reduce our overall workload as we better understand the options available to us.

A full list of services outsourced functions is shown below.

Service	Provider	Cost per quarter
Accounting Services	Newton Magnus & Co Ltd	£700.00
Financial Mgmt and Bookkeeping	R&P Griffin Ltd	£500.00
Safeguarding Licences	R&P Griffin Ltd	£500.00
Email Forwarding	LJ Bowling Services Ltd	£1,350.00
Website and Media	Watson and Gall	£550.00
Telephone Support	TEK Bowling	£750.00
General Secretarial	TEK Bowling	£1,750.00
	Total for the year	£24,400.00

3.1 Financial Management

Once again, our thanks go to our accountants Newton Magnus and Co Ltd for all the help and assistance that they have given us over the year. Using the Xero accounting package has allowed us to develop accounting rules that automatically allocate income and expense transaction across a wide range of Internal budget accounts and helps us to manage costs at a much more detailed level.

All the figures we are presenting today have come straight from the Xero accounting system which has also been used to produce the formal accounts that will be sent to Companies House immediately after the AGM. Copies of the accounts were sent to all Delegates in advance of the AGM so that they could review them and ask any questions that they may have.

3.2 Review 2019 plan versus actual

In this first chart we are showing how we did against the plan that was submitted at the AGM in May 2019.

	2019 Plan	2019 Actual	Variance Against Plan
Membership Income	£90,000.00	£86,507.27	-£3,492.73
Lane inspections	£3,500.00	£3,977.25	£477.25
National Champs and masters	£2,000.00	£3,362.00	£1,362.00
Coaching	£14,000.00	-£393.28	-£14,393.28
Inter County Championships	£2,000.00	-£10.03	-£2,010.03
Tournament sanctions	£10,000.00	£14,281.34	£4,281.34
Other Income incl licences	£2,000.00	£4,144.98	£2,144.98
Net Income			
Members benefits incl FIQ	-£8,000.00	-£6,650.71	£1,349.29
Head Office Administration	-£39,000.00	-£33,826.15	£5,173.85
Other costs	-£4,000.00	-£4,281.36	-£281.36
Fixed Costs Total			
Team England Net cost	-£55,000.00	-£50,090.21	£4,909.79
Committee Expenses	-£4,000.00	-£10,089.47	-£6,089.47
Local Assoc Rebate	-£4,000.00	-£4,014.00	-£14.00
Discretionary expense total			
Restructuring costs			£0.00
NAYBC		£3,919.21	£3,919.21
Other development expense	-£5,000.00	-£13,680.00	-£8,680.00
Development Total			
Net Expenses	£4,500.00	-£6,843.16	
Surplus / (Deficit)	£4,500.00	-£6,843.16	-£11,343.16

Notes:

- Membership Income is down slightly against plan, but we did expect an uptake in numbers with the introduction of the Tastecard offer for members and supporters. We have been requesting League secretaries to check all their players membership credentials online so that we can track players that are still participating in leagues and advise them that they need to take action to renew their memberships.
- Coaching income from our new Schools program did not materialise again in 2019. Due in part to our lack of success in getting the Sport recognised as an Olympic event but also because we failed to make any inroads into the government grant programs. Overall Coaching has stalled at present and we will need a concerted effort to get it back on track in 2020.
- Team England costs continue to escalate, and steps are being taken to reduce the impact on the BTBA funds. Actions include being more selective about which events to participate in and it will also mean higher contributions from players.

3.3 Review 2020 plan against 2019 actual expense

The plan for 2020 has been set against the actual spend in 2019 so that you can see a year to year comparison. As you will all be aware the impact of Coronavirus on our plans will be significant but we do not yet have a revised plan as we have no idea when it is likely that we will return to bowling. The impact to our incomes is most likely going to be severe as we are already seeing people delaying their membership renewals and all other secondary income has dried up almost completely. In terms of expenditure this plan is clearly overstating what we are likely to spend and for the remainder of 2020 we will need to minimise spending as much as possible.

	2019 Plan	2019 Actual	Variance Against Plan	2020 Plan
Membership Income	£90,000.00	£86,507.27	-£3,492.73	£90,000.00
Lane inspections	£3,500.00	£3,977.25	£477.25	£4,000.00
National Champs and masters	£2,000.00	£3,362.00	£1,362.00	£2,500.00
Coaching	£14,000.00	-£393.28	-£14,393.28	£5,000.00
Inter County Championships	£2,000.00	-£10.03	-£2,010.03	£2,000.00
Tournament sanctions	£10,000.00	£14,281.34	£4,281.34	£13,000.00
Other Income incl licences	£2,000.00	£4,144.98	£2,144.98	£3,000.00
Net Income				
Members benefits incl FIQ	-£8,000.00	-£6,650.71	£1,349.29	-£7,000.00
Head Office Administration	-£39,000.00	-£33,826.15	£5,173.85	-£35,000.00
Other costs	-£4,000.00	-£4,281.36	-£281.36	-£4,000.00
Fixed Costs Total				
Team England Net cost	-£55,000.00	-£50,090.21	£4,909.79	-£45,000.00
Committee Expenses	-£4,000.00	-£10,089.47	-£6,089.47	-£6,000.00
Local Assoc Rebate	-£4,000.00	-£4,014.00	-£14.00	-£4,000.00
Discretionary expense total				
Restructuring costs			£0.00	£0.00
NAYBC		£3,919.21	£3,919.21	£0.00
Other development expense	-£5,000.00	-£13,680.00	-£8,680.00	-£14,000.00
Development Total				
Net Expenses	£4,500.00	-£6,843.16		£4,500.00
Surplus / (Deficit)	£4,500.00	-£6,843.16	-£11,343.16	£4,500.00

3.4 Accounts as Submitted to Companies House

Extracts from the accounts as included within the delegates pack.

BRITISH TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION

ABRIDGED INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
GROSS PROFIT		79,874	51,920
Administrative expenses		(87,111)	(70,114)
OPERATING LOSS	4	(7,237)	(18,194)
Interest receivable and similar income		394	359
LOSS BEFORE TAXATION		(6,843)	(17,835)
Tax on loss		-	-
LOSS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		<u>(6,843)</u>	<u>(17,835)</u>

BRITISH TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION (REGISTERED NUMBER: 01178858)

ABRIDGED BALANCE SHEET 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	5	1,828	2,438
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors		-	568
Cash at bank		145,349	158,088
		<u>145,349</u>	<u>158,656</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year		(62,031)	(69,105)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>83,318</u>	<u>89,551</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>85,146</u>	<u>91,989</u>
RESERVES			
Retained earnings		85,146	91,989
		<u>85,146</u>	<u>91,989</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2019.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

4 Technical Services - Paul LeManquais

4.1 Lane Certification Inspections

The lane certification process acts as an independent health check of the proprietor's lanes. The biggest investment within a bowling centre are the lanes and pinsetters. Underlying issues which are not measured as part of day to day or routine maintenance by Technicians, can be identified and highlight a problem before it becomes too serious. It is a sound investment in the maintenance of the equipment and ensures that managers and technicians are aware, as early as possible, of any underlying problems. This will reduce the cost of upkeep and repairs in the long term. For our members, this relationship and certification should result in a better bowling experience too, something which is fundamental in our aims

Centre grading has been live for four years and continues to work very well. Annual reviews of this continue to be made as experience develops. The centre grading is automatically generated from the measurements taken during an inspection, along with 'manual' adjustments for issues such as damage to the lane surface. Grading provides a true reflection and is generating improvements by many centres. It also gives an indication to bowlers as to the overall standard that the centre is in from its compliance with the worldwide specifications. The Gold, Silver or Bronze is also supplemented by an affiliated status which allows BTBA members to be supported in a centre which fails to reach a bronze grading. Tournament sanctions will only be issued to tournaments complying with the relevant grading.

A Lane Certification menu is on the BTBA website. It comprises of:

1. A description of what is measured and importantly what is NOT. The latter is significant as there are a lot of misunderstandings amongst bowlers.
2. Details of all certified centre with their grading is published, along with the expiry date, details of the lane surface, pins, lane dressing machine and the pin-spotters.
3. Downloads of the forms to request lane certification.

There are currently 48 certified centres in England, a drop of two since the 2019 AGM, of which 58% are independently operated. The drop is due to centres declining inspection.

There are two centres outside of the BTBA remit which have also been inspected. These were carried out post direct requests to give the owners assurance that the installation standards of their contractors met international standards to a Gold standard.

There are now two sanctioned 'String' centres, the Airport Bowl and Hollywood Bowl Portsmouth. String Centre sanctions will only be given if they have full compliance of lane and approach measurements.

The BTBA rules have recently been updated to include the changes needed by the introduction of strings.

The grading achieved of each centre allows a Tournament Managers to identify which type of centre to consider for a specific type of tournament. For example, International tournaments would only to be run in Gold standard centres and even then, subject to an ETBF or WTBF lane mapping inspection.

Silver graded centres are the minimum standard for National Championships, County events, tour events or any nationally advertised tournament.

An inspector's aim, along with the preparing the inspection report, is to help and guide centres to rectify or make adjustments where necessary, themselves, or how to seek external assistance if needed. We believe this should provide incentive to improve standards.

The number of active inspectors is currently adequate. However additional licensed inspectors are needed, and details of courses will be advertised on the BTBA website and Facebook page. These will additionally be open to all who wish to develop knowledge and understanding.

4.2 Ball Specification Changes

BTBA members need to be aware of the changes that were made by the USBC (which the BTBA follows) on bowling balls. There are several aspects to this which pro shops should already be following. The key one for many will be that balls that currently have a balance hole **cannot be used from 1st August 2020**.

5 Business Development - Martin Webster

5.1 Weber Cup – Matchroom Multisport

Unfortunately, the 2020 Weber Cup has had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus but hopefully, this will be reinstated for 2021.

5.2 Sponsorship

We are continuing negotiations with both large and small companies for sponsorship which are ongoing, and we are still looking for a new Business Development Director to secure these deals in the not too distant future. It is intended to start looking for additional corporate sponsors for other areas such as tournaments etc and this will need concentrated PR activity to ensure we get maximum coverage for the sponsors at all times. Media coverage will also enhance the profile of the BTBA and of course, bring Tenpin Bowling in front of many more people outside of the industry.

Our biggest challenge is to get more members into the association and to encourage sanctioned leagues, as this helps tremendously when talking to potential sponsors and organisations such as UK Sport and Government departments for grants. They generally allocate funds based on member numbers.

5.3 TBPA

The BTBA have continued to attend the TBPA meetings throughout the last 12 months keeping them up to date with the initiatives and changes within the BTBA. One idea is to entice youngsters into the tenpin bowling world by organising a series of training programs after school between 4-5pm and individual centres giving us the lanes free of charge to start the program.

Overall, the proprietors have been very positive with the ideas put forward and we now have an ongoing dialog which can only be good for everyone associated with our sport

3.4 Club Bowling

ShIPLEY Bowl have successfully instigated the new Club Bowling where bowlers of all standards join a local bowling club and receive several discounts and benefits from the participating bowling centre. Members are also allowed to bowl in any local tournaments, sanctioned or not, but cannot bowl in a sanctioned event outside of their bowling club in another centre without joining as a full BTBA member.

There are also discussions taking place with other independent centres and one large tenpin group who are monitoring this idea with a view to setting up a similar scheme in the future. This is very exciting as it means that our overall membership numbers will increase by adding the Club Members to our database.

6 Membership Services - Lisa John, Director and Vice Chairman

6.1 Coronavirus and the Impact on Membership

We have been asked by some members whether we will be extending memberships based on the fact that bowling centres have been closed and they have not been able to use their membership for a large part of the year. We have had many discussions surrounding this and have looked at the financial implications that this would have on our association. To extend everyone's membership would put the association at huge financial risk so we have decided that we will not be extending memberships this year. What we have done is remove the ruling that backdates memberships to their original expiry dates, therefore everyone will renew for 1 year from their purchase date. Whilst we appreciate that this may not benefit all of our members to the same extent, we hope that you will all support us during these unprecedented times. We have frozen our membership fees for the next year and a Standard membership still remains less than 50p per week. We are asking all members to please help us during this time and renew their memberships when they are in a position to do so. Thank you for your continued support of our association.

6.2 Membership Benefit – Tastecard



Last year we introduced the Tastecard benefit to all Standard, International Gold and Supporter Members as part of their membership fee.

Tastecard is a discount card which gives the holder offers such as 2 for 1 and 50% off at over 6,500 restaurants Nationwide including Frankie & Benny's, Pizza Express, Zizzi's, Byron Burger and Chiquito's to name a few.

Average savings for our members based on figures received from Tastecard have been £19.74 per visit. This means, they have only had to use the benefit twice in order to cover the cost of our Standard Membership. Everybody loves to eat out, so now it can help pay for your BTBA membership too! For more information, visit www.tastecard.co.uk.

At the start of the year, the uptake of the Tastecard was excellent and we saw many members using it to its full potential. This means that for many members, the cost of their membership has been saved by using this new benefit. We want to encourage more of our members to register for their Tastecard and take full advantage of it once they are able to.

As this benefit has worked out so well for our members, we have negotiated a 3 year deal with Tastecard. At the time of writing, we have not received any communication from them with regards to any potential extension to the benefit but I will continue to work on this and hope to bring more news in due course.

6.3 Membership Levels and Costs

We have reviewed the prices of our memberships and will be freezing our membership fees this year. Membership costs will therefore remain as follows:

Junior (under 22)	£20.00
Standard	£25.00
International Gold Card	£45.00
Non-Playing Official	£12.50
Supporter	£10.00

We added the purchase of the coaching and official's licences onto the cost of a membership, so that everything is all in one place. These are shown as separate options available through GoMembership.

The following portion of each membership payment for a member under the age of 22, if active in a YBC, will be passed on to Youth Bowling:

Junior	£10.00
Standard	£7.50
International Gold Card	£7.50

6.4 Membership Review

Due to the Coronavirus we are unable to give an accurate report of the 2019/20 numbers. Many members have not renewed due to the closure of bowling centres and we will therefore not be reporting on this within this document.

6.5 Local Association Rebates

It is our hope that we will still be able to pay out the Local Association Rebates this year. We will keep monitoring our membership numbers and renewals and advise Local Associations as soon as we are able to do so.

As an added incentive to sell our new Supporter membership, next year we will be introducing an additional £1.50 rebate for every Supporter membership purchased since the introduction of this new level.

7 BTBA Annual awards

The following details of how the BTBA bowlers of the years are established, from nominations down through selection and then voting. This process will come into effect at the start of the 2020/21 BTBA season

7.1 Categories

There are seven awards made annually:

Bowling awards

- Male and Female Bowler of the year
- Senior Male and Senior Female Bowler of the year
- Junior Male and Junior Female Bowler of the year
- Team of the Year - All age groups are eligible

Non-Bowling awards

- Official of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Significant Contribution to the Sport of Tenpin Bowling – Chairman’s Award

7.2 Selection Process

Awards are only open to BTBA members over the whole period of the award. The junior awards may use a different timescale to those stated in paragraph 4. This is yet to be decided by the NAYBC.

Bowlers may feature in any category that they are age eligible for but must have competed in events in that category.

7.2.1 Senior and ‘Adult’ Bowlers of the Year

Nominations, with details of the achievements, will come from the membership along with an appointed person(s) in each category who have detailed knowledge of the groups themselves. The responsible person will keep records over the twelve-month period of relevant Tour results to assist in identifying nominations. Team England managers will have input to nominations too.

Initial nominations are then reviewed by the National Council and additional candidates added as required. The nominations are then reduced, based on the information received, to nominally four per category. This would be adjusted up or down dependent upon the strength of the support given. This short list, with the citations, are then sent to the Local Associations (LA) for them to vote in preference order. The candidate with the most votes from the LA is given the award. If there is a tie the National Council vote to break the tie or the votes for second place used.

7.2.2 Junior Bowlers of the Year

Nominations with details of the achievements should come from appointed, responsible people who have detailed knowledge of the groups themselves. These people will keep records over the twelve-month period of relevant Tour results.

The initial nominations are then reviewed by the National Councils members responsible for the Junior

players only. Additional nominations can be added by them as required. The nominations are then reduced based on the information received to nominally four per category. This would be adjusted up or down dependent upon the strength of the support given. This short list with the citations is then sent to the LA for them to vote. The candidate with the most votes from the Local Associations is given the award. If there is a tie the National Council vote to break the tie or the votes for second place used.

7.2.3 Team of the Year

Nominations for team of the year can come from any age group and will be made by the respective Team England managers, Inter County Secretaries and when relevant the BTBA National Championship Tournament managers.

The winners will be selected by the National Council and the award made at the Inter County Finals dinner

7.2.4 Official of the Year

A person in an official capacity who has contributed to supporting players, participants or other officials on Local, Regional or International duty during the previous twelve months. Nominations will be determined within the National Council, with the selection of the eventual recipient being made by the Executive Council.

7.2.5 Volunteer of the Year

A person who, whilst serving in an official or unofficial capacity, who's contribution has been felt much more locally and has contributed to their YBC, league, local centre, the County Association or National Association during the last twelve months. A person who has given up their own time to help improve the environment in which participants play, and to further develop the sport of tenpin bowling. Nominations for this award will be received from the Local Associations and the winner will be selected by the National Council.

7.2.6 Significant Contribution to the Sport of Tenpin Bowling (Chairman's Award)

This award, known as the "Chairman's Award", was introduced to recognise individuals that have made a significant contribution to the sport either during the last year or over a sustained period. A person who has dedicated themselves to the development of the sport and continues to strive to improve the sport for all participants. Nominations for this award will be sought from all members by email submission on a form that will be available on the website. Nominations contain details of what that individual has done to warrant consideration. The selection panel will be drawn up in conjunction with the sponsor of the award.

7.3 Timeframes

Late July – Website and Social Media posts inviting members to nominate individuals that they feel should be considered on the Bowler of the year along with their persons . This will be on a downloadable form only.

Early August – Replies received along with those from the ‘responsible individuals’ monitoring successes in the relevant age group and Team England as relevant. National Council shortlists Nominations

Mid August – Shortlists sent to Local Associations on ballot sheets for them to place them in preference order

End August – Ballot sheets returned along with any recommendations for Volunteer of the year.

Mid-September Award winners identified from voting sheets.

7.4 Award Ceremonies

With the exception of the Junior awards, all others will be made at the respective Inter County Final dinners. A date for the Junior awards is yet to be agreed.

8 Communications – Stuart Watson

8.1 Internal Communications

Internal communications within the BTBA are carried-out by regular National Council (NC) meetings, telephone calls, email and more recently using Microsoft Teams, which replaced the previously unpopular application Slack. The impact upon the NC of the COVID-19 pandemic was to halt all face-to-face meetings and force groups to rely on their emails and telephone conversations.

8.2 External Communications

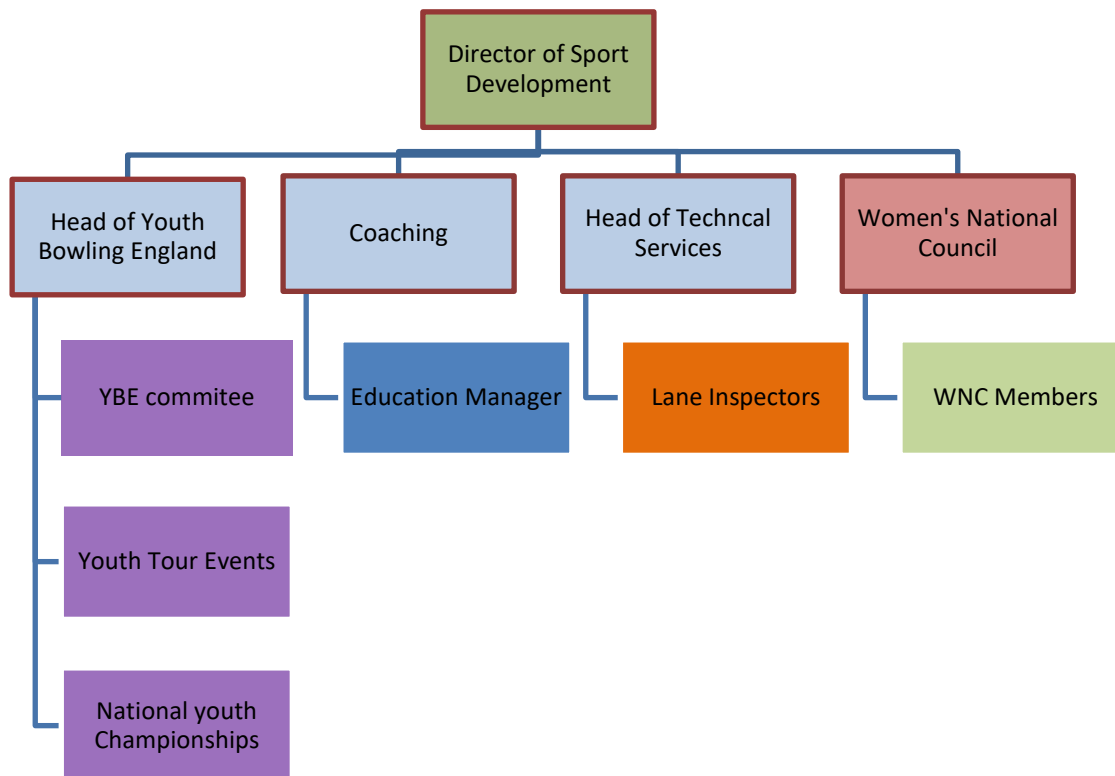
8.2.1 External Communications are carried-out as outlined within the published communications Policy, which is continually reviewed to improve transparency to members as well as encouraging press releases to be prepared and which can then be sent to other media.

8.2.2 We have been developing a reference of external contacts in local authorities and with both local and national newspapers, with the aim of spreading bowling news across the country through direct contact with the right people

8.2.3 The chief sources of BTBA news for both our members and others externally remains both The BTBA website and facebook page. It is vital that the website carries news of our athletes’ achievements before we approach external national media as typically National and local newspapers or broadcasters will refer to these as official sources as has been discovered in the past.

8.2.4 If an item is ‘newsworthy’ then every member and official can help the sport by ensuring it is brought to my attention rather than expect that someone else will ‘probably report it’ or that I will or have, already seen it. If the achievements of either yourself or of others are not reported to me, I simply cannot report it wider.

9 Sport Development - Terry Searle, Director



The main change is the move of Team England responsibilities into the office of the Chair, and the appointment of a Team England Executive manager.

9.1 Team England

See office of the chairman

9.2 NAYBC – Youth Bowling England (YBE)

2019/2020 has proven to be a difficult year for Youth Bowling in England. Further changes to the NAYBC will be announced in the coming weeks and plans for regenerating Youth participation are already being made.

The Educare programme slowed during a transition but all involved are encouraged to visit the site and look at the courses and support available, there will be a relaunch in the next few weeks.

9.2.1 Committee changes

November 2019 saw the resignation of most of the committee leaving the NAYBC, Stephen Toop continued to manage The Youth Bowling Tour with much valued and appreciated assistance from Brian and Gill Parker. A new Youth Bowling structure will be announced.

9.2.2 Membership

The net overall change in membership for 2019/20 was about 50 up, with mostly the 18-22 age group electing to not participate in the Bowling Tour. There are currently around 800 registered bowlers.

The Club Matters initiative that was launched this season will be reassessed for the coming season and if still applicable resources will be allocated to assist YBCs to become involved.

There are several YBCs who are operating without being registered with the NAYBC or holding BTBA memberships and appropriate safeguarding licenses. There are a few reasons for these clubs not wishing to be members, we are working through these concerns and will be addressing them where possible.

From September 2019, non-sanctioned / registered clubs will not be able to benefit from our benefits and rewards or take part in any NAYBC events. This has been allowed in the past and has not helped with retaining bowlers or volunteers, as well as contributing to increased cost to members through loss of income. All clubs will be invited to register with us again for the new season and will be made aware of the BTBA Grants programme so they can apply for funding to help bring them back on board, along with details of all member benefits and the plans for the new season.

9.2.3 Bowler recognition

Bowlers have been awarded with badges for achievements for many years, and we will continue to do so. It is our aim to make this more visible for the bowlers and clubs, partly by adding a new online order form to our website but also through promotion of the awards on our website and social media channels.

9.2.4 NAYBC Tours

The 2019/2020 Youth Bowling Tour season has been disrupted with the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. At the point of the Country entering lockdown 10 of the 16 planned tournaments had been completed. 497 Bowlers had entered at least one of those tournaments.

This season saw the introduction of “mirrored” tournaments in the North and South. There was favourable response for this from parents and bowlers and we will look to continue to develop this during the coming season. Especially as when and how we will return to bowling is still unknown.

The Triple Crown and EYC qualifying process was also disrupted by the lockdown and Team England are looking at ways of determining who is eligible to qualify. It was also apparent that the qualifying process put in place for this season didn't work as well as was hoped and a review of this for the coming season is underway with the Youth Team England Management.

There have been mixed reviews of the ranking points allocation method and this will be reviewed for the coming season.

The 54th NAYBC Nationals was scheduled to run in May 2020 but was postponed. A new date for this is still to be scheduled. Any announcement will be made as soon as possible.

The NAYBC operating with a separate chairman no longer fits with the direction the BTBA is progressing, the inclusion of Youth Bowling England into the main council is seen as a step forward

The proposed Youth set up is :

- **Stephen Toop. Head of Youth Bowling**
 - National Council Member
 - Lead the development of Youth Bowling in England
 - Overall Management of Youth Tours in England
 - Working with Tour Management to promote tournaments and manage ranking tables.
 - Work with Team England to integrate a Youth Team England selection process into the Youth Bowling Program.

- **Steve Allen. Youth Team England representative**
(Including Parental liaison Manager)
 - Re-build a strong and transparent relationship between Youth Team England and Youth Bowling England to create a new innovating tour for all Youth bowlers to compete in at all age levels.
 - Align Youth Triple Crown and European Youth Championships qualifying criteria's back within Youth tour events
 - Work closely with the Youth Bowling England Tours Manager and Tournament Management to select qualifying events for Youth Triple Crown 2021 and European Youth Championships 2022.
 - Build stronger and a more transparent relationships between the Youth Bowling England committee and parents.
 - Communicate with the National Team England Committee and National Team England Youth Coaches on all Youth Team England matters arising from the Youth Bowling England committee.

- **Brian and Gill Parker. Tournament Management.**
 - Responsible to Head of Youth Bowling
 - To assist in collating seasons calendar
 - Provide assistance to anyone who requires help with any aspect of running tournaments
 - To Manage tournaments as required

- **Stuart Watson. BTBA Head of Communications.**
 - Responsible to Director of Membership Services
 - National Council Member
 - Overall responsibility for all internal and external communications
- **EduCare 2020 Manager**
 - Overall responsibility for the BTBA EduCare 2020 Programme
- **Junior/Youth Coaching Support (South)**
 - A point of reference for all Licenced Coaches in the South to enable them to improve and develop their coaching skills
 - Jointly Develop and promote Coaching Refresher courses for Licenced Coaches
 - Promote EduCare in YBCs

- **Derek Simpson. EduCare 2020 Delivery Manager.**
 - Issuing of EduCare accounts to Learners
 - Monitoring the number of accounts that are being used
 - Liaise with EduCare with regards to the service provided
 - Maintain records of candidate's completions
 - Prepare reports to the YBE committee
- **Junior/Youth Coaching Support (North).**
 - A point of reference for all Licenced Coaches in the North to enable them to improve and develop their coaching skills
 - Jointly Develop and promote Coaching Refresher courses for Licenced Coaches
 - Promote EduCare in YBCs

9.3 Development programs

The school's program has not worked for many reasons, 2019 saw many changes in both access to grants and education budgets, our ambitious plan for the school's programme sadly will not continue.

9.4 Coaching ETBF course delivery

Coach Education, we have a contract with Mark Heathorn to delivery ETBF Level 1 and 2 courses. While we had issues in the second half of 2019 that stopped courses being delivered, I am pleased to say we have sorted the problems and look forward to a bright future.

9.5 Establishing Policies to compliment Sports Development

In January 2018, the BTBA now has a working 'Equality and Diversity Policy' and a Basic 'Disability Inclusion' Policy. These policies work alongside each other, as well as in conjunction with the Disciplinary, Complaints and Safeguarding Policies.

To accompany the Equality and Diversity Policies we have updated the existing Safeguarding, Child Protection and Anti-Bullying Policies to comply with current government law amendments and NSPCC recommendations. These policies went live on the BTBA website as of March 2018 and have been reviewed in 2019. The Equality and diversity responsibilities have now moved to Governance

10 Governance and Legal - Jo Cundy

It has been agreed that the list of Council members and their dates of appointment will be included here annually to remind all, that all of the positions on the Council are available to the membership and the intention is to select the best candidate from all the applicants for the appointment.

In some cases, people are appointed into roles when they become available mid-term. Whenever this happens, their term is limited to the original end date so that we continue with our standard process as soon as it is practical. There have recently been advertisements for positions but have not been filled. These along with the other roles that are up for tenure will be advertised accordingly.

The roles that will be advertised as the tenure is nearly up are as follows:

Governance and Head of Legal; Sport Development; Treasurer; Regional Officer – North;
Regional Officer – Central; Team England; Coaching

<u>NATIONAL COUNCIL TENURE</u>					
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Tenure</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Current Status</u>
Martin Webster	Chairman	2 Years	AGM	2020	By AGM
Jo Cundy	Governance	2 Years	Aug-18	Aug 2020	By application
Vacant	Business Development	2 Years		2 Years	By application
Lisa John	Membership Services	2 Years	Sept 19	Aug 2021	By application
Terry Searle	Sport Development	2 Years	Aug-18	Aug 2020	By application
Ron Griffin	Treasurer	2 Years	Aug - 16	Aug 2019	By appointment
Stuart Watson	Communications	2 Years	Sep-19	Aug 2021	By application
Paul Le Manquais	Technical	2 Years	Sep-19	Aug 2021	By application
Mark Stoner	Regional Officer - North	3 Years	Aug-17	2020	By application
Vacant	Regional Officer - Central	3 Years		2 Years	By application
Vikki Harman	Regional Officer - South	3 Years	Aug-18	2021	By application
Vacant	Inclusion	2 Years		2 Years	By application
Chris Hillman	Team England	2 Years	July -18	July - 2020	By appointment
Vacant	Coaching	2 years		2 Years	By appointment
Office of Chairman					
Jerry Moll	Tournament Sanctioning				
Chris Skudder	Manager Tenpintour				
Dan Bonfield	Manager Adult Tour				

10.1 Memorandum and Articles

Reviewed and updated, please see the updated versions sent.

10.2 County Championships Round up

During the last year, we saw the amendments to county rules and formats suggested during the Think Tank in Nov 2018 implemented. A county Think Tank is due to take place in November this year, ways on how to hold this meeting are being investigated due to the current and ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Paul Le Manquais and Dave Grainger have for some time been resurrecting the records of the ICC history across all the championships, including the bowlers names. Each Facebook post made by Talk Tenpin regarding this, generates replies which fill in the gaps especially in the early years. The latest iteration will be published again soon.

10.2.1 Senior Inter County Championships

The Senior Champions in 2019 were Kent Men and Yorkshire Ladies.

This was the first years that age bonuses were not included. There were a few individual abstainers across the country from this decision but there were no issues raised as a result. Importantly entries were overall consistent with 2018 with just one less County in each of the ladies and men's divisions. This was confirmed as due to the lack of suitable players rather than the age bonus withdrawal.

10.2.2 Adult Inter County Championships

The Adult Champions in 2019 were Durham Men and Surrey Ladies.

The adults played at a new venue for 2019, Mansfield Bowl. The bowl were very accommodating and the event was a bowling success. It was strange to have the men upstairs and ladies downstairs, but each division showed what passion and drive they have for this great event by making the atmosphere amazing during play. I would like to thank all the bowlers, spectators, officials and staff at the bowl for making this another brilliant county event. I also decided to trial a new format for the evening dinner. There were definitely some pros and cons for the way the evening went and I really appreciated the feedback that I had, both positive and negative.

Finding a bowling centre to host a county round can be a difficult one and this is going to be the case going forward, so thank you to those counties who can offer a bowling centre and help to run the rounds.

At the time of writing this report the adult counties for 2020 is still on the calendar, however it is under constant review. The BTBA will follow Government Guidelines and are monitoring when bowling centres will be able to re-open and what they will look like when they do. With social distancing currently in place I am not sure that 10-12 people in the playing area on one pair of lanes will be in place for September, all counties will be kept up to date to what is happening in regards to this event.

10.2.3 Junior Inter County Championships

The Under 22's winners Yorkshire Men and Surrey Ladies.

The under 16's winners Yorkshire Boys and Essex Girls.

The inaugural under 12 were both won by Yorkshire.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, it was decided to cancel all the Junior Age Group county events for 2020. This decision was mainly based on bowling centres being closed during the dates of the events.

Just before the closures a decision was made in regards to the Under 12's girls not being able to take place due to numbers. This new age group was discussed at the Think Tank in 2018. The area of age groups will need to be reviewed at the Think Tank that is due to take place later in the year.

Emma Ashton who has been the Junior County Secretary for a number of years has decided to step down this year, I personally would like to thank her for all the work she has done for the Junior Counties and wish her all the best for the future. Emma has said that she would support the new secretary if needed, thanks Emma.

So I am looking for a new Junior Secretary, I know that I will be inundated with offers!! To be fair the job is a big one, so am happy to accept offers from volunteers for any or all age groups. I look forward to working with a new Junior Secretary; please let me know if you would be interested in running these events.

10.3 Rules



This is an extract from our AGM document 2019, we have included it as a reminder of the changes taking place 1st August 2020

11.12 Drilling specifications

11.12.1 The following limitations, as specified, shall govern the drilling of holes

11.12.2 Holes or indentations for gripping purposes shall not exceed five and shall be limited to one for each finger and one for the thumb, all for the same The player is not required to use all finger holes in any specific delivery, but they must be able to demonstrate, with the same hand, that each gripping hole can be

simultaneously used for gripping purposes. Any thumb hole that is not used for gripping purposes during the delivery would be classified as a balance hole.

11.12.3 (until August 1, 2020), One hole for balance purposes not to exceed 1 ¼ inch (31.8 mm) (Including the surface opening).

11.12.4 No more than one vent hole to each finger and/or thumb hole not to exceed ¼ inch (6.4 mm) in (Including the surface opening).

11.12.5 One mill hole for inspection purposes not to exceed 5/8 inch (15.9 mm) in diameter and 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) in depth

11.13 Balance

11.13.1 The following tolerances shall be permissible in the balance of a bowling ball used in sanctioned

11.13.2 Weight more than 10 pounds (4.53 kg) a) Not more than 3 ounces (85 grams) difference between the top half of the ball (gripping holes side) and the bottom half of the ball (side opposite the gripping holes)

b) (not valid on or after August 1, 2020), Not more than 1 ounce (28 grams) difference between the half of the ball to the left and the half of the ball to the right of the center of grip (side weight).

c) (not valid on or after August 1, 2020), Not more than 1 ounce (28 grams) difference between the half of the ball toward the thumb hole side of the center of grip and toward the finger holes side of the center of grip (thumb/ finger weight).

11 Closing remarks

As I come the end of my two year tenure as BTBA Chairman, I can look back at the many changes that we have implemented and admire the benefits that have been put in place for the benefit of our members. I have thoroughly enjoyed giving something back to a sport that I have been involved in for over 50 years and wish the new Chairman every success for the future.

With the World still stuck in this Covid-19 virus, the future is going to be difficult to predict but we have a strong body of council members, supporters and volunteers across the UK and I would therefore like to take this opportunity of personally thanking them and all the other volunteers that help out at the numerous events, for the great and demanding work undertaken during the last 12 months. However, we still need additional volunteers and anyone wishing to get involved with the association should please contact any of the council members for more information.

We continue to have successes this year in the International Tenpin events and congratulations should be given to all of our medal winners this year especially to Kimberley Oakley who brought back 4 medals (3 Bronze in the Singles, All Events and Masters and a fantastic Silver in the doubles with Gaye McCully) from the European Senior Championships held in Vienna, Austria.

In summing up this year, I would like to say that I have really enjoyed serving the BTBA as the Association Chairman. I feel that from a sound base, many things have improved immensely and that we have continued to make the association more transparent and responsive to our members. What we need now more than ever are new members, sanctioned leagues and support for bowlers at grass roots level to ensure the future of our sport in the UK.

I am sure the BTBA will have another challenging year ahead as the association continues to put in place more initiatives and benefits for you, the loyal members. Thank you all for your support and please stay safe.



Martin Webster, Chairman