

# BRITISH TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION



## 2024 BTBA Championship Tour

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## 1. Introduction :

It is my pleasure to announce that the BTBA Championship Tour is back again in 2024.

The BTBA Championship Tour's purpose has not changed – it is to provide competitive tournaments to bowlers who are looking to bridge the gap from league to a tournament player.

The Tour will offer a series of events throughout the year at bowling centres around the county that appeal to bowlers of all abilities. In 2024, we will continue to include some established and popular events on to the Tour schedule. This year, we welcome the addition of the Lincolnshire Open at Ashby Bowl.

The Tour will be open to all bowlers. We will endeavor to make sure all Tournaments have scratch and handicap or average based divisions/prize funds.

Youth bowlers and Seniors are welcome to participate, and we'll continue to guarantee prizes at some Tour events for Top Women, Youth and Senior bowlers. More details will be included in the entry forms for those events.

For team events, and where events such as the Generation Doubles and Trios events require bowlers in certain age categories to form teams together, we will help individual bowlers find other bowlers to join up with.

The Tour will try to set entry fees as low as possible – however, lineage costs continue to rise for tournaments, and we're grateful to many of the centres we continue to use year in, year out, for welcoming us back to their centres. Please support our host centres also.

There will again be an end of season ranking which will pay out the Top 10 Men and Top 6 women who play the required number of events. Ranking lists and BTBA Tour averages will be published online on the BTBA Events Portal as soon as possible after each event.

Online entry forms for all the events last year worked well, and these will be available again this year. The BTBA's new Bowler's Portal (launching very soon) will make this even simpler for more of the Tour events.

Sponsors are again invited to support the 2024 Tour via advertising on entry forms, clickable banners on the Tour website, mentions on social media, and included in communications before, during and after events. We are happy to tailor sponsor packages to fit all budgets, so we encourage anyone that is interested to get in touch. We look forward to promoting your companies throughout the year.

## 2. Dates and locations:

The BTBA Championship Tour will consist of at least 7 tournaments in 2024 consisting of varying formats. Additional Tournaments may also be added, but end of season rankings will be based on Best 5 events (see [section 6](#) below).

We have tried to spread the tournaments around the country to give people an equal opportunity to play in their own region or travel, as well as spread throughout the year

Date	Tournament	Location
23/24 March	Generation Trios	Stroud Bowl
20/21 April	Mixed Trios	Go Bowling, Dunstable
15/6/22/23 June	BTBA National Championships	Acocks Green Bowl
13/14 July	Lancashire Open	Atlantic Bowl, Altrincham
12/13 October	Nottinghamshire Open	Mansfield Superbowl
26/27 October	Lincolnshire Open	Ashby Bowl, Scunthorpe
16/17 November	Generation Doubles	Stroud Bowl

## 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 Tournament Website.

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

### Averages

BTBA Championship Tour averages will be rolling on a yearly basis from 2023 into 2024. Your rolling year Tour average can be viewed online after your first 12 games have been played on the Tour. Once you have a rolling BTBA Tour average, this will be used for all BTBA Tour events.

Unless otherwise stated on the tournament entry form, bowlers without a BTBA Tour average will use their composite BTBA sanctioned tournament average over 12 games (which will be published on the new BTBA Bowler's Portal coming soon), or their BTBA sanctioned league average (if no BTBA composite tournament average exists).

If a bowler doesn't have a sanctioned league average, or a composite tournament average, they will get 0 handicap until they have established a BTBA Tour average.

All bowlers will be required to confirm they have read the rules of the tournament when entering an event. Tournament managers will have the right to rerate any entry, and there will be zero tolerance for falsifying averages. Anyone who wishes to query another bowler's average can do so discreetly and in confidence by emailing [tournamententries@btba.org.uk](mailto:tournamententries@btba.org.uk)

## 4. Who can play?

The qualification criteria for entry into the BTBA Championship Tour events will be as follows:

- Tour events will be open to BTBA members with Competitive Membership Status. You must be a BTBA member at the time of entering an event, as well as on the first day of the event. You will need to join or renew your BTBA membership prior to entering and/or participating.
- All participants must be prepared to act in accordance with the instructions of the tournament manager and other tournament officials.

## 5. 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, but we recognize that centre hosting costs have increased across the board.

Included within the tournament fee will be:

- Lineage costs
- Tournament Expenses (printing, advertising etc)
- A BTBA Sanction Fee of £2.00 per bowler per event.
- Prize fund for the event
- A £5.00 Tour 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 6](#)
- In addition, a tournament manager can add an optional contribution towards the Local Association or local Youth Bowling Club

All entry forms will be made available on the BTBA website and the [BTBA Tour Facebook page](#). Details of how to enter will be contained within the individual entry forms.

## 6. End of season Tour Standings awards

A minimum of 5 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 5 events.

Ranking "majors" will continue in 2024 with extra points available for the BTBA National Championships.

Event	When points are awarded
Singles	Final positions at end of tournament
Doubles, Trios, Teams, (incl. Mixed format) Events	Individual scores at end of qualifying round. If there is no qualifying round or everyone plays an equal number of games in the tournament, points will be awarded based on individual scores at end of tournament.
National Championships	Individual scores based on All Events totals for 9 games

Points will be awarded using the following formula:

### Men and Ladies

Place	Points Awarded	
	Non-Major	Major
1 <sup>st</sup>	120	200
2 <sup>nd</sup>	110	180
3 <sup>rd</sup>	100	160
4 <sup>th</sup>	95	150
5 <sup>th</sup>	90	140
6 <sup>th</sup>	85	130
7 <sup>th</sup>	80	120
8 <sup>th</sup>	75	110
9 <sup>th</sup>	70	100
10 <sup>th</sup>	65	90

Place	Points Awarded	
	Non-Major	Major
11 <sup>th</sup>	64	89
12 <sup>th</sup>	63	88
13 <sup>th</sup>	62	87
14 <sup>th</sup>	61	86
15 <sup>th</sup>	60	85
16 <sup>th</sup>	59	84
17 <sup>th</sup> to final place	Decreases by 1 point per place until final place	

After the final event of 2024, the money in the Tour pot (made up of the bowlers £5 contributions throughout the year) is expected to be distributed as follows.

Place	Prize Fund	
	Men	Women
1 <sup>st</sup>	31%	32%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	18%	24%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	14%	16%
4 <sup>th</sup>	10%	12%
5 <sup>th</sup>	7%	10%
6 <sup>th</sup>	6%	6%
7 <sup>th</sup>	5%	N/A
8 <sup>th</sup>	4%	
9 <sup>th</sup>	3%	
10 <sup>th</sup>	2%	

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 to bowlers who have played the required number of tournaments. If less than the stated number of bowlers (in the table above) played the required number of events, the distribution of the Tour pot will be increased amongst only those bowlers who did.

In the event two or more bowlers have the same points totals in the Tour standings for their best 5 events, then the bowler with the higher Tour average will be awarded the higher place.