



9TH BTBA Senior National Championships

Stroud Bowl

Top Floor, Five Valleys Shopping Centre,
Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 1QA

SATURDAY 9TH, SUNDAY 10TH MAY 2026

SATURDAY 16TH, SUNDAY 17TH MAY 2026

SANCTION NUMBER: 26/00723

Two Sections Seniors 50 and Over, and Grand Seniors 65 and Over

EVENTS			
Male and Female Team/Doubles combinations will be entered into the Open Division			
	Open	Female	
Singles and All events			
Division A	185 and over	170 and over	Individual Averages
Division B	184 and under	169 and under	
Grand Seniors Division	Aged 65 or over as at 31/12/2026	Aged 65 or over as at 31/12/2026	Individual Age
Doubles			
Division A	370 and over	340 and over	Maximum Composite Team Average
Division B	369 and under	339 and under	
Grand Seniors Division	Aged 65 or over as at 31/12/2026	Aged 65 or over as at 31/12/2026	Age of both bowlers
4 Person Team			
Division A	740 and Over	680 and over	Maximum Composite Team Average
Division B	739 and under	679 and under	
Grand Seniors Division	Aged 65 or over as at 31/12/2026	Aged 65 or over as at 31/12/2026	Age of all bowlers

To participate in the BTBA Senior National Championships all participants must be BTBA or affiliated association members at the time of bowling in the tournament.

The tournament is open to all BTBA or affiliated association members who are aged 50 or over before 31 December 2026.

Grand Seniors Division

Eligible bowlers (those aged 65 or over as of 31/12/2026, i.e. born in 1961 or earlier) can choose, on entry, whether to enter as a 'Senior' in Division A/B...OR...in the Grand Senior Division (non-average based) — paying the exact same entry fee.

Entering both Senior and Grand Senior divisions

Grand Seniors can also elect to play in BOTH a Senior Division AND the Grand Senior Division by paying the additional prize fund for the other division (i.e. £9 singles, doubles, 4-person team and £9 for All-events) and using the same scores.

All bowlers must meet the Grand Senior eligibility age in order to play in the Grand Senior Division.

Doubles and teams of four consisting of mixed age groups can only be entered into the Senior Divisions A or B.

Team England Selection Note

The BTBA National Championships is a mandatory event to be eligible for Senior Team England selection. Participation in the singles event is required as a minimum, although all events completion is encouraged. Tournament Management will assist bowlers to find a doubles partner or a team.

Squad Times

All players must register for their squads at least 30 minutes before the start of their squad.

Lane Maintenance will be after each squad

Saturday 9 th May			Sunday 10 th May		
Squad D002	Doubles and Singles	09:00	Squad D004	Doubles and Singles	09:00
Squad T002	4 Person Team	13:00	Squad T003	4 Person Team	13:00
Squad D003	Doubles and Singles	16:30	Squad D005	Doubles and Singles	16:30
Saturday 116 th May			Sunday 17 ^h May		
Squad D006	Doubles and Singles	09:00	Squad D008	Doubles and Singles	09:00
Squad T004	4 Person Team	13:00	Squad T005	4 Person Team	13:00
Squad D007	Doubles and Singles	16:30	Squad D009	Doubles and Singles	16:30

Entry Fees per Person

There will be an entry fee of £29 per person per event. £9 of which will be prize fund.

Optional all-events of £9 per person per entry.

Prize fee will be returned 100% in prizes.

BTBA Tournament Sanction Fee £2.

Total fee for an individual in all events will be £96 per person.

Total fee for an individual playing BOTH Senior AND Grand Senior all events will be £132 per person (includes £36 towards additional prize fund). Team Captains will receive confirmation of entry which will confirm total entry fees to be transferred (see below).

How to Enter

Entry will open on Tuesday 24 February at 6pm and MUST be made online via the BTBA Events website

<https://events.btba.org.uk/tournaments>

CLOSING DATE will be midnight 1st May 2026.

Vacant squad places after the closing date may be filled by the Tournament Manager.

Confirmation of entry will be emailed to Team Captains no later 2 days after the closing date.

Payment must be made via bank transfer **referencing the Team Captain's name** to:

Barclays Bank Ilford

Sort Code: 20 44 22

Account Name: British Tenpin Bowling Association

Account No: 20 20 33 43

Reference: *Team Captain's Surname SN26, (for example, BROWN SN26)*

Please reply to your entry confirmation email or tournamententries@btba.org.uk when the bank transfer has been made.

Once an entry has been paid and accepted no refunds can be made. An entry may be sold to an eligible replacement on the authority of the Tournament Manager.

Tournament Managers will be appointed by the British Tenpin Bowling Association.

General Playing Rules

This tournament is sanctioned by the BTBA, therefore the General Playing Rules and Tournament Rules of the BTBA, together with the following Special Rules, will govern this tournament.

- 1. Eligibility:** This tournament is open to BTBA Members or affiliated association members who are aged 50 on or before 31 December 2026. Bowlers aged 65 or over as of 31 December 2026 are eligible to bowl in the Grand Seniors Division.
BTBA Members must hold a current Competitive level Membership to bowl in Divisions A or the Grand Senior Division. If you need to upgrade your BTBA membership, please log in to the membership portal at <https://btba.justgo.com/> and add 'Competitive Membership' to your cart. If you need help, drop us a message at admin@btba.org.uk
- 2. Averages:** Players entering average will be based on the highest league or tournament average at the time of entry. Both Free Fall and String averages will be accepted without differentiation
 - Current season's average for 18 games or more at the time of entry being the highest in any league which the player bowls, or composite tournament average of 12 games or more (e.g. TenpinTour, ResDev & BigBear Bolts Tour, BTBA Tour), whichever is higher, but may not be more than 5 pins lower than the previous season's average.
 - If the player does not have a current season's average, last available season's average for 18 games or more will be acceptable but may not be more than 5 pins lower than the bowlers highest previous average for any number of games. Nor may it be more than 5 pins lower than the players tournament average.
 - If the player is unable to declare an average, then they will be accepted in the highest division.
 - If the player's entering average is based on a league or tournaments that have been solely bowled on Challenge or Sport Bowling conditions, the average will need to be adjusted to a standard average. The team captain must state in the Source of Average field on the entry form if the average for any player entering Division B is from Challenge or Sport Bowling league/tournaments.

- The Tournament Manager may accept, reject or re-rate any entrant, if in their opinion, the highest average submitted does not conform to past performance of the team or individual. Winners' averages will be verified after the event.
 - The team captain is responsible for the accuracy of all averages of the individual team members, and they in turn are responsible to him. Should the Tournament Manager find it at any time that the averages have been falsified or do not conform to past performance, the team shall forfeit all claims for prize money as well as their entry fee and will be subject to disqualification and suspension from the BTBA.
3. **Bowling Equipment:** Altering the surface of bowling balls is only permissible outside the playing area and only during practice or between squads.
- It is the responsibility of all players to ensure that their bowling balls conform to specifications. Spot checks may be made during this event.
 - All bowlers are reminded that balance holes are no longer allowed.
 - Any bowler who doesn't use their thumb during a delivery cannot have a thumb hole.
 - The use of any foreign substance on bowling shoes or approaches is strictly prohibited.
 - **Once competition has started**, bowling ball surface alterations, including the use of **abrasives, polishes, or cleaners**, are **not permitted**.
 - **Cleaners approved for use in competitive play** may only be used **during the practice period and only applied by hand and a soft cloth**. See **Rule 17** of the BTBA General Playing Rules.
 - **Bowling balls must be thoroughly wiped with a dry cloth immediately after cleaning or altering the surface.**
 - **Breaks for lane dressing:** Surface alterations are **only permitted** before the bowler's **first squad of the day** or if a **break for lane dressing** occurs **before a new event starts**. No such break occurs during a **Doubles and Singles squad**, so no surface alterations are allowed during this transition.
 - Any ball found in violation must be **removed from competition** in accordance with **BTBA Rule 17**.
 - Bowlers must wear shoes which will not damage or disfigure the approaches. The use of any foreign substance on bowling shoes or approaches is strictly prohibited.
4. **Bowling Attire:** Players must wear suitable bowling attire. Players will not be permitted to wear denim. Tailored shorts will be permitted. The tournament manager shall be the judge in all these matters.
5. **Ties:** In the event of a tie for any position, the highest last game shall be used to determine who receives the highest position. In any situation where this does not resolve the tie, the penultimate game shall be used and so on. In the event of a tie for an all-events position, the team games shall be used first, followed by the doubles, and finally, if necessary, the singles games.
6. **Protests:** In the event of a dispute, the Tournament Manager must be notified immediately, and a provisional ball bowled if necessary. Protests must be made within 30 minutes and confirmed in writing to the Tournament Manager within 72 hours. The Tournament Manager's decision will be final, subject to appeal to the BTBA.
7. **Conduct:** Players are prohibited from smoking (including E-cigarettes) and the consumption of alcohol whilst their squad is in progress.
Any player whose conduct is considered liable to bring the game into disrepute will be disqualified from the tournament. Any individual so disqualified will be reported to the BTBA for consideration of disciplinary proceedings.
8. **Noise:** Competitors can expect to experience some noise during the Competition from other players, especially during the Team Event. Competitors are prohibited from the use of air horns or any other type of mechanical noise making equipment.
9. **Rule Violations:** If any person competes under an assumed name, bowls in place of a scheduled entrant who fails to attend, or is under suspension, then both the individual and any team employing them shall forfeit their entry and all rights to claim or retain any trophy or prize awarded in the tournament. Additionally, all persons involved may be subject to suspension.