



1 July 2008

**TO: DISTRICT SECRETARIES  
MEDIA**

### **CIRCULAR 37/2008**

#### **SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONALS TOURNAMENTS**

The Executive of Bowls South Africa have considered the views and thoughts regarding the format of future South African Nationals developed through various meetings held with interested parties.

The following proposal is to be presented to Council for consideration at the Workshop on Saturday, 30 August 2008:

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*That from 2009 the format of the Men's and Women's National Championships be changed from the current format and not exceed nine days in duration.*

*Considering the proposals put forward by various interest groups, which have been widely published in the press and presented to Districts by way of circulars, the Executive recommend the following proposal.*

#### **FOURS**

*That the Fours consist of 15 end games to allow for three rounds to be completed each day.*

#### **PAIRS**

*That the Pairs are played over 15 end games and that the discipline is played with four bowls. Furthermore, that this discipline completes a minimum of three play-off rounds before starting the National Fours. This will allow for large numbers of bowlers to return home should they be only entered into the Pairs.*

#### **CLUB CHALLENGE**

*That the Tournament retains the Club challenge consisting of the Pairs and Fours only. The teams contesting this challenge would require the Fours team to split into two sets of Pairs.*

*It would not be compulsory for teams to enter the Club challenge which allows for participants to only enter one discipline at the Nationals.*

#### **SINGLES**

*The Singles are to be considered as the finals of the South African Singles and should be played over the last three days of the Championships. Players qualify for the Tournament by qualifying through their respective District Singles event. Allocations per District will be weighted according to total membership. The total entry into the finals shall not exceed 128 players. Eight entries are to be reserved as a Presidents Invitation. The format is to conform to the World Champion of Champions event.*

#### **Executive Committee:**

*President: Piet Breitenbach, Vice President: Debra Ferguson*

**Members:** Allan Freeman, Kallie Haupt, Tys Pringle, Isabel Smith

*In order to provide participants with an incentive to appear in the finals the first day should be arranged for sectional play of 32 sections of four entries. The second day will continue with knock-out play.*

#### **SENIOR SINGLES**

*The Executive wishes to re-introduce the Senior Singles to the Nationals and for players to qualify through their respective District Senior Singles event. The finals are to be restricted to 64 entries using the same system as the Open Singles.*

*Those Districts who do not provide a District Senior Singles event should consider doing so, or failing this withdraw from this discipline and therefore, provide for extra entries from other Districts.*

*In the Singles events, it is not the intention that should a qualifier not be able to attend the finals that substitutes be allowed. The organizers will be required to conduct a closed-up draw.*

#### **Motivation:**

*In order to expand the appeal of the National Championships and possibly increase entries the President has consulted widely to gain the views of players. The formats as detailed in the recommendation allow for a festival of bowls in the Pairs and Fours and provide for players to enjoy a minimum of 10 games at the National Championships. The event takes into account costs and is therefore restricted to a maximum of nine days.*

*As the winner of the National Singles Championship gains automatic entry to the World Champion of Champions event the new presentation of the Singles is proposed to attract the best Singles players in the country. All bowlers can qualify for the finals by entering and progressing through their respective District Singles.*

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**John Ravenscroft**  
**Operations Manager**