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21 June 2011

**TO: ALL DISTRICT SECRETARIES.**

### **CIRCULAR 32/2011**

#### **ALTERNATIVES FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

The Executive has for sometime been concerned about the continued decline in the number of entries received for the National Championships. A number of options have been adopted over the recent past including increased prize money, with little success.

This matter has been placed on the Workshop Agenda, for discussion, which takes place on 27 August 2011. In the meantime, it would be appreciated if Districts would circulate the alternatives below as widely as possible, preferably down to club level in order to stimulate debate. This should provide delegates to the workshop with sufficient information to render a meaningful contribution on the subject.

#### **ALTERNATIVES FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Research indicates that Men & Women prefer separate dates for their respective tournaments in order for married couples to compete.**

**1. To return to the previous format adopted during the 80/90's**

**This would allow for clubs to raise funds to finance their team**

- **One team per club (Selected)**
- **Event run over 14 days**
- **Disciplines – Fours/Pairs/Singles**
- **Accept general / unlimited entries for Singles**

**2. To retain the current format in operation**

- **Unlimited number of teams per club**
- **Event run over 9 days**
- **Disciplines – Fours/Pairs/Singles**
- **Qualify for Singles through District Singles**

**Executive Committee:**

*President:* Debra Ferguson, *Vice President:* Allan Freeman

**Members:** Kallie Haupt, Sergio Martinengo, Isabel Smith, Ronald Weddell

3. To accept only qualifiers from District events (as per current Singles)
  - Event run over 9 days – this would mean completing the discipline in full before starting the next discipline
  - Disciplines – Fours/Pairs/Singles
  - Qualification for the National event could also be done through Zones
  
4. To conduct entirely separate events for each discipline
  - Each event could be run over 4-5 days
  - Accept either unlimited entries or through qualification
  - Each event would run independently in separate districts on separate dates
  - Disciplines – Fours Pairs/Singles



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