

# English Indoor Bowling Association Ltd

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## NATIONAL COMPETITIONS CONSULTATION REPORT

### INTRODUCTION

At the end of 2016 the EIBA issued questionnaires to Clubs, Counties and Competitors to obtain essential feedback on the changes introduced for the 2016-2017 season and on general matters relating to competitions.

2,900 were sent directly, but copies were distributed to competitors by Clubs and Counties. By the deadline 504 questionnaires had been returned, and based on the known amount issued was a 17% response.

This was made up as: - 425 Individuals 79 Clubs & Counties

The feedback from the questionnaires was informative and constructive, with the majority providing detailed comments along with the suggested responses.

### KEY FACTS

#### 1. Trial number of ends played

71% preferred 21 ends and 18 ends as in previous seasons.  
22% preferred 18 ends and 16 ends format as trialled this season.  
6% preferred team competitions to revert back to the 21 & 18 ends format but the individual competitions to remain at the 18 & 16 ends format.

#### 2. Set dates and times for ALL team competitions

63% wanted set dates for all team competitions  
20% wanted play dates  
17% had no preference

#### 3. New 2 bowl singles and family pairs competitions

51% did not enter the new competitions.  
25% wanted the new competitions to continue.  
21% had no preference.  
3% wanted these competitions removed.

#### 4. Team finalists at national finals

38% wanted to continue with the existing arrangement  
35% had no preference  
27% wanted only the finalists to attend the National Finals

#### 5. New Areas/Zones

34% were happy with **the new system**.  
26% were happy but with minor adjustments for the future.  
40% said their Area/Zone needs to be completely changed.

#### 6. Competition entry influences

- i) Amount of travel to play 43%
- ii) Competitions available 35%
- iii) People to play with 34%
- iv) Time to play matches 34%
- v) Potential opponents 31%

- vi) Work/family commitments 27%
- vii) Entry Fee 25%
- viii) Access to rinks at club 24%

## **7. Future years**

54% stated the factors given would not prevent them entering National Competitions next year.  
46% stated the factors given would prevent them entering National Competitions next year.

## **DECISIONS FOR 2017-2018**

### **NUMBER OF ENDS**

The trial of reducing the number of ends for all Team games and Individual Competitions was not supported, although there was support and/or understanding the reason for Individual Competitions.

As such the EIBA will: -

Revert back to 21 ends or 4 hours for the following team competitions:

Denny Cup/Plate	Yetton Trophy/Plate
Egham Trophy	Under 25 Double Rink
Liberty Trophy	Atherley Trophy
Under 25 County	060 Inter County

Extend the trial for one more year for all individual competitions to be played over 18 ends or 3hrs 30 min.

In addition, the Vivienne Trophy, Mason Trophy and Over 60 Double Rink will be played over 18 ends or 3 hrs 30 min.

The Top Club will be played over 18 ends or 3 hrs 30 min.

### **NEW COMPETITIONS / AMENDMENTS**

A ladies two wood singles will be introduced.

The ladies Over 50 Two Wood Triples will become three wood triples.

The U25 Club Double rink will be a triples format. This is a one year trial and Clubs can enter more than one team.

### **AREAS**

Amendments have been made to some Areas following feedback from the questionnaire. Other Areas need more attention and consultation will take place with Area Coordinators and Clubs over the coming months.

### **PRIZE MONEY**

The prize money allocation for the 2016-2017 season has been revised and increased for competitions with equality across the men's and ladies.

The Competition Committee will be looking at how further increases can be achieved for 2017-2018.

### **TRAVEL EXPENSES**

Travelling expenses will be reviewed.

### **THANK YOU**

The EIBA is appreciative of the feedback provided by the Clubs, Counties and Competitors who returned questionnaires.

We will continue to monitor and review its National Competitions with the aim of providing a standardised structure across the whole of England.

Healthy Regards



Carl Higgins  
EIBA Director of Competitions