



# NEWCASTLE DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION (ZONE 2) INC

PHONES: 49 293441 -- 49 291307  
FAX: 49 291699  
EMAIL ADDRESS: [zone2@ndba.com.au](mailto:zone2@ndba.com.au)  
WEBSITE: [www.ndba.com.au](http://www.ndba.com.au)

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
PO BOX 2199, DANGAR 2309

CIRCULAR NO.2021-063

TO ALL CLUB SECRETARIES

## SUGGESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION FOR 2022 SEASON PROGRAMME

The following suggestions have been received and will be discussed at the August 19 Delegate meeting. They will then be voted on at the October 21 Delegates meeting.

Clubs who have forwarded suggestions should have a representative present to discuss and answer any questions that may arise.

Note: Zone Match Committee comments are in **RED**

### 1) From Lemon Tree Passage.

#### Saturday Pennant

We believe for ourselves and other small clubs, that a reduced season of 5 double headers, for the Saturday Pennants, would allow us to enter more teams. We would, with the addition of the lady bowlers, be able to field two and possible three teams if the season was reduced. However if it stays as present we will probably be able to field only the one team.

**Zone Comment:** While members of the Zone match committee are split on supporting this suggestion, it must be pointed out that Bowls NSW may take this decision out of the zone's hands and set the parameters for when and how the 2022 Pennant season is conducted.

#### Mid Week Pennant

We would like to suggest two alternatives for washed out games: 1) the game be played the following week on a Thursday; or 2) that both teams share the points on a washed out day.

**Zone Comment:** The unknown is if a "Women's only Pennant will be played in 2022 and if so what day/days this would be played. Sharing the points for a draw is an option providing clubs do not abuse this by calling games off after the slightest bit of wet weather. Perhaps a number or percentage of games to be called off before the shared points rule applies.

### 2) From Toronto Workers (Matt Hellier, Treasurer Toronto Workers men's bowling club)

#### Saturday Pennant

I want to show my personal support behind Lemon Tree Passages submission of 5 double header weekends for Saturday/Weekend Pennants.

Firstly, Saturday Pennants have become a financial burden in recent years to smaller clubs. Using an average 24 players at \$10/head for Saturday galas, it equates to a loss of \$2,400 in income for 10 Saturday's. 5 double header weekends would reduce the loss of income to \$1,200. This may not seem much, but an extra \$1,200 of income can make a difference to smaller clubs struggling to survive.

Secondly, as our age demographics across the zone have progressed, so has the nature of play towards flexibility. More members have taken to the idea of travel either during the season (part season availability) or post season (full season availability). Condensing the season down to 5 double header weekend (excluding playoffs) would allow those who travel the flexibility to do so and may see an increase in full season availability.

Thirdly, condensing the season over 5 double header weekends would allow for both NDBA and individual clubs to plan Championships more consistently to limit clashes causing games to be rescheduled.

Lastly, Season 2021 presented many challenges with wet weather. With a predicted redevelopment of La Nina this summer, we may see another disrupted season. Making it 5 double header weekends and then 4 tentative weekends (2 for washouts and 2 for playoffs) will limit the unnecessary administration for the NDBA, provide certainty to players around washout games and reduce the season from 12-13 weekends to 8-9 weekends.

**Zone Comment:** See comment for suggestion 1.

### 3) Windale Gateshead (Martin Ball Bowls Coordinator)

I propose a change to the **Saturday Pennant Playoffs** and it is as follows.

- a) It should be Sectional Winners only. If you are not good enough to win the section, you do not deserve to progress any further. We seem to be rewarding mediocrity which in many bowlers eyes is not good for our game. We have the majority of playoff sides on the final playoff day that cannot progress agreeing not to play so you don't have them their anyway.

**Zone Comment:** One of the reasons that sections of 4 are played in Zone Pennant Finals is because this is the way the State Finals are played and several clubs, especially in the lower grades, are finding that they have players that struggle to get through 2 matches a day or 4 over a weekend. To win a State Flag a side needs to play 6 matches over 3 days and by playing our Zone Finals as we currently do is to give Clubs an idea of what to expect at State level. Also, to avoid sides not being able to progress after day 1 a simple change to the draw where, after game 1 winners play winners and losers play losers would mean that all game 3 matches on Sunday morning would have a bearing on the section winner.

- b) If it is an odd number of sides in any grade that win their sections, a random draw should then be done to see which side/sides receive the bye and progress through to the next round. I don't think having the side/ section winner with the highest point score automatically progress as they could have had a much easier sectional draw.

**Zone Comment:** The Zone is not in favour of giving a side a bye straight into a semi final or final.

### 4) Hexham

#### Saturday Pennant

2021 Programme no double headers for Saturday pennants.

**Zone Comment:** As with suggestion 1 and 2, Bowls NSW may take this decision out of the zone's hands and set the parameters for when and how the 2022 Pennant season is conducted.

### 5) New Lambton Bowling Club

#### Three Threes

request that the NDBA reconsider the current programming of games in the three threes competition.

Our proposal is that if a round of games is not completed, due to inclement weather conditions, that the next round does not commence.

When all clubs have completed the round, then the next round commences.

**Zone Comment:** The reason the Zone deems a round is completed regardless of the number of matches played is to bring the event to a conclusion as early as possible. Being a 2-life event the match committee can see no difference in clubs losing there 2<sup>nd</sup> match in week 2 or 3. It is acknowledged that some clubs may play more matches but this is also the case when a club may have a bye in a round.

### 6) Marks Point

#### Hosting Fee for Zone events

Marks Point wish to see a Green Fee paid to Clubs for Hosting Zone Events. We would suggest a Green Fee of \$5 per player for hosting.

Currently the Club that hosts an event provides to the value of the prize money for the event. The number of host Clubs for events seem to be congregated amongst a few Clubs, and perhaps this would create an incentive for more Clubs to get involved.

We have based this proposal after looking at the numbers following an event we sponsored earlier this year, The Presidents Reserve Pairs. The prize money for the event totalled \$1,000.00. While many may point to the additional spend here at the Club by participants and supporters as covering that sponsorship amount, the data does not support that position. Applying our bar and catering gross profit levels (approx. 60%), to spend \$1,000.00 would require a break-even return of \$2,500.00 Over the 3 days we hosted this event, additional revenue was far short of this amount.

After looking at the draw and results, with 64 teams entered and \$1,920.00 in entry fees received by NDBA, the \$5 distribution for the event would be as follows:

Marks Point \$440.00 ( 24 Teams Day 1, 16 Teams Day 2 & 4 Teams Day 3)

Alder Park \$120.00 ( 12 Teams Day 1 )

Kahibah \$120.00 ( 12 Teams Day 1 )

Hexham \$160.00 (16 Teams Day 1 )

Total distribution for the event \$840.00 amongst the 4 Clubs that provided Green space.

While the proposed distribution would significantly reduce the funds for NDBA, after considering this aspect, we further propose that the entry fee be increased to \$20 per player for these events.

In this circumstance, the entry fees would total \$2,560.00, distribution to Clubs \$840.00, Net to NDBA of \$1,720.00. Event sponsorship by our Club is subsidised by the Green fee and amounts of \$560.00, a much easier figure to justify and perhaps get some return on.

By introducing a Green fee per player, the pressure on the Host Club to justify the expense is much reduced.

While we appreciate some Clubs can attract additional Sponsors to help with the expense and other Clubs Sponsor the events for different reasons, the fact remains that many Clubs look at this as a business decision, as they should.

**Zone Comment:** Should this suggestion be voted in it would still need to be endorsed by the Zone 2 Executive Committee. Should the suggestion be put to the executives, the Match committee believe that a fee per rink rather than per player would be a fairer system. Per player would see the Fours events more favoured by clubs compared to Singles where per rink would see a standard fee per green for any event. It is acknowledged that sponsorship costs more for Fours events, but we believe this is offset from revenue received from extra players. It is also acknowledged that a rise in entry fee would need to be considered and based on numbers this season. \$5 added to entry fee would allow payment of \$10 per rink used daily. \$10 added to entry fee would allow payment of \$20 rink used daily.