

Worcestershire Bowling Association

Affiliated to Bowls England: Midland Counties Bowls Association & Three Counties Bowling Association

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Bowls: The Sport for a Lifetime

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Proposition for consideration at the Bowls England AGM

That Bowls England reinstate two qualifiers for all counties in the National Championships for 2024, with those counties with higher levels of entries, having three qualifiers.

A break down of how this might be achieved is given below:

Men's and Ladies' Senior Competitions

Singles-Men, counties with 200 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

Singles-Ladies, counties with 100 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

Pairs-Men, counties with 200 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

Pairs-Ladies, counties with 100 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

Triples-Men, counties with 125 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

Triples-Ladies, counties with 75 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

Fours-Men, counties with 100 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

Fours-Ladies, counties with 50 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

2 Wood Singles - Men, counties with 150 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

2 Wood Singles - Ladies, counties with 100 entries or more, 3 qualifiers

Senior Fours - Men's and Ladies - 1 entry per county

Junior Competitions

Junior Singles - 64 qualifiers, 29 counties with highest entries 2 qualifiers,

6 counties with lowest entries 1 qualifier

Junior Pairs - Men's and Ladies - 1 entry per county

John Weston

Chairman Worcestershire Bowling Association

Background information is provided on the following sheet.

Background Information from the Worcestershire Bowling Association

Proposition for consideration at the Bowls England AGM

The Proposition has been submitted to allow counties the opportunity to decide whether to revert to two qualifiers at the National Championships with three qualifiers for the larger counties as was the case in 2019 and the years before.

Reasons:

- That it has always been popular to have two qualifiers for all counties at the National Championships.
- This was changed in 2021 due to Covid and continued in 2022 for the Commonwealth Games but no vote with the counties or proper dialogue entered into on the merits or reasoning for this.
- That it is a prestigious honour to reach and attend the National Championships and that new players wishing to enter the National Championships have little or no chance of winning their county competitions.
- The smaller Counties must be encouraged to make Bowls a “Sport for All” and that playing at Leamington becomes at least a possibility. To recognise the difference in the size of counties and permit the same access for players, it is proposed those counties with a larger entry level has a third qualifier.
- With more participants at the National Championships, more supporters and spectators will attend. This will add to the ticket sales, provide more business for the catering services and more atmosphere once again at the National Championships, producing a Festival of Bowls.

To accommodate the additional players eligible to participate under this proposition, would add only 2 days to the current Bowls England National Finals Programme, (18 days to 20 days) and would benefit the game of bowls undoubtably.

Mark Atkins
Competition Secretary WBA