



Newsletter3 March 2021

Dear Secretary

I have set out the current and future position in relation to Covid-19 and our PBA Championships. Please could you let those Members know who may be affected in our various competitions.

The Background News

Discussions on sporting activities continue between Sportscotland and the Government in relation to bowls, with the resultant advice then coming to Clubs through Bowls Scotland. At the moment the Interim safety advice for opening greens this season was distributed by BS on 23rd March and is applicable until 27th April. Contained within the list of safety advice, which of course should be followed, the maximum number of players and coaches on the green would be a bubble of 15 restricted to playing Singles and Pairs.

If any Club does not have the email from BS, I would be happy to send on a copy if asked.

BS has cancelled the National Championships, the Andrew Hamilton Trophy and Ladies Top 10.

I am awaiting decisions from the organisers of our own Inter County Top 10 and Top 5 which of course are not BS competitions.

The Future Opportunity

The PBA feels that we should play our own competitive Championships this season if and when possible, but always of course within a safe environment. We would normally start the Championship matches towards the end of May, and whilst this may still be possible, we also have the opportunity this season to delay the start until sometime in June. We are of course subject to the advice of Government, and so we await the continuing discussions and advice mentioned above in relation to larger bubbles on the green enabling the playing of Triples and Fours. In the meantime, the Draw has been completed for all competitions.

If the organisers of the Inter County Top 10 and Top 5 cancel for 2021 then the PBA will also follow this decision which then preserves the winners of these competitions from 2019 going forward to the competitions scheduled in 2022.

I will be back in touch once I have a clearer picture of the situation.

Kind regards

Ray

26th March 2021