



Bowling Federation of Spain

(Lawn Bowls Directorate)

Restructure of Spanish National Championships

On Saturday, 14 June, 2008 the National Executive Committee of the Federation held a Meeting at which the ongoing format for the Spanish National Championships was discussed at length.

For economic and logistical reasons it was unanimously agreed the event be restructured from 2009 onwards with the following format being used :-

Proposal 1

- Each of the four regions (i.e. Almeria, Malaga, North & South Alicante) will identify a Provincial Champion in each discipline which are :-

Gents and Ladies Singles
Gents and Ladies Triples

Gents and Ladies Pairs
Gents and Ladies Fours

- Each region will organize a pre-qualification Programme/Tournament to identify its Winner in each discipline. They will then compete with the regional Winners from the other three regions on a “round robin” basis to identify the National Champion (i.e. each Player / Team has 3 matches)

Proposal 2

- Each of the four regions will identify the FINALISTS in each of the aforementioned disciplines via a pre-qualification Tournament
- The two Finalists from each region will then compete on a “knockout” basis to identify the National Champion (*N.B. A draw will take place with Finalists present to determine the “order of play”*)
- There is an advantage with proposal 2 in that there will be a representative from the region if one of the Finalists has to withdraw.

Other important factors applicable to both scenarios

- Any Bowler entering the Tournament must, as at present, be a bona-fide Member of a Bowls Club in Spain and be Federated to the Bowling Federation of Spain
- In Team events, Bowlers must compete with Members of the same Club
- In addition, ALL participants in the pre-qualifiers must be able to represent their region at whatever time of year the Finals of the National Championships are held

National Championships for 2009

As the Bowling Calendar for the 2008/2009 Season has been finalized in all regions it was agreed that both the preliminary rounds held in each region and the Championship Finals would be held within the dates agreed at the last Provincial Meeting (i.e. from 9 – 23 May, 2009) with a gap of two days to allow for winners/finalists to travel to Malaga..

It is anticipated that under the revised format the finals will require a maximum of 6 days as per the “draft” playing schedule below (*N.B. An illustration only*) :-

DAY 1 FOURS

DAY 2 Morning : FOURS Afternoon : TRIPLES

DAY 3 TRIPLES

DAY 4 PAIRS

DAY 5 Morning : PAIRS Afternoon : SINGLES

DAY 6 SINGLES

Championship Trophies will be presented to Winners at the conclusion of each discipline. This means anyone competing only in the FOURS can return home after Lunch on Day 2 and Singles Players not involved in other disciplines need not arrive until the evening of Day 4.

However, should NO competitor be involved in more than one discipline it is possible to reduce the number of days by playing more than one event at a time e.g. run the Pairs and Ladies Singles concurrently and Triples and Gents Singles concurrently. However we must ensure only ONE Green is used.

It was agreed that for 2009 the Championship Finals be held in Malaga Province at a venue to be identified and the proposed date to be 18 – 23 May.

Programme for 2010 onwards

It was unanimously agreed the Championship Finals be spread around the regions but also to hold a Spanish Open each year with Torrevieja viewed to be the ideal location.

With this in mind the Championships would rotate between Almeria, Malaga and North Alicante and the Open would always be held in South Alicante between the dates normally set aside for the Spanish Nationals.

Once this proposal has been agreed by each Provincial Committee it will then be possible to approach each local Committee controlling the Bowls Calendar and ask them to "build in" 6 days for the Championships which could be held late January / early February or the week prior to the Spanish Open as covered in the closing paragraph of the last section.

Each region will also have to identify a tournament/s that will act as a qualifier for the National Championships.

Structure of the Spanish Open

Disciplines	Ladies & Gents Singles
	Pairs (Single Sex or Mixed)
	Triples (Single Sex or Mixed)
	Fours (Single Sex or Mixed)

The Federation would advertise, and promote, the Tournament worldwide and it would be open to anyone. Bowlers would not have to be Federated and they would be able to play with people of their choice i.e. they would not be restricted to their fellow Club Members.

The event would be sponsored with Tour Operators, Hotel chains and Airlines possibly providing support and it is expected substantial Prize Money would be paid to Winners and losing Finalists.

The Federacion Española De Bolos would control the event under the offices of the Alicante Delegate and his Committee along with any secondment they consider to be necessary. Any surplus produced by this tournament would be for use to develop the sport of Bowling in Spain..

R.A.Winterton

25 June, 2008