

Hi all, Knowle Bowls Club have two proposals at the forthcoming SBA AGM, both seconded by Imperial BC.

I would like to take this opportunity to explain the reasoning behind them.

### **Proposal 1.**

“That up to three ladies per team be allowed to play in the lowest divisions, i.e. East 2, North 3 & South-West 2, leagues “.

May I start by stressing that this is not a ruse to allow ladies access to the league. This is a serious attempt to find a solution to save guard teams in the lower divisions.

SBA leagues have had teams withdraw from the league due to lack of playing members, plus others struggling to raise a team every Saturday of the season. Not only does it impact on the members of the team that withdrew or cannot raise a team but also on the other teams in these leagues who are deprived of an afternoons sport.

These teams often contain members mostly new to the game. The emphasis given by Bowling associations to new bowlers is to encourage players into the leagues to sharpen their game in a competitive but friendly situation. This proposal goes some way to ensuring that happens.

### **Proposal 2**

“That any Club competitions start at the beginning of May”.

After discussion with SBA, KBC wish to amend the proposal to read

“that any inter-club competition (Turnbull Cup, Fear Cup and Southey Trophy) starts at the earliest opportunity” but the rationale remains the same.

At present the SBA inter-club competitions start at the beginning of July. Inter-club competitions, Turnbull Cup & Wedmore Plate, are usually the longest matches to play time wise. These matches involve 16 players so are the most difficult to organise. It seems impractical to start club competitions when the longest day has passed. Surely it would make sense to use the long evenings to accommodate these games.

This would also alleviate the crowding of fixtures from the SBA and other associations competitions, as well as internal club competitions, at the end part of the season when it is more difficult to arrange games.

KBC appreciate it is a difficult balancing act for the associations but KBC feel that arranging singles, pairs, triples and fours competitions from various associations is easier than arranging inter-club competitions.

KBC have been subjected to this crowding situation this year and had to cancel two games involving SBA teams, a match against SBA juniors and an SBA representative match to celebrate KBC 110-year anniversary, which we did with huge regret.

KBC call upon your club to support these proposals,

Bill Broome, KBC sec.