

## **CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

### **Definitions used in this document:**

#### **SIDE**

The agreed number of teams or singles players playing to represent one club or association, who's combined scores decides the result of a competition.

#### **TEAM**

The pair, triple or four players who are playing together.

**If there is not a rule to cover a situation please use the principles of fairness and common sense to reach a decision then consult with NIWPGL at the next meeting or before if urgent.**

# **Officials**

## **Honorary Secretary**

Miss Sue Willis,  
26, Brustin Braes  
Larne BT40 2LN **Tel:** 028 2826 9535

## **Honorary Treasurer**

Mrs. Ann Phillips  
44 Rosemount Park,  
Jordanstown BT37 0NL **Tel:** 028 9085 4642

## **Honorary Assistant Treasurer**

Mrs Edith Gregg,  
39 Wheatfield Crescent  
Belfast BT14 7HT **Tel:** 028 9071 5937

## **League Secretary**

Mrs. Irene Minnis  
26, Gransha Road  
Belfast BT16 2HA **Tel:** 028 9029 3330

## **Competition Secretary**

Mrs. Donna Meneely  
656, Oldpark Road  
Belfast BT14 6QN **Tel** 028 9039 1792

## **Council Minute Secretary**

Mrs. Linda Culbert  
11, Burnthill Crescent  
Newtownabbey BT36 5AE

## Member Clubs

Ards	South Street, Newtownards	9181 2914
Ballywalter	Dunleath Park, Ballywalter	4275 8874
Belfast	45a Deramore Park, Belfast	9066 0755
Belmont	6a Kincora Avenue, Belfast	9065 3644
Cavehill	20 North Circular Rd, Belfast	9077 6758
Cl-Knock	91, Circular Road, Belfast	9076 0120
Cliftonville	13, Knutsford Drive, Belfast	9074 6622
Comber	Londonderry Ave, Comber	9187 0015
Downpatrick	Old Belfast Rd, Downpatrick	4483 1274
Ewarts	Clarendon Park, Belfast	9071 9469
Falls	Andersonstown Road, Belfast	9061 1083
Forth River	Fulton Park, Woodvale Rd	9074 1772

Hilden	Llewellyn Avenue, Lisburn	9266 5790
Larne	Glenarm Road, Larne	2827 2599
Magheradroll	Church Road, Ballynahinch	
Malone	Drumbeg, Dunmurry	9061 2758
Mossley	The Park, Mossley, N'Abbey	07917544391
N.I.C.S.	Up. Newtownards Rd, Belfast	
Pickie	Broadway, Bangor,	9146 0897
Saintfield	Crossgar Road, Saintfield	9751 1790
Shaftesbury	Annadale Ave, Belfast	9064 2801
Shorts	Hollywood Rd, Belfast	9078 8653
Ulster Transport	Lynda Ave, Jordanstown	9086 3331
Willowfield	Gibson Pk, Cregagh Road	9045 8926

# 1. Constitution

**1.1 The Name of the League** shall be the "Northern Ireland Women's Private Green's League" (NIWPGL).

## 1.2 Objectives

- To promote and foster the game of bowls.
- To act in the best interests of member clubs.
- To maintain liaison with the other bowling, Associations in Ireland.

## 1.3 Office Bearers

The Office-Bearers of the NIWPGL are the President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer Assistant Treasurer, League Secretary and Competition Secretary in whose name the League may sue or be sued. Vacancies for Honorary Officers occurring during the year may be filled by the Council. The Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be ex-officio members with voting powers on all committees except the Selection Committee.

## 1.4 Business of the NIWPGL

The Business of the NIWPGL shall be conducted by a Council consisting of the Office-Bearers together with one delegate from each affiliated club who must report back to their club secretary and members as soon as possible after the meetings. The Delegate shall be nominated by her club and if unable to attend a Council Meeting shall depute a fellow delegate from her club to attend. In the event of neither delegate being able to attend, the club shall nominate another member, the Honorary Secretary of the

Northern Ireland Women's Private Green's League having been informed. Twelve members will form a quorum.

## **1.5 Membership**

Membership of the League shall be open to all Private Clubs. Application must be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary and shall state the name and address of the club applying for affiliation, together with the names and addresses of the Officers.

## **1.6 Subscription**

The Annual Subscription fee for each club and the capitation fee for each member shall be decided at the AGM each year usually in line with inflation. The fees shall be payable on or before the 1st May in the relevant year. Expenses in excess of the available funds shall be borne in equal proportion by clubs in the league.

## **1.7 General Meetings**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held on the second Friday in November each year. The business shall include the election of Office-Bearers and appointment of Auditors (who need not necessarily be delegates to the Meeting), the presentation of the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts etc. A Special General Meeting may be summoned at the discretion of the Council or on a requisition, in writing, to the Honorary Secretary of the League from an affiliated club. The Honorary Secretary shall call a meeting within twenty-one days of the summons or requisition and shall state on the Agenda that business for which the meeting has been called. A General, annual or special meeting, shall consist of two delegates from each Club, together with the Office-Bearers of the League. Twenty members shall form a quorum. Seven days notice of all meetings shall be given.

## 1.8 Presidency

The position of President shall be held in rotation by a member of one of the affiliated clubs.

The rota of NIWPGL clubs shall remain static and any club elected to membership shall be added to the rota in accordance with date of application.

The Honorary Secretary shall invite the next club in the rotation to nominate the next Vice-President and the nomination should be received before the first Friday in August each year. In the event of a club waiving its right to nominate, the club next in order shall have the privilege.

### Rota of Clubs

1	Cliftonville
2	Shorts
3	Downpatrick
4	Magheradroll
5	Mossley
6	Shaftesbury
7	Belfast
8	Comber
9	Hilden
10	Cl - Knock
11	Pickie
12	Belmont

13	Forthriver
14	Falls
15	N.I.C.S.
16	Larne
17	Ards
18	Ulster Transport
19	Ewarts
20	Willowfield
21	Saintfield
22	Malone
23	Cavehill
24	Ballywalter

## 1.9 Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Past President and the Officers who will deal with any operational issues between council meetings. No one can hold more than one honorary office on the executive committee.

## 1.10 Election to I.W.B.A. Council

Four delegates shall represent the NIWPGL at all I.W.B.A. Council & General Meetings. They shall be the President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer. If a delegate is unable to attend the IWBA meeting the NIWPGL executive council can arrange a substitute.

## 1.11 Two Selection Committees Election at AGM

**A League** (Senior) Selection committee shall consist of five members. **Two of whom shall be International Selectors** who should have 1 to 2 years experience as senior selectors prior to their election to this role. They join the IWBA selection committee as well as the NIWPGL committee. An additional **three selectors** ideally from different A (Senior) team clubs will also join the committee.

**B League** (Junior) Selection committee consisting of **three members** ideally from different B (junior) league clubs.

Selectors will be ineligible to play on Inter-association and International teams.

Each club is entitled to submit the name of one member for each selection committee in writing to the Honorary Secretary before the Annual General Meeting.



## **1.12 Competitions Committee**

A Competitions Committee of five members shall be elected at the AGM. One member will act as Competitions Secretary.

## **1.13 Elected positions**

Ideally people would undertake all elected positions for a three year term but with the option of resigning at the end of each season. At the end of the three years they can be re-elected for a further three year term.

## **1.14 Alterations to Rules**

Alteration of or addition to the Rules and Constitution of the League and rules governing Competitions shall not be made except at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose. Notices of motion for consideration at the Annual General Meeting shall be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary of the League, in writing, in precise terms, not later than twenty-eight days before the Annual General Meeting. Any such amendments, deletions, or additions can only be carried by at least two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

## **1.15 Appeals and Protests**

Should any dispute arise as to the meaning or interpretation of any of the Rules or Laws of the Game or upon any point not covered by them, any one of the parties to the said dispute may appeal to the Honorary Secretary. Notice of Appeal or Protest shall be given to the Honorary Secretary in writing and such notice shall be accompanied by a full statement of the matter in dispute. The Honorary Secretary shall thereupon call a meeting of the Executive Committee for the settlement of the question and at such meeting parties may be heard on each side, providing that such course may be deemed necessary or expedient. As soon as

the Executive Committee has pronounced their decision it shall be intimated by the Secretary to all parties concerned and such decision shall be final.

### **1.16 The Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer**

The Secretary shall keep a record of all business transacted at Annual General, General, Spring and Autumn Council Meetings. The Treasurer shall keep a detailed account of all receipts and disbursements, which shall be audited. The Treasurer shall submit a Balance Sheet to be dealt with at the Annual General Meeting, a copy of which together with the notice convening the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to all Club Secretaries fourteen days prior to the Annual General Meeting. After the club has dealt with these they should be passed to their delegate.

### **1.17 Honorary Members**

The League shall have power to elect as an Honorary Member; any member whose services in the interest of the League are such as entitles them to that distinction. An Honorary Member shall be invited to NIWPGL special events such as Unfurling, Competition and Cup Finals.

### **1.18 Powers of Council**

The Council shall have power to interpret these Rules, and to deal with all matters not specifically provided for therein, and their decision shall be final. The Council shall have power to elect sub-committees for special purposes.

### **1.19 Members Code of Conduct**

Members are expected to conduct themselves in ways which display good standards of behaviour on and off the green. Have a sportsmanlike approach to team colleagues, opponents, officials and spectators at all times including on

social media. Plus act as good ambassadors for the association and the game of bowls.

## **1.20 Disciplinary Procedure**

Any member who falls below the code of conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action.

## **1.21 Submission of a Complaint**

Any complaints should be lodged in writing with the NIWPGL Honorary Secretary within 14 days of the incident involved. If a complaint has first been lodged with a club then the club have a further 14 days to refer it to the NIWPGL Honorary Secretary in writing if they feel the nature of the incident warrants it.

## **1.22 Arranging a Complaints Hearing**

A date will be set by the honorary secretary for a disciplinary hearing. Written notice of this disciplinary meeting including; the date, time and venue, the matter to be discussed, copies of the complaint, the relevant NIWPGL constitution and rules, information that the person complained about may be accompanied by one other person for support providing that person has no conflict of interest; will all be sent by the secretary to all members of the Sub-Committee, the complainant and the person complained about, no later than 7 days prior to the meeting.

## **1.23 The Disciplinary Hearing**

- a. The complaint will be heard by a Sub Committee comprising of three members of the Executive Committee who do not have previous involvement or material knowledge of the event, one of whom shall be appointed Chairman of the meeting. The meeting will be attended by a minute secretary to record the proceedings; they will not be entitled to vote.

- b. At the meeting the person complained about is expected to be present. The complainant may present their complaint and the person complained about will then give their explanations. Witnesses will normally be limited to one for either side.
- c. The Sub Committee may then clarify all necessary points. After which all parties will be asked to leave the room but maybe recalled if further clarification is required.
- d. When the Sub-Committee have discussed the matter and have reached a decision the parties will be invited back in and the decision explained to them. This decision will then be confirmed in writing, within seven days of the meeting, to both parties involved.

#### **1.24 Types of Penalties**

The complaint may be dismissed and no action required, a conditional discharge with set criteria for the future, a verbal caution, a written caution, exclusion from certain set activities, suspension or they may be expelled from the association.

#### **1.25 Rights of Appeal**

Any member considering themselves aggrieved shall have the right of appeal to an Arbitration Sub-Committee whose decision shall be final. Any such appeal must be made to the secretary in writing within seven days of the decision of the committee being notified to them. The appeal shall be heard as soon as is practical thereafter by a Sub Committee comprising of three member of the Executive Committee or appropriate co-opted members who do not have previous involvement or material knowledge of the event.

## **1.26 Natural Justice**

The rules of natural justice must apply at all times to all disciplinary matters. Natural justice is procedural fairness comprising of two basic rules; first that no one is to be judge of their own case, and second that no one is to be condemned unheard.

## **2. Rules Governing All Matches**

### **2.1 World Bowls Rules**

The code of laws in force under current World Bowls Laws of the Sport of Bowls and the rules governing competitions shall be binding on Clubs in the NIWPGL.

### **2.2 Club Representation**

A player may only represent one club in the NIWPGL in the league, cup and competitions in any one year.

### **2.3 Stickers**

For NIWPGL matches at home red bowls stickers should be used and dark blue stickers for away matches.

### **2.4 Practice**

No player may practice on the day of a match or competition on the same rink that the match is to be played on, under the penalty of disqualification.

### **2.5 Draw for rink**

The visiting side / competitors must draw for choice of rink in all games.

### **2.6 Records**

Each Club shall keep a record of all matches played, including the names of players participating in the matches and also the score.

## **3. League Competitions**

### **3.1 League**

The League for the following year shall consist of the divisions decided at the AGM. Senior, Junior 1, & Junior 2.

In the Junior Leagues promotion and relegation shall be decided by the two top teams from Division 2 being promoted to Division 1 and the two lowest teams from Division 1 being relegated to Division 2.

### **3.2 Points**

League matches are played on a points system. Seven points shall be awarded in each game in the Senior League and five points awarded in each game in the Junior Leagues, Three points to the winning side plus one point to each team up on either side. Where teams finish level each team will be awarded one half point.

### **3.3 League Winners**

The clubs with the highest number of points in each League at the end of the season will be the winners.

The final league table will be published at the AGM and the appropriate cups awarded.

In the event of two or more sides being equal in points at the top of each League at the conclusion of the competitions, the side with the highest aggregate of shots up shall be declared the winner and the side with the second highest aggregate of shots up shall be declared runner-up. In the

event of two or more sides finishing equal in points and aggregate of shots up, in either the winner or runners-up position, the result of the game already played between the said teams shall determine the winner.

The aggregate of shots up of any side shall be determined by subtracting the total number of shots scored against a side from the total number of shots scored by the side in the competition.

### **3.4 Uniform**

Uniform must be worn at all matches i.e. white skirt, crop (no shorter than knee length), or long trousers, club tops and white or brown bowling shoes.

### **3.5 Date & Time of League Games**

Matches shall be played on the date fixed at 2:30 pm and may only be changed by mutual arrangement between the opposing sides. Any postponement must be immediately notified to the League Secretary by the club initiating the change.

### **3.6 Postponement of League Matches**

A fixture may be postponed because the green is unplayable or for a club bereavement. Any postponement must be immediately notified to the League Secretary by the defaulting club. Within 72 hours of the postponement three new dates must be offered by the home side one of which must be accepted. At least two of the times offered should be in the afternoon. However the NIWPGL would



encourage clubs, given the current difficulties with the numbers of available players, to be as flexible as possible

with rearranging matches including using weekend or evenings. The date agreed must be notified to the league secretary.

### **3.7 League Side Playing Short**

Where a League Match has been arranged and one or both of the Clubs have not a full side, the match should be played and twenty-five percent of the score deducted from the team not having four players. Four players short of a full A (Senior) side and two players short of a full B (Junior) side shall be the maximum allowed, i.e. one player from each team. Should however the offending Club or Clubs obtain players on loan to make up the teams to full strength, the match may be played but the offending club shall lose the points.

### **3.8 League side unable to play due to lack of the 12 or 6 players required**

A club unable to fulfil a Match must notify their opponents at least forty-eight hours prior to the time fixed for the playing except in exceptional circumstances. Failure to comply with this rule may involve the defaulting Club in the payment of expenses to the home team. Any postponement must be immediately notified to the League Secretary by the defaulting club. Within 72 hours of the postponement three new dates must be offered by the home side one of which must be accepted. At least two of the times offered should be in the afternoon. However the NIWPGL would encourage clubs, given the current difficulties with the numbers of available players, to be as flexible as possible

with rearranging matches including using weekend or evenings. The date agreed must be notified to the league secretary.

### **3.9 Failure to play a postponed match**

Any match that has not been played by the date of the NIWPGL Autumn Meeting will result in 3 points being deducted from the defaulting team's accumulated league points the following season.

### **3.10 Dual side clubs**

In clubs with sides in two leagues every effort should be made to fulfil fixtures even though both sides may have to go out short.

### **3.11 Number of ends in League matches**

Eighteen ends shall be played. In bad weather, however, sides may mutually arrange, prior to the commencement of the match, to limit the number of ends to be played. Not less than fifteen ends shall be played.

### **3.12 Registration of a panel of players**

- a. Prior to the start of each season and no later than the Thursday prior to the first league match, all clubs with two teams in the Leagues (Senior & Junior) must submit to the Honorary League Secretary a panel of a minimum of 8 players who will only be available to play for the club's A (Senior team) in all NIWPGL League and NIWPGL Cup competitions. Players who in the previous or current season have played at Senior International or Senior Interassociation level must be registered as part of the minimum 8 player panel.

- b. Any new caps at Senior International or Senior Interassociation level within the same season will be added to the “A” panel once those respective teams are selected.
- c. The named panel for each club will be posted on the NIWPGL website.
- d. A substitution system will allow clubs to change a maximum of 2 players on the minimum 8 player panel in the same playing season – amendments must be submitted to the Honorary League Secretary a minimum of 3 days prior to a nominated panel member playing in the B (Junior) team.
- e. All other non-registered players are eligible to play on any of the club’s teams in League matches.

### **3.13 Number of players**

The A (Senior) League shall consist of four teams, sixteen players. The B (Junior) League shall consist of two teams eight players.

### **3.14 League results**

To be texted, emailed or phoned to the League Secretary on the day of the match by the home side. The result card should be sent to her by each club within two days of the date on which a match has been played.

### **3.15 Stopped League Games**

A game may be stopped on account of darkness, the conditions of weather, or any other valid reason; it shall be

resumed with the scores and players, as they were when it was stopped.

### **3.16 Resumed League Games**

The sides must be composed of the same players as named on the original teams on the score cards, except in extenuating circumstances, when not more than one player for each team may be substituted. (i.e. 4 for A (Senior) League and 2 for B (Junior) League).

The League Secretary must be notified before resumption. It shall be in the power of either skip to require that not more than one trial end each way shall be played. On resumption of the game, an end started but not completed is void. If at least 15 ends have been played and travel between the clubs is very expensive, clubs may appeal to the League Secretary who will consult with the Executive Committee for a final decision on the need to replay the match and points.

### **3.17 League Protests and appeals**

League Protests and appeals must be received by the League Secretary within seven days after the cause of the protest. Full powers shall be vested in the Officers to deal with any questions that may arise, and to deal with any matter not provided for in these Rules.

### **3.18 Clubs having 2 teams in the B (Junior) League**

#### **a. Prior to the start of each season**

No later than the Thursday prior to the first league match, all clubs with two teams in the B (Junior) League must submit to the Honorary League Secretary a panel of a minimum of 9 players for each team (called team 1 and team 2) which will be binding for that season.

**b. Named Panel**

**The named panel** will only be able to play for the NIWPGL B (Junior) team whose panel contains their name and which will be posted on the NIWPGL website.

**c. 2 year limit**

Clubs may only have two teams in the B (Junior) League for a period of 2 consecutive years after which the players can play as a team of 16 in the A (Senior) League.

## **4. Cup Matches**

### **4.1 Stylux Cup**

This competition is open to all Clubs having A League (Senior) sides.

### **4.2 Hazel Getty Cup**

This competition is open to all Clubs having a B (Junior) team. The nominated panel players per rule 3:12 and other players who have played in the Stylux Cup in the same season will be ineligible to play in the Hazel Getty Cup.

### **4.3 Draw for play of Cup matches**

The first round will be drawn at the spring council meeting. Further rounds will be drawn at either the Executive or Competitions Committees meetings.

### **4.4 Date**

No alterations in dates will be considered unless greens are deemed unplayable.

### **4.5 Time**

2:30 p.m. on designated date.

### **4.6 Uniform**

Uniform must be worn at all matches i.e. white skirt, crop (no shorter than knee length), or long trousers, club tops and white or brown bowling shoes.

#### **4.7 Number of ends for Cup matches**

A full eighteen ends is essential in all cup matches unless one side concedes.

#### **4.8 Side playing short**

Where a cup match has been arranged and one or both of the clubs have not a full side, the match should be played and twenty-five percent of the score deducted from the teams not having four players. Four players short of a full A League (Senior) side and two players short of a B League (Junior) side shall be the maximum allowed, i.e. one player from each team.

#### **4.9 Cup Matches Tie Result**

In the event of the scores on the cards being equal after eighteen ends an extra end shall be played by all teams, a coin having been tossed to decide who shall deliver the jack. Should the result again be a draw another end shall be played and so on until a winning result is obtained.

#### **4.10 Results of Cup Matches**

All of the results should be texted, emailed or phoned to Honorary Secretary by the home side on day of the match and cards to be sent by the home side to the Honorary Secretary within two days.

#### **4.11 Trophies and Badges**

Cup Trophies and badges will be presented to the winning side after the Final matches.

## 5. Competitions

### Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours & 55+Fours Junior Singles & Junior Pairs

#### 5.1. Eligibility

Competitions are for all the players of Clubs affiliated to the N.I.W.P.G.L. A regular A team players and an International player may not enter the Junior singles or pairs. However regular B team players can enter either of the singles or pairs competition but not both and provided they do not currently play for the international team. Matches shall be played as arranged by the competition committee during the season until the competition is completed. Semi-finals and Finals shall be played on the Vice President's and President's greens.

#### 5.2 Minimum Number of Entries

The minimum number of entries required for a competition to run is shown below. This may be adjusted at the discretion of the Competition committee.

Singles	16 entries
Pairs	16 entries
Triples	8 entries
Fours	8 entries
55+ Fours	8 entries



### 5.3 Number of ends

Singles	21 Shots
Pairs	21 Ends
Triples	18 Ends
Fours	21 Ends
55+ Fours	21 Ends

### 5.4 Uniform

Uniform must be worn at all matches i.e. grey skirt, crop (no shorter than knee length), or long trousers, club tops and white or brown bowling shoes.

This shall be worn until Semi-finals and Finals when white skirt, crop (no shorter than knee length) or long trousers will be worn instead of grey.

### 5.5 Postponement

In the event of matches being postponed due to inclement weather, a definite arrangement must be made between the competitors to play the match within seven days.

The Competition Secretary must be notified immediately of the postponement and of the new date agreed.

### 5.6 Results

All results should be texted, emailed or phoned to the Competition Secretary by the home side after the match. Score cards to be completed in ink and sent to the Competition Secretary immediately after the match by the home side.

## **5.7 Concede**

Should a Pair, Triple, Four or 55+ Four concede their first game, the players are ineligible to take part in the competition or to act as substitutes.

## **5.8 Time**

All competitions commence at 2.30 p.m. or by mutual agreement between the competitors. The stated time may be varied (except in the case of semi finals or finals) but the game must be played on or before the stated date.

## **5.9 Substitution**

Should an entrant in the Pairs, Triples, Fours or 55+ Fours competition withdraw prior to commencement of the competition, another member of the Club may be nominated and the Competition Secretary informed not later than the day of their first match. Such entrant automatically becomes an original member of the competition.

The same players must compete throughout the competition unless satisfactory reasons can be submitted for substitution of not more than one player, by one who has not already taken part in the competition. The original player must be reinstated if she so desires. The same substitute must be used for the same Pair, Triple, Four or 55+ Four if again required.

A substitute in the Pairs may play in either position. In Fours if a registered skip is unable to play, her place must be taken by the third player in that Four and the substitute can be placed in any of the other positions. In the Triples if a registered skip is unable to play, her place must be taken by the second player in that Triple and the substitute can be placed in any of the other positions

## **5.10 Tie Result**

If the result is a tie on the last end, an extra end shall be played, a coin having been tossed to decide who shall deliver the jack. Should the result again be a draw another end shall be played and so on until a result has been obtained.

## **5.11 Winners**

Winners of Senior competitions will represent the NIWPGL at the IWBA Championships. (If played by the other associations, currently Fours, +55 Fours, Triples, Pairs and Singles.)

## **6. Irish Women's Bowling Association (IWBA) Events**

### **6.1 Uniform**

Uniform must be worn at all IWBA matches, i.e. White trousers, NIWPGL top and white shoes. NIWPGL bowls stickers must be used. NIWPGL are keen for the team to look united by all wearing the same uniform.

### **6.2 Inter-Association Championships**

The sides for the A League (Senior) Inter-Association Championship shall consist of six teams and reserves. The sides for the B League (Junior) Inter-Association Championship sides shall consist of four teams and reserves.

The players from these championships will be the only Ladies considered for selection (by the International selectors) to attend a trial for the International team.

### **6.3. Competition Championships**

Winners of the NIWPGL Senior competitions will represent the NIWPGL at the IWBA Championships.

## Appendix: Bowler Etiquette

- Bowls should be played in a spirit of good sportsmanship and with good manners.
- Players should make every effort to win but should also treat their opponents with courtesy.
- As soon as each bowl shall have come to rest, possession of the rink shall be transferred to the other team. By the time a player's bowl comes to rest he should be behind the mat or behind the head – not between the two.
- Players of each team not in the act of playing or controlling play shall stand well behind the head or a yard behind the mat.
- A player on the mat should not be interfered with, annoyed or have his attention distracted in any way by an opponent.
- Players at or behind the head should not move while a player is on the mat.
- Players behind the mat should not talk while a player is on the mat.
- Skips or thirds decide the number of shots - leads or seconds should not interfere.
- No bowls whatsoever should be disturbed or kicked away without the agreement of both thirds and skips.
- Do not waste time by dwelling too long on the mat or in protracted conferences.
- Do not follow bowls to the head unnecessarily.

- All bowlers should have a working knowledge of the WB laws of the game and the byelaws of their Association.
- Players must not make comments about an opposition bowl before it comes to rest, e.g. 'go into the ditch' or 'hit my bowl in'.
- Smoking on the green is a club decision and not an NIWPGL decision. Several clubs, however, prefer that as a matter of courtesy, the player concerned retreats to the bank.