**WELSH SHORT MAT BOWLS ASSOCIATION**

**NATIONAL FINALS 2025**

AT THE RADNORSHIRE INDOOR BOWLS STADIUM, LLANDRINDOD WELLS

**RINKS on SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY / SINGLES on SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY**

**TRIPLES on SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY / PAIRS on SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY**

**To all county secretaries - Please ensure that the players representing your counties in each discipline are given a copy of this document.**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**1. START TIME** - All starting at 9:30am. Please try and arrive by 8:30am to lay down the mats for the competition.

**2. FORMAT** - There will be eight groups in all categories, Singles, Pairs, and Triples will play over 12 ends and Fours over 9 ends.

**Table positions will be determined in this fashion.**

* Points won.
* If points are equal then shot difference.
* If points and shot difference are equal, then Head to Head result.
* If points and shot difference are equal and head to head was tied, then ends won in head to head will count.
* If all the above are equal, then total ends won in all games will be counted.
* If all of the above are equal then a 3 end tie-break will be played between the two players / teams (See rules on page 2).
* In the event of a tied game in a knockout stage game, an extra end is to be played. A coin toss to be made to decide who will take the jack.

**3. PLAYER REPLACEMENT**

* If **ONE PLAYER IN A PAIR, UP TO TWO PLAYERS IN A TRIPLE, or UP TO THREE PLAYERS IN A RINK** that has qualified is unable to play at the final, another player from the qualifying tournament may be chosen. **IF A PLAYER HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT, THEY ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO PLAY AT THE FINALS.**
* If **BOTH PLAYERS IN A PAIR, OR ALL PLAYERS IN A TRIPLE OR RINK** are unable to attend, their place will be given to the next available reserve.
* If a player that has qualified in the **SINGLES** is unable to play at the final, their space will be given to the next available reserve.

Names of the finalists down to fourth place must be with me as soon as you have played them. Please ensure players are given county stickers for their woods.

**IN THE SINGLES CAN YOU ENSURE THAT EACH COUNTY PROVIDE TWO MARKERS.**

**4. DRESS** - A high standard of dress is expected from all taking part, please wear your club/county colour tops with grey/black trousers/skirt, and bowling shoes. **Shorts may be worn, however they must be official bowls shorts e.g. Taylor, Henselite, Aero, Drakes Pride etc.** **Players with joggers, jeans, leggings or casual shorts will not be allowed to play.**

**5**. **TROPHIES** - Last year's winners please ensure the main trophies are returned suitably engraved and clean for presentation to this season's winners. Trophies will be awarded to the first and second places.

**6. RAFFLE** - Counties please remember **to provide 2 raffle prizes** for each of the National Final weekends.

**7. REFRESHMENTS** - The cafeteria will be providing hot & cold meals and snacks as usual. **On no account will food and drink brought in be consumed on the premises.**

**8.** **LIVE STREAMING -** All competitors to be aware that games from the quarter finals and semi finals may be live streamed on the WSMBA Facebook page. **The final will be live streamed.**

*Jac Edwards - Competition Secretary*

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**Group Tie Break Rules**

In the group stage if two players / teams at the top of a group are tied on points, shots, head to head result, ends won in the head to head and ends won overall, then the group winner will be decided by a 3 end tie break –

* 2 bowls per player in singles, 1 bowl per player in pairs, triples and rinks.
* Coin toss to start – winner has choice of taking the jack on 1st & 3rd ends, or 2nd end.
* Closest bowl to the jack wins each end. If a player is holding 2 shots, this will still count as 1 end won.
* First player to win 2 ends wins the match.
* Touchers are not marked. Any bowl entering the ditch area will be removed.
* Each player may cause one dead end in the tie-break without penalty; the end to be replayed. A player causing a 2nd dead end will automatically lose that end.
* A tied end will count as 0.5 ends to each player.
* If, after 3 ends the score is 1.5 ends each, a one end sudden death play-off will take place. Toss to start.

**Rules will be confirmed to players before the tie break takes place to ensure that all players understand the procedure.**