

PROPOSALS FOR 2011 COUNTY COMPETITIONS

Following a review of the format of the County Competitions and taking into account the comments of many members of the association, the following proposal for the restructuring of these competitions is outlined below. It is envisaged that if approved these changes will be in place for the 2011 season. A brief outline of these changes is given below, which I hope will clearly outline the proposed changes.

I would be grateful if you could discuss this with your members and revert back to myself by the end of June with any comments they might have. If anybody does require further clarification of the restructuring then I will be more than happy to discuss this.

General:

- Preliminary rounds of all County competitions (both club and individual) will be divided up into four groups.
- Proposal is to employ the existing '4 Sections' currently used for club entries and shown on page 98 of the 2010 Year Book.
- Where possible Friday nights have been avoided as competition dates. The two exceptions to this are the last 16 of the unbadged singles (Jul 29) and the preliminary round of the singles (Jun 24).
- The current use of two separate finals days will be maintained.
- A calendar outlining the dates of the new competition format has been included with this summary.
- A spreadsheet showing a direct comparison with 2011 dates using the current competition structure has also been included.

Singles, Pairs, Triples & Fours:

- With two exceptions (preliminary rounds of Triples and Singles) the early rounds of these competitions, up to and including the last 16 matches, will be played on Mondays and Thursdays
- These competitions will be played in discrete consecutive segments as outlined on calendar.
- Each group will produce 4 entrants into the 'Last 16 Open Round'.
- Last 16 matches will be played on a fixed week night at defined locations in the Reading area to minimise travelling as much as possible.
- Quarter Final and Semi Final matches will be played on fixed weekend date for each discipline. Exact dates will depend on other commitments (such as Middleton Cup) and will vary slightly each year. The proposed dates for the 2011 season are outlined on the calendar.
- Venues of these final stage matches can be moved around the County to involve as many association clubs as possible. For example a venue from each of the groups can be used to host one competition each year.
- Where possible finals of all these competitions will be played during the first finals day.

Unbadged Singles:

- Early stages of this completion, up to last 16, will be by defined play by dates as is the current practise.
- Each group will produce 4 entrants into the 'Last 16 Open Round'.
- Last 16 matches will be play on a fixed week night at defined locations in the Reading area to minimise travelling as much as possible.
- Quarter Final and Semi Final matches will be played on fixed weekend date as outlined in calendar.
- Final of this competition to take place during the second finals day.

Champion of Champions, Secretary Singles & Under 25 Singles:

- Early stages of this completion, up to the semi finals, will be by defined play by dates as is the current practise.
- Player participation allowing the semi finals of these three competitions will be held on the same 'fixed weekend date' as the main singles competition.
- If necessary additional dates and neural venues will be allocated to allow the completion of these semi finals.
- Where possible finals of all these competitions will be played during the first finals day.

Two Wood Singles:

- Early stages of this completion, up to the semi finals, will be by defined play by dates as is the current practise.
- The semi finals of this competition will be held on the same 'fixed weekend date' as the unbadged singles competition.
- Final of this competition to take place during the second finals day.

Club Championship and Double Fours:

- To allow more flexibility to clubs the preliminary round of these competitions will be moved to a 'play by date' (nominally the Sunday of week 27).
- For subsequent rounds the format to remain unchanged and played on Mondays and Thursdays, starting week 29, as is the current practise.
- Final of these competitions to take place during the second finals day.

Mixed Double Fours:

- Format of Mixed Fours to remain unchanged.

Keith Sawdon
Honorary Competitions Secretary
May 2010