



Information Session  
on proposal to  
establish a 32  
County NGB

March 2024

# Proposal - “To establish a 32 County NGB by 2025”

- ▶ The ITBA Executive and NITBF Council propose to form a 32 County NGB by 2025 through the amalgamation of the ITBA and NITBF, thus creating one Governing Body for the sport of tenpin bowling for the island of Ireland.
- ▶ This information session is to set out the vision and benefits of forming a 32 County NGB along with the actions required to establish a 32 County NGB.
- ▶ ITBA Members will be asked to vote on whether or not to create a 32 County NGB at the ITBA AGM on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024, and NITBF Members will vote on the proposal at the NITBF AGM on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024.
- ▶ Any final proposals and documentation agreed by the Working Group, including an amended Constitution, will be voted upon at EGMs in Q3/Q4 2024 by both the ITBA and NITBF members.

**Tenpin Bowling Ireland**

**32 County NGB**

***Building the Future for Bowling in Ireland***

# Vision for the future

## ➤ **Raising the profile of the sport throughout the island:**

- The expansion/ growth of Membership including grassroots development.
- Promotion of the sport through both internal and external media, including distribution of a Quarterly newsletter to all Members and wider community.
- More centres to be sanctioned by the NGB across the island.
- School/ University programmes across island.

## ➤ **Coaching:**

- EBF Coaching structure implemented throughout country.
- Creation of Association training centre on Sport Ireland Campus.
- Access to worldclass coaching through EBF and Sport Ireland Coaching, ensuring the on-going development pathways for both coaches and bowlers of all abilities.
- Ireland to become recognised as one of the forefront countries for bowling development in Europe.

## ➤ **High Performance:**

- Team Ireland to become one of the top ranked countries in Europe excelling and winning medals across various Championships.
- To develop a 'High Performance' continuous improvement culture at all levels where expectations are clear, supported by development programs and matched with appropriate levels of review, recognition and reward.
- Re-establishment of the Irish Open and growth of the Junior Irish Open.

# Vision for the future

## ► **Governance, Organisational Management & Administration:**

- To ensure a professionally run organisation with emphasis on an effective governance culture and, in doing so, develop and promote an inclusive organisation and management structure, supported by an operational management system, tasked with the timely review of key actions and deliverables in line with the goals, targets and set-out measurements.

## ► **Establishment of Clubs:**

- Establish affiliated Clubs in each Bowling Centre that obtains Lane Sanction Certification. Centre Lane Sanctions to be graded for Leagues, Ranking Events and International Tournaments.
- Junior Club Championships to be established across the country.
- Adult/Senior Clubs to be established across the country.

## ► **Opportunities created:**

- Developing a clear pathway to creating a career from the sport.
- Raising the profile of Bowling on the Island of Ireland attracting more participation.
- More activity on Cross Border initiatives with local partnerships.
- Increase in tourism and employment.

# What are the benefits to ITBA and NITBF Members?

- ▶ Possibility of Cross Community Promotion and Funding to grow the sport in island of Ireland.
- ▶ Access to more centres to host events both local and international.
- ▶ Stronger teams – greater pool of bowlers for International representation\*, leading to better results and in turn access to more funding opportunities.
- ▶ Development pathways for all levels of bowlers to enhance their performance/ aspects of their games.
- ▶ Potential for travelling league to be established to represent and compete for home bowling centre.

*\* NITBF will still be able to compete in the Commonwealth Championships with a Northern Ireland team similar to other sports.*

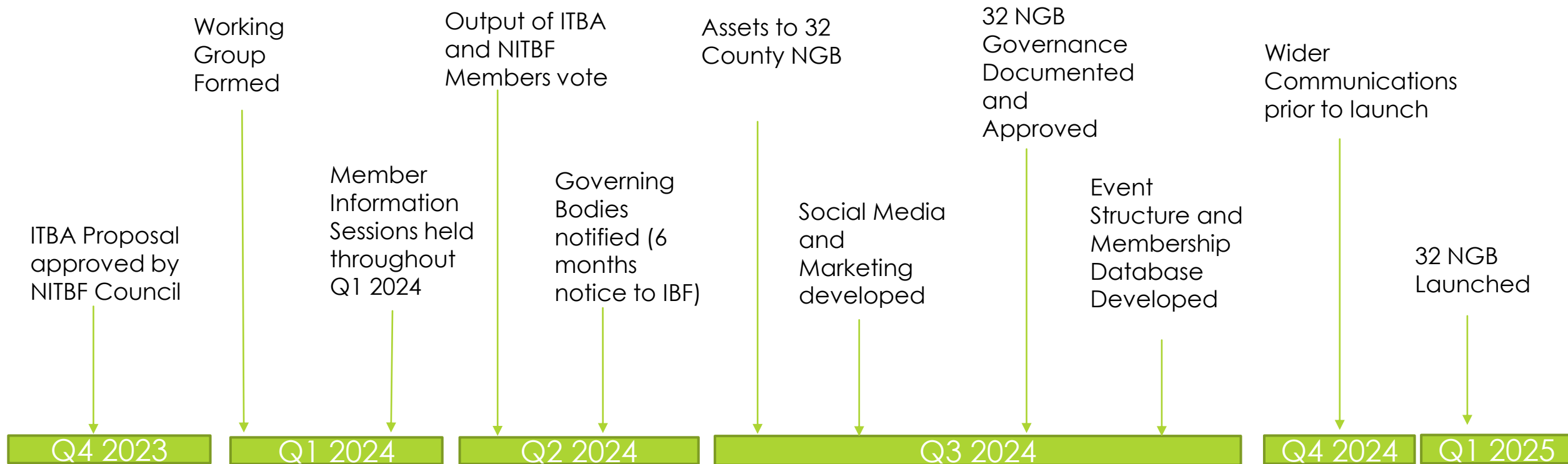
# What are the benefits to ITBA and NITBF Members?

- ▶ Access to Sport Ireland facilities and Sport Ireland Coaching expertise.
- ▶ Access to EBF Level 1, 2 & 3 Coaches and development pathways throughout island.
- ▶ Access to Coaching Tools costing €55,000– includes Kegel Torch and Specto throughout island.
- ▶ Developing the future of the sport – including establishment of clubs in every bowling centre.
  - ▶ Increase in Membership base.
  - ▶ Increase Competitive opportunities.
  - ▶ Increase Sponsorship opportunities.
  - ▶ Avoid duplication of effort.

# What are the benefits to bowling centres?

- ▶ Potential to host more domestic competitions and showcase events – more events throughout the month (Juniors/ Adults/ Seniors).
- ▶ More potential to host major competitions e.g. Irish Open/ EBF Championships/ EBT – multi day events.
- ▶ More income from increased league growth/ Junior Club Set Up.
- ▶ More cross community footfall.
- ▶ Increase Vitality Memberships in Dundonald International Ice Bowl.
- ▶ Access to Sport Capital Grant training tools.
- ▶ Potential for upskilling of centre staff e.g. specialised training for mechanics etc.

# High Level Roadmap – How to get there





# 32 County NGB Working Group

- ▶ A 32 County NGB Working Group has been formed with representatives from both the ITBA and NITBF to drive forward all actions which would be required if the creation of a 32 County NGB is approved by ITBA and NITBF Members.
- ▶ A detailed project plan is in place with regular updates being provided to the ITBA Executive and NITBF Council.
- ▶ The Working Group is looking at all aspects of a NGB, including Governance structure (for example Ireland:Northern Ireland representation in Executive), Event structures, selection criterias, financial governance, notifications to relevant sporting bodies etc.
- ▶ The Working Group may suggest the creation of a new name and logo for the 32 County NGB.
- ▶ An EGM would also be held in late August/ early September 2024 to approve all required Constitution and Rules of Association changes to establish a 32 County NGB.
- ▶ FAQs will be documented and distributed to ITBA and NITBF Members ahead of AGMs.

Any Questions?