



## Team Ireland Selection Process and Eligibility 2015-2016 (Including Appendix 1 – Team Ireland Rules)

- Prior to the end February 2016, the Executive Committee, in consultation with Team Ireland Sub-committee, shall appoint a Team Ireland Selection Committee, consisting of at least three and not more than five members.
- The Executive Committee, following consultation with the Team Ireland Sub-committee shall also, when and where necessary, appoint Team Managers, who shall assume complete control over any teams selected by the Team Ireland Selection Committee.
- Where selection is necessary to determine which bowler(s) shall represent the country or the Association in any tournaments, such selection for Team Ireland, shall be the responsibility of the Team Ireland Selection Committee.
- Prior to the end of February 2016, Team Ireland Selection Committee shall submit to the Executive Committee for ratification a Panel of bowlers for both men and women, sufficient in number to be well in excess of those required for any team to be chosen and such Panel will be published when duly ratified.
- In order to be eligible for a place on a Panel, a player must hold a valid Irish passport. Panel membership shall be open to review on the basis of performance in practice sessions, tournaments, leagues and competitive play.
- Teams and individuals required to be selected for “top-flight” international competition shall be chosen from those bowlers currently named as Panel members.
- The Team Ireland Selection Committee will adopt a Team Ireland selection process through the Ranking System, which is operated on a rollover basis. Rankings are now rolling over from the 2014/2015 season.
- The system and points apply for both the Men’s and the Ladies Team Ireland.
- Bowlers must be current members of the ITBA to qualify for ranking points.
- The Ranking Points multipliers are unchanged from those in the 2014/2015 season. The multiplier levels are listed below. These remain unchanged so that places on Team Ireland are awarded on a continued merit criteria based upon consistency and also encourages competition in the Rankings throughout the season.
- Ranking points will be allocated based on a bowler’s final position at the end of a tournament (unless otherwise stated), provided the relevant Team Ireland Rules including Dress Code have been adhered to.  
**See Team Ireland Rules attached in Appendix 1.**



## Ranking Tournaments – Season 2015/2016

No:	Start	Finish	Tournament	Centre
1	28-Nov	29-Nov	Leinster Open	Superdome, Palmerstown
2	13-Dec	13-Dec	Rocks Jewellers Tour	Leisureplex, Stillorgan
3	03-Jan	15-Jan	ALSAA Open	ALSAA Bowl
4	10-Jan	17-Jan	Irish Open	Leisureplex, Stillorgan
5	11-Feb	14-Feb	National Championships	ALSAA Bowl
	27-Feb	28-Feb	Roll Offs for European Men's Championships 2016 ±	ALSAA Bowl & Leisureplex, Stillorgan
	05-Mar	06-Mar		
6	06-Mar	06-Mar	Rocks Jewellers	Leisureplex, Stillorgan
7	27-Mar	27-Mar	Fran's Monthly Singles	Superdome, Palmerstown
8	10-Apr	10-Apr	ALSAA Challenge Series	ALSAA Bowl
9	24-Apr	24-Apr	Fran's Monthly Singles	Superdome, Palmerstown
10	TBC	TBC	World Cup Qualifier	Leisureplex, Stillorgan
	9-July	10-July	Triple Crown 2016	TBA
	16-July	17-July	Roll Offs	TBA

**± Dates and venues for European Men's Championships Roll Offs are now confirmed.**

### NOTES:

- The Rankings will be decided on points earned by a bowler in their best 8 out of the 10 Ranking Events.
- Ranking points will be awarded for the ranked Rocks Jewellers Tour stops, ALSAA Challenge Series events and Fran's Monthly Singles events based on scratch scores taken after the qualifying games.
- Ranking points will be awarded for the Leinster Open based on scratch scores taken after the first round of qualifying games

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## Team Ireland Panel for 2015 - 16

- A Team Ireland Panel will consist of at least 10 bowlers plus any Wildcards or Exemption as outlined below:
  - ❖ The Top 10 bowlers taken from the Ranking list at the time of selection.
  - ❖ Two possible Wildcards or 1 Wildcard & 1 Exemption, available to bowlers outside the Top 10.
- Wildcards / Exemptions - Bowlers outside the Top 10, who feel they may be eligible for a Wildcard or Exemption may make a written application to the Team Ireland Selection Committee stating their case and why they feel they are deserving of a place on the Panel / Team. The Team Ireland Selection Committee will make a decision based on the merits of this application. There is no requirement for the two possible Wildcard or one Wildcard and one Exemption spots to be filled or any guarantee of an application being approved even if those spots are not filled. All applications will be reviewed fairly and objectively with the ultimate mission of achieving the best and strongest Team Ireland possible.
- Examples of reasons for which a Wildcard / Exemption can be applied for include:
  - ❖ A bowler returning from injury and has displayed their quality in tournaments / leagues since their return.
  - ❖ A bowler who competes in overseas tournaments, which limits their participation in domestic tournaments. A bowler would however have to show their support by playing in a minimum of three domestic tournaments when / if not competing overseas.
  - ❖ A bowler living / studying overseas, however a bowler would have to display their qualities in tournaments / leagues in the area where they currently reside.
- The composition of Team Ireland for the **Triple Crown 2016** (6 bowlers) will be as follows:
  - ❖ The Top 3 from the Rankings will earn a **guaranteed automatic spot** on Team Ireland.
  - ❖ A bowler granted an Exemption by the Team Ireland Selection Committee will earn a **guaranteed automatic spot** on Team Ireland.
  - ❖ The remaining Panel members, positions 4 through 10 in the Team Ireland Rankings and any Wildcards will compete in a roll-off to determine who will earn a place on Team Ireland.
  - ❖ A Roll Off for a Triple Crown will consist of 2 blocks of 6 games held in 2 different centres.
  - ❖ On completion of the roll off process, the top 2 or 3 players, depending upon whether an Exemption has been granted, from the roll off will be invited to take their place on Team Ireland in addition to the 3 automatic players. Reserves will be taken from the remaining Panels in descending order of Roll Off finishing position (7<sup>th</sup> place = 1st, etc.).
  - ❖ The cut-off for The Triple Crown 2016 panel qualification will be after the last ranking event of the 2015/2016 season. Roll-offs will provisionally take place on the weekends of the 9/10th July and 16/17th July 2016.



- The composition of Team Ireland for **European or World Championships** (6 bowlers) will be as follows:
  - ❖ The Team Ireland Selection Committee may grant an Exemption to one bowler for these teams.
  - ❖ There are **no guaranteed automatic spots** on Team Ireland for either of these Championships. However, a bowler, if granted an Exemption by the Team Ireland Selection Committee, will earn a **guaranteed automatic spot** on Team Ireland.
  - ❖ The Panel bowlers, positions 1 through 10 in the Team Ireland Rankings and any Wildcards will compete in a roll-off in order to determine who will earn the remaining places on team.
  - ❖ A roll-off for a European or World Championship will consist of at least 4 blocks of 6 games played on a number of different patterns held in at least two different centres.
  - ❖ On completion of the roll-off process, the top 6 bowlers (reduced to 5 if an Exemption has been granted by the Team Ireland Selection Committee to a bowler) from the roll off will be invited to take their place on Team Ireland. Reserves will be taken from the remaining Panels in descending order of Roll Off finishing position (7th place = 1st reserve, 8th place = 2nd reserve, etc.).
  - ❖ The Team Ireland Sub-committee, in conjunction with women bowlers and the Executive have decided not to enter a team in the European Women's Championships 2016. This is primarily due to the lack of time remaining to properly prepare a team. Therefore, roll-offs provisionally scheduled to take place on weekends 30th/31st Jan and 6/7th Feb 2016 will not now proceed.
  - ❖ The cut-off for The European Men's Championships 2016 panel qualification will be after the National Championships. Roll-offs are now confirmed to take place on weekends 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016 and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at ALSAA Bowl and Leisureplex, Stillorgan respectively.

**World Games in 2017:** During the European Women Championships and the European Men Championships in 2016, there will also be a competition for the 2 X 5 federations, which each can send 2 women and 2 men, to the World Games 2017.

**Qualification for the World Championships 2017:** The 15 men and women teams from Europe will be found via a competition, where points are accumulated for top 24 positions in all 6 disciplines of the European Women Championships 2016 (Vienna – June 2016) and European Men Championships 2016 (Brussels – August 2016).

- The selection process for the World Singles Championships (Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> to 12th 2016 in Qatar) will differ from the above. As teams will consist of a smaller number of bowlers than detailed above, the Men's (2) and Women (2) Ranked 1st and Ranked 2nd after the last ranking event of the 2015/2016 season will be invited to take their place on Team Ireland to participate in the Championships. Reserves will be taken from the ranking lists in descending order (3rd place = 1st reserve, etc.).
- In the unlikely event of any positions on Team Ireland remaining unfilled after the above process has been completed and all Panels members have been invited, the Team Ireland Selection Committee retains the right to fill any remaining positions in any way it sees fit, keeping the mission of fielding the best and strongest Team Ireland possible at the forefront of any decision made.
- All Panels and Teams are forwarded to the Executive Committee for ratification.

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## Ranking points for Men and Ladies for 2015/2016 Season

Event	National Championships	Irish Open	World Cup Qualifier	Leinster Open / ALSAA Open	Rocks Jewellers Tour/ALSAA Challenge Series/Fran's Monthlv Singles
Multiplier	x 2.00	x 1.75	x 1.50	x 1.25	x 1.00
Position	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points
1	200	175	150	125	100
2	190	166	143	119	95
3	180	158	135	113	90
4	170	149	128	106	85
5	160	140	120	100	80
6	158	138	119	99	79
7	156	137	117	98	78
8	154	135	116	96	77
9	152	133	114	95	76
10	150	131	113	94	75
11	148	130	111	93	74
12	146	128	110	91	73
13	144	126	108	90	72
14	142	124	107	89	71
15	140	123	105	88	70
16	138	121	104	86	69
17	136	119	102	85	68
18	134	117	101	84	67
19	132	116	99	83	66
20	130	114	98	81	65
<b>Minimum Points</b>	30	18	15	13	10

- Ranking points on table below beyond 20<sup>th</sup> position continue with decreases in points as per the sequences until they reach the allocated Minimum Points for that particular tournament.
- When this sequence reaches the Minimum Points outlined for each tournament, all players finishing below this position (and meeting the criteria for earning Ranking Points) will receive the allocated Minimum Points for that particular tournament.

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## Appendix 1

## Team Ireland Rules

- All bowlers must be fully paid up current General members of the ITBA prior to the start of their squad in order to receive ranking points.
- All bowlers must be fully paid up current General members of the ITBA prior to leaving for participation in any international event e.g. European Championships, Triple Crown
- In order to earn ranking points towards a Team Ireland panel, bowlers must adhere to the following dress code requirements when in competition:
  - A bowler must have either their full name or surname clearly visible in either print or embroidery on the back of a collared shirt or sports top (new style of bowling shirts with large rounded collar). Sleeveless tops, tee shirts and v-neck tee shirts are not permitted.
  - The wearing of jeans, combats, etc. Is not permitted.
  - Men may wear trousers or tracksuit bottoms.
  - Ladies may wear trousers, tracksuit bottoms, skirts, shorts or skorts.
  - No large studs, straps or buckles are permitted.
  - Bowlers should note that even though the Rocks Jewellers Tour is not an ITBA run event and does not have a dress code requirement, Team Ireland ranking points will only be awarded to bowlers who follow the Team Ireland dress code requirements detailed above.
- The above dress code requirements also apply during official practice sessions, with the exception of the wearing of your name on your shirt.
- All Team Ireland bowlers must have their equipment properly checked for compliance with FIQ specifications for weight, balance & hardness prior to leaving for any international tournament.
- Expectations of Team Ireland Panel Members and Team Members:
  - Priority is to be given to Team Ireland Training Sessions, Coaching Sessions and meetings.
  - Determination & focus to become a World Class bowler, representing Ireland at the highest International Levels.
- When on Team Ireland duty:
  - The Team Manager's decision on all matters is final.
  - Bowler's should behave in a manner befitting their position as Team Ireland members.
  - Bowlers are not only representing the team but also themselves, their association and their country.
  - Respect should be shown to the Team Manager.
  - Respect should be shown to your teammates.
  - Respect should be shown to opposing bowlers and officials.
- It is the bowler's responsibility to ensure compliance with all the Rules and Regulations. If a bowler is in doubt they should contact a Team Ireland Committee member for clarification.
- Any Rules listed here are in addition to the General Rules of the ITBA.

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