



Team Ireland Selection Process and Eligibility 2017-2018 (Including Appendix 1 – Team Ireland Rules)

- The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Team Ireland Sub-committee, appointed a Team Ireland Selection Committee (TI Selection Committee), for the 2017-2018 season), consisting of Tom Byrne, Dave English and Gareth Shannon for the 2017-2018 season.
- The Executive Committee shall also, when and where necessary, appoint Team Managers, who shall assume complete control over any teams selected by the TI 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 TI Selection Committee. To comply with our Governance Policy, the criteria TI Selection Committee have agreed to adopt for selection for Adult Triple Crown , European Women Championships, World Men Championships and European Champions Cup, all in 2018, is shown in this document.
- The TI 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.
- To be eligible for a place on a Panel, a bowler 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.
- All Panels are forwarded to the Executive Committee for ratification.
- Teams and individuals required to be selected for “top-flight” international competition shall be chosen from those bowlers currently named as Panel members.
- The TI Selection Committee, will adopt a selection process through the Team Ireland Ranking System, which is operated on a rollover basis. Rankings are now rolling over from 2016/2017.
- 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 2016/2017 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 2017/2018

No:	Start	Finish	Tournament	Centre
1	8-Oct	8-Oct	Rocks Jeweller Tour (2)	Leisureplex, Stillorgan
2	25-Nov	26-Nov	Leinster Open	Superdome, Palmerstown
3	03-Dec	03-Dec	Rocks Jewellers Tour (4)	Leisureplex, Stillorgan
4	14-Jan	21-Jan	Irish Open Championships	Leisureplex, Stillorgan
5	TBC	TBC	ALSAA Open	ALSAA Bowl
6	22-Feb	25-Feb	National Championships	Superdome, Palmerstown
7	08-Apr	08-Apr	Rocks Jewellers Tour (9)	Leisureplex, Stillorgan
8	TBA	TBA	ALSAA Challenge Series	ALSAA Bowl
9	TBC	TBC	World Cup Qualifier	Leisureplex, Stillorgan
	TBC	TBC	Triple Crown 2017 Roll Offs	ALSAA Bowl Leisureplex, Stillorgan

NOTES:

- The Rankings will be decided on points earned by a bowler in their best 6 out of the 9 Ranking Events.
- Ranking points will be awarded for the ranked Rocks Jewellers Tour stops and ALSAA Challenge Series 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 game.



Team Ireland Panel for 2017 - 18

- A Team Ireland Panel will consist of at least 12 bowlers plus any Wildcards or Exemption as outlined below:
 - ❖ The Top 12 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 12.
- Wildcards / Exemptions - Bowlers outside the Top 12, 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 Ranking 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 (TI) for the **Triple Crown 2018** (6 bowlers) will be as follows:
 - ❖ The Top 3 from the Rankings will earn a **guaranteed automatic spot** on TI.
 - ❖ A bowler granted an Exemption by the Team Ireland Selection Committee will earn a **guaranteed automatic spot** on TI.
 - ❖ The remaining Panel members, positions 4 through 12 in the Team Ireland Rankings and any Wildcards will compete in a roll-off to determine who will earn a place on TI.
 - ❖ 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 bowlers. Reserves will be taken from the remaining Panels in descending order of Roll Off finishing position (7th place = 1st, etc.).
 - ❖ The cut-off for The Triple Crown 2018 panel qualification will be after the last ranking event of the 2017/2018 season. Roll-offs are provisionally scheduled for 7th -8th July and 14th-15th July 2018.



- The composition of Team Ireland (TI) for the **European Women Championships, 6th – 17th June, 2018** in Brussels Belgium (6 bowlers) will be as follows:
 - ❖ A bowler granted an Exemption by the Team Ireland Selection Committee will earn a **guaranteed automatic spot** on Team Ireland.
 - ❖ A panel will be formed from positions 1 through 12 in the Team Ireland Rankings.
 - ❖ Bowlers may apply for a wildcard if they feel the criteria set out is applicable to them.
 - ❖ The panel and any accepted Wildcards will compete in a roll-off to determine who will earn a place on Team Ireland at the European Women Championships 2018.
 - ❖ A Roll Off for the European Woman Championship 2018 will consist of 2 blocks of 6 games held in 2 different centres.
 - ❖ On completion of the roll off process, the top 6 bowlers will be invited to take their place on the team. Reserves will be taken from the remaining Panel in descending order of Roll Off finishing position (7th place = 1st, etc.).
 - ❖ The cut-off for The European Woman Championship 2018 panel qualification will be after the Irish Open 2018. Dates for the roll-offs will be announced in due course.
- The composition of Team Ireland for the **World Men Championships, 24th November – 6th December, 2018** in Hong Kong (6 bowlers) will be as follows:
 - ❖ A bowler granted an Exemption by the Team Ireland Selection Committee will earn a **guaranteed automatic spot** on the team.
 - ❖ A panel will be formed from positions 1 through 12 in the Team Ireland Rankings.
 - ❖ Bowlers may apply for a wildcard for this event if they feel the criteria set out is applicable to them.
 - ❖ The panel and any accepted Wildcards will compete in a roll-off to determine who will earn a place on Team Ireland at the World Men Championships 2018.
 - ❖ A Roll Off for the World Men Championship 2018 will consist of 2 blocks of 6 games held in 2 different centres.
 - ❖ On completion of the roll off process, the top 6 bowlers will be invited to take their place on the team. Reserves will be taken from the remaining Panels in descending order of Roll Off finishing position (7th place = 1st, etc.).
 - ❖ The cut-off for The World Men Championship 2018 panel qualification will be after the National Championships 2018. Dates for the roll-offs will be announced in due course.
- Ireland's representatives for the **European Champions Cup, 22nd – 29th October, 2018** in Langen Germany, will be the Men's and Ladies winners of the National Championships 2018. Reserves 2nd place 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.



Ranking points for Men and Ladies for 2017/2018 Season

Event	National Championships	Irish Open	World Cup Qualifier	Leinster Open / ALSAA Open	Rocks Jewellers Tour /
					ALSAA Challenge
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
Minimum Points	30	18	15	13	10

- Ranking points on table below beyond 20th 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.



Team Ireland

Formation of Training Group 2017/18 Season

In conjunction with the Coaches Sub-committee, the Team Ireland Sub-committee would like to announce a new initiative to promote our sport and encourage future participation in Team Ireland International events.

We are introducing the formation of a TI Training Group which would meet a minimum of once a month. The Team Ireland Sub-committee, in conjunction with the Team Ireland Selection Committee and Coaches Sub-committee, will seek applications from bowlers interested in participating in this new initiative. The invitation and the selection process for the TI Training Group will be published by 31st October 2017.

Please note that this does not affect the TI Selection and Eligibility process for 2017/18 which will remain as stated. The TI Training Group is not the ratified Panel of bowlers from which the TI Selection Committee choose bowlers to represent Ireland at International events.

- **Our aim**

- To get our top bowlers on the lanes together on a more regular basis.
- To integrate bowlers who would be finished at u19 level into the Team Ireland process.

- **Our goal**

- To build stronger, more competitive teams to represent our Country at International level.

Depending on the bowling calendar, a monthly meeting / session would be organised. This will not be limited to lane play. We hope to discuss ideas bowlers may have for future events, fundraising and the structure of training sessions.

More details to follow as the season commences. Please send a mail to team.ireland@tenpinbowling.ie if you have any questions with regard to the Team Ireland Selection & Eligibility criteria or if you require more information regarding the Training Group.



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, World Championships, ATC.
- In order to earn ranking points towards a Team Ireland (TI) 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 you name on your shirt.
- All TI bowlers must have their equipment properly checked for compliance with World Bowling specifications for weight, balance and 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 and 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.
 - Bowlers 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 country.
 - Respect should be shown to the Team Manager, Coaches, Officials and 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 Sub-committee member for clarification. Let's also continue to keep Irish Tenpin Bowling drug free and support the Sport Ireland National Anti-Doping Programme by using its on-line, safe and secure, way of reporting – Report Doping.
- Any Rules listed here are in addition to the General Rules of the ITBA.

Effective Date: 3rd October 2017 – Replaces All Previous Versions