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9th March 2021

**Gentlemen,**

I hope that you, your families and your Bowling Clubs have not suffered too much during the Coronavirus Pandemic. We extend our sympathy to anyone who has lost loved ones.

In recent days several clubs have contacted us regarding our plans for 2021. Government policy and “Lockdowns” made Bowling Leagues, Cups and Championships impossible and 2020 was a lost season. Of course we would love to return to action in 2021 but are not yet in a position to formalise plans. However I will share a few thoughts with you.

1. **AGM, normally held at Balmoral;** regrettably, we had to cancel/postpone the AGM originally scheduled for November 2020. At present I do not believe it is in our best interest to bring together 80 – 90 Senior Citizens from across the Province and I am convinced that too few Clubs could participate to make a “Zoom” meeting meaningful. With your approval, I propose that the current Officers and Executive continue to hold office for 2021. We have not been able to meet but hopefully with vaccinations and careful distancing we can get together soon. Our Constitution allows us to co-opt if any member is unable to continue to serve.
2. **V.B.L. Opening, normally April at Balmoral;** regrettably and for the same reasons, in all probability we will need to cancel.
3. **League programmes 2021;** we will review the situation; if things improve a League programme may be manageable (Perhaps even one rink at home and one rink away?). By April/May most Veterans will have been Vaccinated.
4. **Cups and Competitions:** these would be simpler to organise; last season’s draws can stand with appropriate date changes. Travelling may prove tricky.
5. **Though we will discuss strategy in Committee, our decisions will be influenced by** 
   1. Government Policy and their success in controlling the Pandemic.
   2. In the case of N.I.B.A. Clubs, Council policy on making Greens available.
   3. The I.B.A. Executive policy; President Dan Dempsey has promised to keep us up to date with this.

**As before, as soon as we have news of any developments, our Section Secretaries will contact the respective Clubs in their own Sections by telephone; they can explain our position and discover each Club’s state and intention. Fees, Registrations and entries can then be sent in as usual.**

**Keep yourselves and your loved-ones safe,**

**Brian Connor**

**Honorary Secretary**

**Derek McCann**

**President 2020 - 21**