

A number of decisions have been taken by the committee over this period as follows

WBF Teams Championships

Once again the question was raised as to whether we should enter a Mixed Team for this event. Arguments against doing so were

- a) It costs the SABF about R90,000 to send a team to participate in the Zonals . This year the Zonals will be held online but if our teams qualify then the above amount will be used to subsidize the costs of playing in the finals.
- b) It has been previously argued that a large proportion of our membership could participate in one or more of the following - the Open, Women's and more recently Seniors' Trials - should they meet the standards set out to enter these tournaments, whereas established mixed pairs are thin on the ground.
- c) It was unlikely that more than one team would enter for this category raising the question as to whether it was acceptable that a team representing South Africa could be self-selected.
- d) It would set a precedent difficult to repeal.

Arguments for were

- a) It would be a good experience for our players
- b) There was a growing market worldwide for Mixed Teams events

The vote went to the nays but it was agreed that we should encourage the unions to hold mixed teams events with the aim of growing local interest in this form of tournament.

There were certain side discussions on this issue which are worth mentioning as they were raised by members. One proposal was that we entered a team but we only paid their entrance fee, all other costs being self-funded. This wouldn't work on several levels

- 1) Teams selected to represent South Africa to play in the Zonals and if successful represent us in the WBF Teams Championships are entitled to

national colours. A strong principle held by this and previous committees is that no individual should be able to attain this honour if it has not been earned

- 2) Players who wish to gain overseas experience have several other channels open to them including many highly rated online tournaments

Online Red Point Events

For 2023 only the Eastern and Southern Cape would be allowed to hold one red point event conditional on them holding at least one face-to-face red point event during the year.

SABF subs 2023

Historically collecting subs has been the responsibility of our affiliated live clubs but with our virtual clubs this is proving more difficult. The SABF will impose a fine on clubs who continue to allow members to play online without paying subs

BBO Payments

As from 2023 a 10% commission will be charged by the SABF on payments received from BBO. This money will be used to fund various national projects.