



EBANTER Special Edition

Let The Playdowns Begin

From: The Championship Committee Chair

The stage is set for the District Playdowns to begin.

The District Chairpersons (or designates) have been briefed and all is in order for the 2008 Championship matches to commence.

The following reminders are offered to you:

1. Again this year the OLBA is sponsoring the PARTICIPATE TO WIN program. Every time a bowler enters a District Playdown, the District Chairperson (or designate) will record the bowler's name. At the end of August, when all district playdowns have been completed, the District Chair will submit the list of name of all District Participants. If a bowler entered three events, then that bowler will have three chances for a draw award of **\$1,000.00**
2. To enter a District Playdown, a bowler must present an OLBA membership card AND a 2009 sticker attached to it.
3. The number of ends in a district/provincial playdown has been altered. Fours, Pairs, Novice, Mixed will play 15 ends. Seniors 14 ends. Singles: 21 points.
4. Trial ends, if desired, will be limited to two bowls per bowler in each direction.
5. Practice is allowed prior to the start of an event up to 5 minutes before the announced time of start of play. Direction of practice play will be in opposite direction of playdown play. Practice will be unavailable if the greens are needed for any special pre-start preparation.

6. All bowlers entering the PAIRS playdowns should be aware that at the Provincial Pairs Championships (in Kingston) a fourth game will be required to be played on the Saturday. This game will be the GOLD medal game that would traditionally be played in the first round on Sunday (Day Two). OLBA is attempting to give more exposure in the Gold Medal game. This TRIAL format will allow all bowlers to be able to watch the Gold Medal game and will be an ideal opportunity for special guests / dignitaries / press to be present for the gold medal presentations. The losers of the gold medal game will get a bye on Sunday (Day Two) morning and will resume play in the second game on Sunday.
7. In 2008, winners of Provincial Championships will receive their winners' plaques during the medal presentations in lieu of having them presented at the OLBA annual fall meeting.
8. No one should enter the district playdowns knowing that they are not available to play, should they win the district event, at the provincial level and the Canadian level. Please check dates of all events before entering playdowns.
9. For all district and provincial playdowns, rule 18.4 has been changed, for play in Ontario, to *"In all ends after the first but apart from an extra end, the winner of the previous end will bowl first."*
10. In order to lessen the time it takes to play provincials, game start times have been set: All play will start at 8:30 a.m., there will be a 25 minute recess/lunch break after game one on day one (the 25 minutes to begin 'ticking' after the last team has left the greens. Similarly, there will be a 15 minute recess/break between games two and three.

Don't be hesitant about entering a playdown event. It is a great learning experience. Support your district by entering events. All clubs should have by now a schedule from the District Chair outlining the dates and times of all playdown events within the District.

Your support will also be appreciated by attending the Provincial Championship venues and 'cheering on' your district entries. For bowlers new to the sport, attending a provincial championship can be a great 'teacher' as you watch different strategies at work.