

# **WORLD BOWLS LTD & INTERNATIONAL INDOOR BOWLS COUNCIL**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **2020 World Bowls Indoor Championships**

#### **Postponed**

With the Coronavirus (COVID-19) escalating globally over the last several weeks and even days, World Bowls Ltd and International Indoor Bowls Council, in conjunction with the host National Authority, English Indoor Bowling Association, have held meetings over the last 36 hours regarding the 2020 World Bowls Indoor Championships scheduled to be held in Bristol, England in April.

Due to numerous Countries placing restrictions on travel for their nationals and the fact that the United Kingdom Government have now moved to implement the 'delay' phase in relation to COVID-19 further to the 'Containment' phase, regrettably the event has been postponed.

In reaching this decision we are fully aware that athletes, officials and others may have made travel arrangements for this event, but our overriding concern must be for the health and welfare of the athletes, volunteers, administrators and spectators who would be involved.

The demographics of the sport and the potential unknown underlying health issues of athletes, volunteers, officials, administrators and spectators were also key factors in reaching this decision.

World Bowls Ltd and IIBC will continue to follow the guidance and directives of the Government and Public Health England before announcing whether this annual event is proposed to be re-scheduled in 2020.

**Ends.**

**14<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

For further information please contact either:

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