



# ENGLISH SHORT MAT BOWLING ASSOCIATION

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

Following the decision to postpone all events due to COVID-19. The ESMBA have explored the various possibilities to re arrange these games. To prevent major disruption to the County diaries, it has been felt best to use the ESMBA allocated weekends. So, re arranged dates are as follows:

The National Finals will now be played on the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at Melton Mowbray IBC.

The ICC Semi Finals will be played on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at Melton IBC and one other to be confirmed. The ICC Secretary will be in direct contact with Counties involved as to their playing venues.

The ICC Final will be played on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at Melton IBC.

We understand that playing a Semi Final and Final of a County Championship on the same weekend is not ideal but unless we start playing in the summer months or rearranging an already congested diary to accommodate it with major disruption there is no other alternative. Most of the budget hotel chains offer rooms that you can cancel up to 4pm, so there are accommodation options available for these wanting to prepare to stay over.

The majority of the hotel chains have amended their cancellation policies, and most should have no problem changing or refunding their dates.

We are currently looking at possible dates for the U18s National Finals and England Trials, and will update you all shortly.

AGM paperwork is not due to be distributed until 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, so a decision on the July AGM will be taken mid-May, when hopefully we will have a better understanding of things.

Barry Hedges  
ESMBA Chairman