



## Rules of Entry for Events and Competitions

### 1.0 General

- 1.1 These rules govern entry in the WPA competitions and qualifiers. (Herein after referred to as "competition or competitions").
- 1.2 Entry into any WPA competition indicates acceptance of these rules by all individuals entering the competitions whether by self-entry or being entered by the captain of a team.

### 2.0 Pre-Entry

- 2.1 Entry to competitions will be by pre-entry.
- 2.2 The WPA reserves the right to refuse entry to individuals or teams if it feels that an entrant(s) cannot abide by these rules, or has other grounds on which to base refusal of entry.
- 2.3 The dates of all competitions will be notified to members via the WPA calendar. Those members wishing to enter competitions must use the WPA competition pre-entry.
- 2.4 Members may use the pre-entry form to enter a single, several or all of the competitions listed at one time, provided that the closing date for pre-entry to the competitions has not passed.
- 2.5 The pre-entry form must be submitted to the WPA Vice-President Playing (VPP) or their nominated officer prior to the closing dates for competitions indicated on the form. All parties attention is drawn to the form submission rules (printed on the form itself).
- 2.6 The relevant fee for entry **must accompany the entry form**. The fee for each competition is also indicated on the entry form.
- 2.7 For an entry to be valid, all players (including substitutes) must be paid for.
- 2.8 The captain of a team may act on an individual's behalf and enter the individual for a competition. Captains must gain the permission of the individual before entering them into a competition. (Note rule 1.2).
- 2.9 Once entered, teams are expected to attend:
  - 2.9.1 Entry to qualifiers indicates that individuals and teams are available to represent the WPA. The event details appear on the pre-entry form at the bottom of the event boxes. Qualifying teams must be able to attend the EPA Inter-Regional Competition and/or the Home Nations. Qualifying teams may also be invited to attend other International events e.g. World Championships and European Championships.
  - 2.9.2 Where possible; the Winners and Runners up of The WPA Doubles and Triples competitions will be invited to represent the WPA at appropriate International competitions.
- 2.10 If a team or individual has pre-entered a competition and find they cannot attend the competition, they must withdraw by notifying the VPP or his appointed officer.
  - 2.10.1 If the withdrawal is before the closing date, then a refund of fees may be given.
  - 2.10.2 If the withdrawal is after the closing date, no refund will be given unless extenuating circumstances for withdrawal can be shown.
- 2.11 Entry to non-qualifying competitions will be accepted on the day at the organisers' discretion and with the provisos:
  - 2.11.1 There is room to accommodate the late arrivals in the competition.
  - 2.11.2 The organisation will not be unduly affected by the late entry.
  - 2.11.3 The team should pay the required fee **plus an additional £3 per player**.The main qualifiers (WPA Qualifying Grand Prix Series and the Celtic Challenge Qualifier) shall be pre-entry **ONLY**.

### 3.0 Players



- 3.1 Players will be required to represent the WPA at the events for which they qualify (Rule 2.9).
- 3.2 Players are to ensure that they are available to play at the main event and to the best of their knowledge will be physically able to complete the main event and its qualifiers before entering. (See 2.9.1)
- 3.3 Disciplinary action will be taken against those players who knowingly do not comply with rules 3.1 and 3.2. A disciplinary committee will decide on the action to be taken.
- 3.4 Players will be required to register on the day of competition. The times of registration are displayed on the WPA calendar.
- 3.5 Players will be required to show a current, valid WPA licence at registration.
- 3.6 A player, who is a member but is unable to produce their current licence, will be required to pay an additional fee of £2 (Juniors £1).
- 3.7 Any player not able to produce a valid licence and unable to prove their membership will be disqualified and shall be referred to a disciplinary committee.
  - 3.7.1 Should a player be disqualified under rule 3.7, then the team that they represent may also be disqualified if they cannot provide a substitute that has a valid licence and who has also been pre-entered and may be referred to a disciplinary committee.
- 3.8 **Dress Code:** When playing in WPA competitions, players within a team will be required to wear matching colour and shade shirts (e.g. all navy blue or all royal blue shirts). At this time, the WPA does not require players to enter competitions wearing matching trousers. When playing in a representative capacity for the WPA, players will be required to wear the approved uniform for those events.

## 4.0 Substitutes

- 4.1 Substitutes (i.e. 4<sup>th</sup> Team Member) will be allowed within the WPA competitions except under rule 4.1.1.
  - 4.1.1 Substitutes cannot be accepted in the National Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Triples or Celtic Challenge competitions.
- 4.2 An individual can be named as a substitute by one team only.
- 4.3 The rules of the FIPJP will be used for the deployment of substitutes during play.
- 4.4 For qualifiers, teams can name substitutes but the substitute does not have to be present at the qualifier. Substitutes must be paid for whether or not they are in attendance at the qualifier.
- 4.5 The costs for medals for substitutes at WPA competitions will not be borne by the WPA

## 5.0 Qualification

- 5.1 Qualification to play for the WPA will be attained by **teams and not by individuals**.
- 5.2 The type of qualification event used will be decided by the VPP.
- 5.3 Qualification criteria will be announced before the qualifier begins (where possible), during the organisers pre qualifier announcement to the teams assembled. The criteria will take into account the type of qualification competition to be played and the available representative places for teams.
- 5.4 Qualification will be based solely on the results attained by teams at qualifying events. It will not take other event performances into account.
- 5.5 The results attained at the qualifying event will be final for the purposes of qualification.
- 5.6 Teams that qualify will be those that have met the qualifying criteria at the end of the event.
- 5.7 Where a team qualifying includes a substitute, the entire team will qualify.
- 5.8 Between qualification and the event, a team may lose players (a three player team lose one player and a four player team loses one or two players). The team may then choose to:



- 5.8.1 A four player team will elect their qualifying 4<sup>th</sup> team member (Rule 5.7) to be the permanent player in their team.
  - 5.8.1.1 Once elected under rule 5.8.1, they may not elect a further substitute (i.e. a new 4<sup>th</sup> team member).
- 5.8.2 Where a three player team does not have a substitute, another player can be called upon who has played in the qualifying competition, but who has not qualified themselves or they may also use a substitute from another team with the permission of that team.
- 5.8.3 A four player team that loses two players may only elect one replacement as defined in Rule 5.8.2
- 5.9 Where a team of three loses two players or a team of four players loses three players a reserve side will be called into the WPA squad. This will be the team that came immediately below 'the cut' for those qualifying teams in the qualifying event. Sides in the reserve pool will be drawn from in the order in which they finished the qualifying event. Where possible, the reserve side may be encouraged by the WPA and should endeavour to include the remaining player(s) from the originally qualified team.
- 5.10 Under extenuating circumstances the positions at which the teams qualify may not be the positions at which they will play for the WPA in competition. The VPP and/or Team Manager may sit with a chosen committee to decide placement of qualified teams for some events if they deem in the best interests of the National Squad.
- 5.11 The Committee reserves the right to select teams in exceptional circumstances, e.g. insufficient qualified teams are available for an event. (Precedent being: Home Nations, Scotland, 2001)

Players' attention is drawn to the fact that they are likely to have to meet all costs associated with representing the WPA at **ALL** National and/or International events for which they qualify.

**Amended By:**  
**National President – Tony Smith**  
**Vice President Playing – Bob Pugh**  
**National Umpire – Derek Jones**  
**10<sup>th</sup> March 2008**