



Please accept this communication sent on behalf of both the SWLBA and the SWWD. Earlier this year, the two divisions created a Joint Working Group on Consolidation of the two divisions. The Group has spent numerous hours working on how the two divisions could consolidate, if we were to consolidate. The Group's documents are available for review at this time. <http://www.lawnbowlingworld.com/>

What happened:

The Southwest is the only division in Bowls USA that has separate divisions for men and women. All of our clubs are comprised of both men and women.

For many years the women's division (SWWD) and the Men's division (SWLBA) have been discussing whether there could be and should be a consolidation of these groups. Toward answering that question the two groups assembled the Joint Working Group on Consolidation. This Group first looked at the question of whether the differences in operation between the two groups could be overcome. The Group had numerous and long discussions, leading to the preparation of new By-Laws, Tournament Committee Book, etc.

Evaluation:

Once it became obvious that a consolidation *could* occur successfully, the question was then whether it *should* occur. After a review of this information, and discussing the advantages/potential disadvantages, all members of the Group determined a consolidation is not only the best option, it is necessary. The Group prepared a "White Paper" report, which outlines the need and advantages to SouthWest bowlers if/when the SWWD and the SWLBA consolidate

The Vote:

Both the SWWD and the SWLBA are now asking its members to approve this consolidation. Votes from both entities should be completed on or before September 26th of this year. Each divisions voting representatives will be voting separately. The reason for the September 26 vote is to give time to create and build the structure of the new SWD. The new SWD would be effective at the AGM in January 2021. Elections for officers of the new SWD would be held at that time.

All members of the divisions are invited to view the results of the Group's work. The Group has posted its White Paper and all of the proposed operating documents online. You may find all of this material at <http://www.lawnbowlingworld.com/>

We invite you to view all of these documents. We ask that you direct your club voting representatives to vote in favor of the consolidation plan.

Please email your thoughts, comments, or suggestions to either:

-Howard Harris (President Men's Division) to president@swlawnbowls.org or 619.630.5296

-Linda Roberts (President Women's Division) to LindaPretzelRoberts@gmail.com, or 949-677-6528.