

COMPETITION BYE-LAWS

1. CONDITIONS

Except where varied by these Bye-laws the Laws of Bowls England shall apply to the competitions

2. COMPETITIONS

The Association competitions shall consist of the following

- a. **The Leagues**
- b. **Singles Championship** - Four bowls each player; the game shall be won by the first player to score twenty-one shots
- c. **Under 25's Singes Championship** - Four bowls each player; the game shall be won by the first player to score twenty-one shots. Open to all players who have not attained their twenty fifth birthday on the 1st April in the year of the competition
- d. **Pairs Championship** – Four bowls each player; the score at twenty-one ends shall decide the winners
- e. **Triples Championship** – Three bowls each player; the score at eighteen ends shall decide the winners
- f. **Fours Championship** – Two bowls each player; the score at twenty-one ends shall decide the winners
- g. **Secretaries Singles** - Four bowls each player; the game shall be won by the first player to score twenty-one shots. Open to all Club Secretaries, Assistant, Men, Match and Competition Secretaries but restricted to one entrant per club. The Association Secretaries Singles winner from the previous season may be entered as of right provided that he is no longer of the Officers as above. The Association Secretaries may enter as of right
- h. **Champion of Champions Singles** - Four bowls each player; the game shall be won by the first player to score twenty-one shots. Open to the winner of the men's singles competition of the club of the previous season. Rule 3(a) applies

The Association Champion of Champions and the winner of the Association Singles from the previous season may be entered as of right. Should a club cease to exist prior to the entry date, the Singles Champion shall be eligible for next season to enter the Champion of Champions under the name of the previous club

- i. **Two Wood Triples** – Two bowls each player; the score at twenty-one ends shall decide the winners
- j. **The Coventry Cup** – A two rinks team match, one entry each club. The higher aggregate shots of a team shall decide the winners
- k. **The Gwyn Guy Cup** – A six rinks team match played against other Associations. For administration see Constitution, paragraph 7.1(b)
- l. **The County Cup** – A six rinks team match played between players of the Association's affiliated clubs resident in Surrey against the players of the Association's affiliated clubs resident in Hampshire. For administration see Constitution, paragraph 7.1(b)

3. ELIGIBILITY

- a. Players shall be members of affiliated clubs but only enter Association competitions from one club
- b. Club secretaries shall supply, by the date advised by the Competition Secretary, a list of the members of their club who desire to enter the competitions (other than the leagues) showing their names, addresses and telephone numbers, together with the appropriate fees
- c. The Competition Secretary shall advise the date of, and arrange for, the draw of all competitions (other than leagues) to take place at an open meeting. The result of the draw shall be circulated to all clubs. A list of competitors who are to be contacted together with their telephone number shall also be circulated
- d. The Competition finals (with the exception of the Coventry Cup) shall, where possible, be held on one day, the date to be promulgated with the issue of the competition entry forms

4. DRAW, CHALLENGERS AND OPPONENTS

- a. The first named in any competition is the Challenger who will, except for the semi-final, have the choice of green and rink and in the case of Singles shall provide a marker. The Challenger shall, except in the semi-final, not later than two days after the commencement of the round (or in the case of the preliminary round, fourteen days prior to the completion date for that round), provide his opponent with three dates and times for that round to be played. At least two dates shall be a weekday (but not a Tuesday where a league match is involved) and at least two times being not earlier than 6.00pm. Failure to do so shall result in the opponent taking the rights and duties of the Challenger. The opponent shall, within three days of receipt of the challenge, reply accepting one of the dates offered. Where a Challenger has been unable to contact an opponent within the two days, he shall immediately inform the Competition Secretary. No challenger shall offer Sundays, Bank Holidays, Aldershot and District League or Coventry Cup evenings but the game may be played on these days with mutual

consent. If either challenger or opponent fails to comply, he shall be struck from the competition upon successful application of the opposing competitor, and, failing such application before the last date of the period of the round, both competitors shall be struck from the competition

- b. The result of all ties in competitions is to be communicated to the Competition Secretary immediately after the game if possible and in any case within twenty four hours. The scorecard or scanned copy is to be sent by post or email to the Competition Secretary to arrive within three days of the tie being played and the onus is on the winner(s). The scorecard must bear the name(s) and initials of those taking part and signed by either players or skips. Skips are reminded that they are certifying not only the accuracy of the score but also the names of those taking part. Failure to comply with these Bye-laws may result in the defaulting player(s) or team(s) being struck from the competition
- c. When a competition cannot be played or has been abandoned because of inclement weather, Bowls England Laws shall apply. The Competition Secretary shall be immediately advised of a revised date. In inclement weather the Competition Secretary shall have the authority to extend the end date of a round
- d. Dress for all competitions – white or approved coloured shirts (in accordance with Bowls England and County guidelines) with grey trousers, except for the Semi-finals and Finals for which white trousers shall be worn
- e. The Semi-finals and Finals shall be played on greens selected by the Competition Secretary who shall, as far as possible, avoid playing matches on player's home greens. Markers and Umpires shall be provided by the Association. The Semi-finals of each competition shall, where possible, each be played on one day as advised by the Competition Secretary when circulating the result of the draws
- f. Constitution and Substitutes:
 - (i) In the Pairs, Triples or Fours and Two Wood Triples the players taking part in the first game of the respective competition shall constitute 'the team' for the remainder of the competition
 - (ii) Any player included in the original entry, but not taking part, shall not play in any other entry in that competition
 - (iii) One additional player, the same player, may be used as a substitute provided that he has not played or been included in any other entry in the same competition
 - (iv) A substitute may play in any position (other than substitutes under WBB Laws)
- g. When a result of Pairs, triples or Fours is a tie, another end shall be played
- h. Coventry Cup: Before commencing the games, the Captains shall draw to decide which one of the rinks will play an extra end should the scores be level after twenty-one ends

5. LEAGUE RULES

- a. League games shall be played with club teams of three rinks in divisions as required by the number of teams entered. The divisions shall be titled The Premier and Divisions 1, 2, 3 etc.
- b. An application to enter a team shall be made to the League Secretary for inclusion in the business of the Executive Council
- c. The league shall be played on Tuesday evenings or other evenings as deemed necessary by the League Secretary. Where possible each team shall play the other teams in its division once at home and once away. The games shall start at the stipulated times. Players shall not be permitted to join the game once two ends have been played. A rink playing one short shall lose one quarter of the shots scored, however fractions shall be taken into account to determine points obtained or shots difference. The Lead and Two shall play with three bowls after the first two ends
- d. One point shall be awarded to a winning rink and two points for the higher aggregate of shots scored, when the total score of a rink or the aggregate of shots scored is tied the points shall be halved. When a team fails to turn out or fails field three rinks, five points and fifteen shots shall be awarded to their opponents. A team playing with only three players on one or more rinks shall be deemed to have played three rinks
- e. League positions shall be calculated on the basis of points gained, in the event of two or more teams being equal, the team with the better shot differences between shots won and lost shall take the higher place. If a game has not been played and other provisions of this bye-law do not apply and the League Secretary determines that one of the teams is at fault, five points and fifteen shots shall be awarded to their opponents. If, in the opinion of the League Secretary, both teams are at fault, no points or shots shall be awarded
- f. The League Secretary shall be immediately advised by telephone of the result of a match. All teams, both home and away, shall send to the League Secretary, completed result cards signed by both team captains, to arrive no later than seven days after the commencement of any League game. Any team defaulting on the seven day rule shall have the game recorded but shall forfeit both points and shots in their favour
- g. In the event of a match being postponed or abandoned due to inclement weather the League Secretary shall be immediately informed by the two captains who shall, within seven days, arrange and inform the League Secretary of the new date for the match to be played. This date shall be on a date before the scheduled end of the

league season, only in matches postponed in the final two weeks of the league season shall the League Secretary be empowered to extend the league season by a maximum of one week. In the case of an abandoned match, where original players are not available, clubs may apply to the Emergency Committee for dispensation to play more than one named substitute per rink, but players may not be moved between rinks. Score cards to be forwarded to the League Secretary

Note – A game is declared abandoned where one or more ends have been completed across all rinks, uncompleted ends shall be void. The same players must play in the same position, however should not all players be available, one substitute will be permitted per rink. The substitute will not be permitted to play in the position of Skip; an original player can take over this position with the substitute playing in his position

- h. The results of any matches played by a team who withdraw from the league shall be void. The results of any matches played by a team, who still have two matches not played at the end of the season, shall also be void. Any team with a void score shall seek readmission to the league through the Executive Council
- j. A fee as approved by the Annual General Meeting shall be forfeit from any club failing to field a league team without due cause
- k. A fee as approved by the Annual General Meeting, and notified to clubs prior to the start of the league season, shall be forfeit from any club that withdraws a league team after the AGM and prior to the last match of the following season