

## LEAGUE AND COMPETITION RULES

The Competitions shall be played according to Bowls England Rules and shall be under the management of the Executive Committee. This Committee shall determine all questions and disputes that may arise.

### THE LEAGUE

1. League competition is open to all affiliated Clubs. Clubs shall apply every second year to be included in the league, and an entry fee shall be paid annually.
2. The league is divided into two sections. In both sections, each club shall play the others. In alternate years, a draw shall be made to determine the League programme. The next year the same programme shall apply with the venues reversed.
3. A league match will be played by four players on each side and shall consist of 18 ends. A Win shall count two points and a Draw one point to each side. Should more than one Club in the same section have an equal number of points at the end of the programme, the Club with the greatest difference of Shots shall be the winner of the section. Within this competition no player can play for two different clubs.
4. The Secretary of the Club must notify the Competitions Secretary of the Association of the result of the match within 24 hours of play.
5. Any League match that cannot be played or completed owing to bad weather shall be played at a future date to be mutually arranged by the Clubs concerned. Any unfinished games shall be resumed with the scores as they were when the game was stopped. They must then be played to a finish. Two trial ends are allowed on the resumption of an unfinished game. All leagues shall be completed by **15<sup>th</sup> August**.
6. It is hoped that clubs will co-operate with each other but any club which cannot field a team on the date agreed for the match and where an alternative date cannot be found, shall forfeit the game and lose 1 point from their existing total. The opponents will receive 2 points and 7 shots. If the offence is repeated by the same club the following year, then that club shall not be entered in the next league draw.
7. The games will be played in Club colours or Greys whether combined with a friendly or not.

### COMPETITIONS

1. The first named player in the Competition draw shall be the Challenger and the players in the first match shall constitute the team. The Challenger shall offer her Opponent the choice of THREE dates for play. If Dates offered are National or County Competition fixed dates and the opponent is still involved in the competition the date(s) can be refused and the challenger must offer alternative dates.

It is not acceptable to offer the President any dates which coincide with either Association matches or President's Invitation Matches. Within these competitions no player may enter for more than one club in the W D L B A.

If a challenge has not been made within the specified period, the opponent shall become the Challenger (notifying the Competition Secretary or match officer beforehand) and must make all match arrangements including the offering of dates & choice of venue.

The person reporting in second, whether challenger or opponent, must contact their opposition within **48** hours of reporting the result to the Competitions Secretary. **The Challenger shall offer their opponent within 48 hours of the closing date of the previous round at least 3 dates, one of which shall be a Saturday or Sunday. The dates must fall within the window of the round or can be played earlier if mutually agreed. The start time for any match shall be set by the Challenger when the dates are offered, but no player/team/side shall be compelled to accept a time earlier than 6pm Mon-Fri or 9:30am Sat or Sunday or after 6:30pm on any day.** The Opponent teams/sides, shall within 48 hours of receipt of the challenge, reply and accept one of the dates offered.

If a challenge has not been made within the specified period, the opponent shall become the Challenger (notifying the Competition Secretary beforehand) and must make all match arrangements including the offering of dates & choice of venue.

Dates given and agreed must be adhered to, unless both parties agree to change. If two teams disagree on the date arranged and cannot re-arrange the game by the end of the Round **BOTH TEAMS** will be disqualified. If the Challenger's green is unfit for play, or otherwise not available for Competition, she has the choice of playing on a Neutral Green or on the Opponents Green. The Competition Secretary must be notified. At her discretion, and **only with prior permission**, if due to inclement weather conditions competitions cannot be played by the close of the 'by-date' the Competition Secretary may allow 48 hours extension. No person entered as a member of a Team when the draw takes place may play for, or act as a Substitute for any other Team during that season.

All games shall be played **NOT LATER THAN THE CLOSING DATE OF EACH ROUND**. Failure to play by the due date will incur disqualification for both players unless one has contacted the Competition Secretary to report a problem.

2. Entries for the Officer's Singles shall be confined to the Officers of the Association, the President/Chairperson, the Captain, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the affiliated Clubs who were in office for the season just ended (e.g., as Champion of Champions competition)

3. No member shall enter Competitions from more than ONE Club in any one season.

4. The winner in the Singles and the winning skip in Pairs and Triples are responsible for telephoning or emailing the result of their game to the nominated Officer **WITHIN 24 HOURS OF PLAY**. Any Competitor who is given a walkover shall report that result to the nominated Officer. Results of games PLAYED ON THE 'BY-DATE' MUST BE REPORTED ON THAT DAY, or for an evening game, before 10.00am the following morning.

The score cards shall be signed by both skips and kept safely for reference, if required.

12. Semi Finals and Finals of all Competitions shall be arranged by the Executive Committee. An entrance fee shall be paid for all competitions.