



BOWLS SURREY COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

A GENERAL

These Rules and Regulations apply to both SCWBA and SCBA unless otherwise stated.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply in this document where in *italics*

<i>Singles</i> means:	Unbadged and Badged Singles Championships/Competitions and Junior Singles
<i>Pairs</i> means:	Pairs and Under 25 Pairs Championships
<i>Fours</i> means:	Fours and Senior Fours Championships
<i>Challenger</i> means:	the first-named person/team in the draw.

Following the area changes, any further permanent movement of clubs to another Area and/or Division must have the agreement of both Associations.

The Competition Secretaries for both Associations may move clubs from one division and/or area to another division and/or area to balance the number of entries in any competition.

1. CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1.1. All County Championships shall be played in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls and in accordance with these Rules as made by Bowls Surrey, the SCWBA Executive Committee or SCBA Council as appropriate.
- 1.2. In addition, County Championships leading to National Championships shall be played in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of Bowls England.
- 1.3. The following Championships lead to National Championships:
Four Wood Singles, Two Wood Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours, Junior Singles, Junior Pairs and Senior Fours.
- 1.4. In Pairs, Triples, Fours and Senior Fours Championships, all playing members must be of the same affiliated club. In the Junior Pairs both players must be affiliated to clubs affiliated to Bowls Surrey.
- 1.5. The dates of all rounds of the County Championships for both Associations shall be arranged by the relevant Association in consultation with the Competition Secretaries and shall be published annually in the County Year Book and on the County Websites. The draws for the competitions shall be published by both Associations on the websites but only for SCWBA in the Year Book. In addition, the location and time for the rounds of the Quarter-Finals, Semi-finals and Final of all such Championships, and for the earlier rounds of the Two-Wood Singles Championship, where more than one round is required to be played on a given day, shall similarly be decided and published.
- 1.6. All County Competitions that have a "play-on" date, rounds prior to the Quarter-Finals shall be played by the dates specified in the County Year Books and on the County websites on the green of the *challenger's* choice.
- 1.7. For County Competitions that have a "play-by" date, In the first or preliminary rounds the *Challenger*, shall contact their opponent within 2 weeks of receipt of the draw. The opponent shall respond to the *challenger* within 48 hours. In subsequent rounds, prior to the Quarter final, the *challenger* must contact the opponent within 48 hours of receipt of the draw.
- 1.8. The *challenger* shall be responsible for all match arrangements. All County Competitions shall be played with a start time no earlier than 6pm, A game may be started earlier by mutual agreement. In the absence of mutual agreement, the start time of no earlier than 6pm shall be adhered to.
- 1.9. If any player knows they are going on holiday they must contact their opponent at the earliest opportunity, whether they are the *challenger* or not, in order that every effort to arrange the game is made.

BOWLS SURREY COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1.10. The draw for rink/s to be played on shall be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport (Law 3.1). For a match requiring one rink, a minimum of two rinks shall be offered to the opponent. For a match requiring more than one rink, the minimum number of rinks offered shall be at least equal to the number of rinks required.
- 1.11. The EBUA County Co-ordinator shall appoint an umpire to take charge of each quarter-final, semi-final and final. Markers shall be appointed by the appropriate association.
- 1.12. Any player who has been awarded a county badge by any other county can play for their Surrey badge in all Surrey Championships and Competitions.
- 1.13. Those players reaching the finals of competitions leading to the National Championships MUST BE PREPARED to represent the County at Leamington. The National Championships are normally held during the four weeks of August (Week Nos. 31-35). (This is subject to change by Bowls England)

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1. The County Championships shall be confined to members of clubs affiliated to Bowls Surrey.
- 2.2. All entries shall be made on the appropriate form supplied by the Secretary and must reach the Bowls Surrey Treasurer with the appropriate fees on or before the due date each year.
- 2.3. Competitors may not enter any County Championship from more than one club in any one year. Should a club close after the entry date, the members may be permitted, for one season only, to compete under the name of the club irrespective of which club they have since joined.
- 2.4. In the event of club closure, the champion of that club may play under the name of that closed club for one season only in the Champion of Champions competition.
- 2.5. If a competitor chooses to change Clubs after the entries have been made, and that move is to a different Area or Division of Area that competitor will forfeit their entry into that competition.
- 2.6. It is the responsibility of all competitors immediately to notify their Club Secretary and a Competition Secretary of any change of contact details. Failure to notify can result in the competitor's entry being terminated.

3. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

- 3.1. The winner of each round shall either enter their result on line or telephone the result to the relevant Competition Secretary immediately after the game and no later than 10 p.m. on the day the tie is played, giving the score.
- 3.2. The names of the players playing in their first game shall be communicated to the Competition Secretary in the case of *Pairs, Triples, and Fours* either on line or by telephone.
- 3.3. A team giving a walk-over must notify the relevant Competition Secretary. The team receiving the walkover must also inform the Competition Secretary of the names of the full team.
- 3.4. A team must indicate either online or to a competition Secretary, if a substitute has been used.
- 3.5. All scorecards should be kept and, if requested, presented at the Quarter finals. Scorecards must bear correctly, the full names of all the competitors concerned and shall be signed by the loser or losing skip.
- 3.6. Failure to observe these clauses, may result in the competitor(s) being disqualified.

4. CONCEDED A GAME

- 4.1. Singles of any kind: if a player knows at the outset that they will be unable to play in any later round, or, where relevant, at the National Championships, they are REQUIRED TO CONCEDE THE FIRST game to their opponent. If, at a later date, a player becomes aware that they cannot play in a later round or, where relevant, at the National Championships they MUST CONCEDE THE NEXT game to the opponent. Failure to do so shall result in immediate disqualification. Such failure may also render the offender liable to exclusion from all County Competitions and Championships in the following season at the Executive's (SCWBA) or Council's (SCBA) discretion.
- 4.2. *Pairs, Triples, Fours*: Prior to the commencement of the Quarter-Final round of the competitions, teams will be asked to confirm their availability to play in succeeding rounds and the National

BOWLS SURREY COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

Championships. If it is known that the team (including 1 substitute) cannot play in any future round they are required to concede the Quarter-Final game to the opponents.

5. SUBSTITUTION

- 5.1. In *Pairs, Triples, and Fours*, the players taking part in the first game shall constitute the team.
- 5.2. The named entrant conceding a walkover before their first game in any Championship cannot act as a substitute in the same Championship as this is considered a game played and lost.
- 5.3. One additional and the same player may be used as a substitute at any time provided they have not already played in that championship. They may play in any position.
- 5.4. In exceptional circumstances, the team may request the use of an additional player. Such a request must be made immediately to the County Secretary or Competition Secretary.

6. EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES/ADVERSE TRAFFIC AND WEATHER CONDITONS

- 6.1. If accident(s) roadworks or other situations beyond the competitor's ability to control, result in traffic gridlock over an area beyond the immediate neighbourhood, i.e. precluding alternative routes, every effort shall be made by all competitors concerned to allow the game to take place, irrespective of the original starting time arranged. Should these efforts be frustrated, neither side may claim the game and the Competition Secretary shall be informed of the position as soon as possible. The Competition Secretary shall make alternative arrangements.
- 6.2. If bad weather results in the green becoming unplayable, every endeavour must be made to find another green on which to play. If this is not possible every effort must be made to play the tie as soon as possible and before the date of the next round.
- 6.3. The relevant Competition Secretary shall be informed as soon as possible if such a stoppage prevents a match from being played or completed by or on the specified date.
- 6.4. For unfinished matches where five ends or more have been played, and where it is impossible to re-arrange a match, the score will stand as the result. If the score is a tie or fewer than five ends have been completed, then the result shall be decided on the toss of a coin, or by mutual agreement.
- 6.5. Where the match can be re-arranged the game shall be played from where it was left off.
- 6.6. It is hoped that every game can be played but it is recognised there are some instances where a player is excessively late in arriving. The non-offending player may claim the game after waiting 30 minutes from the agreed start time. However, we would like to think the non-offending player would give consideration to the circumstances.

7. GREENS

- 7.1. Ties shall be played only upon greens with a suitable playing surface which shall be level and of at least 31metres in length, exclusive of banks and ditches. The Council/ Executive Committee shall have power to inspect any green to ensure suitability.
- 7.2. Where the green chosen by the challenger, as drawn, does not conform with Rule 7.1, and where the green of the opponent, as drawn, does conform with the said Rule, the tie shall be played on the opponent's green and he/she shall become the challenger, for the purpose of the tie.
- 7.3. Where the greens of both competitors do not conform with Rule 7.1, the tie shall be played on a neutral green by mutual arrangement.
- 7.4. Outdoor synthetic surfaces are acceptable.
- 7.5. All protests about the condition and fitness of a green must be made before the commencement of the sixth end of a tie. The playing of the tie must cease and the nearest Green Ranger contacted immediately either directly by telephone or through the appropriate Competition Secretary. The Guidelines for Greens Rangers (Appendix A) will come into operation to determine the outcome.
- 7.6. Competitors may not smoke on or within 1 metre of the green whilst playing a County Championship or Competition. (This includes electronic cigarettes).
- 7.7. Mobile phones MUST be switched off during play and should not be taken on the green.
- 7.8. (SCWBA ONLY) Each Competitor is responsible for paying her own green fees, if required.

BOWLS SURREY COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

8. AREAS AND DIVISIONS

- 8.1. The new area changes shall remain in force for the next three years and then be reviewed by Bowls Surrey;
- 8.2. The areas and divisions are relevant for all competition entries where applicable;
- 8.3. The areas are relevant for all inter county games ie the Walter Cross Trophy and the Phyl Hill Trophy

9. FORMAT FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS/COMPETITIONS

- 9.1. General:
 - 9.1.1. In the case of a tie an extra end or ends shall be played to determine a result. The captains or skips shall toss a coin, the winner having the right to decide who shall play first
 - 9.1.2. On the day of a competition or tie no competitor shall play on the same rink before the commencement of such competition or tie.
 - 9.1.3. For all competitions, an entrance fee shall be paid by each entrant (with the exception of the Officers' Bowl (SCBA) Officers' Cup (SCWBA))
- 9.2. **Championship Singles.** Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player.
- 9.3. **Championship Pairs** (Two players from the same club). Each game shall consist of 21 ends – four bowls each player.
- 9.4. **Championship Triples** (Three players from the same club). Each game shall consist of 18 ends – three bowls each player.
- 9.5. **Championship Fours** (Four players from the same club). Each game shall consist of 21 ends – two bowls each player.
- 9.6. **Championship Two-Wood Singles.** Each game shall consist of 21 ends – two bowls each player.

In relation to the above Championships, the finalists qualify to represent the County at the National Championships. Should the number of entries from Surrey in any discipline, exceed the number stipulated by Bowls England, a third place player or team shall also qualify to represent the County in that discipline at the National Championships. In that event, the losing semi-finalists shall play against one another to determine who shall qualify.

- 9.7. **Championship Senior Fours** (Four players from the same club). Players shall be 55 years and over on the 1st April of the year of the competition. Each game shall consist of 18 ends – two bowls each player. The winners qualify to represent the County at the National Championships.
- 9.8. **Championship Junior Singles.** Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player. The Championships shall be open to all Members of affiliated Clubs who have not attained their 25th birthday on the 1st April in the year of the Championship. The finalists qualify to represent the County at the National Championships;
- 9.9. **Championship Junior Pairs.** Each game shall consist of 18 ends – **three bowls each player.** The Championships shall be open to all Members of affiliated Clubs who have not attained their 25th birthday on the 1st April in the year of the Championship. The two players may belong to separate clubs within the County as long as both players are members of affiliated clubs. The winners qualify to represent the County at the National Championships.
- 9.10. **Champion of Champions.** Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player. The competition is open to the club champions of the immediate past season who continue as members of the club of which they are champions. Should the club of which the competitor is the current champion cease to exist, the member may be permitted, to compete under the name of that club irrespective of which club or clubs they have joined. However, the player must be a member of an affiliated club and play all County Championships and Competitions from that club.

N.B. Competitors in this competition do **NOT** qualify for the National Championships

- 9.11. **Unbadged Singles.** Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player. Only players who have not previously qualified to play for their County Badge are eligible to enter this Competition. N.B. Finalists in this competition do NOT qualify for the National Championships
- 9.12. **Officer's Singles Competition** (Officer's Cup (SCWBA) , Officer's Bowl (SCBA)). Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player. Only County Secretaries (Secretaries, Match, and Competition Secretaries and Delegates), Club Presidents/Chairperson, Club Secretaries, Treasurers and Match Secretaries may enter this competition. N.B Competitors in this competition do NOT qualify for the National Championships
- 9.13. The Following Competitions are for SCWBA members only.

BOWLS SURREY COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 9.13.1. **Benevolent Triples.** (Three players from the same county.) Each game shall consist of 15 ends – two bowls each player. Although at County level the competition is played on a knockout basis, ALL 15 ENDS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES. Even if a team can no longer win a game, all 15 ends MUST be played. Teams refusing to play all 15 ends may be liable to an official warning or disqualification. Failure to complete all 15 ends may also render the offenders liable to exclusion from all County Competitions and Championships in the following season at the Executive's discretion.
- 9.13.2. **Palm Trophy.** This is a singles Competition open to all Members of affiliated clubs who have not attained their 31st birthday on the 1st April in the year of the competition. Depending on the number of entries there shall be two groups of players; competitors shall play each other within their drawn group. A point shall be awarded for every end that is won, 10 points for a win and 5 points for a draw. The winners of each group shall play the runners up of the other group. The two winners shall then play each other in a final. All games shall consist of 11 ends with 2 trial ends using only 2 bowls up to the Final. The two winners shall then play each other in a final to be played on Finals Day and shall consist of 15 ends.

10. DRESS CODE

10.1. SCBA only

- 10.1.1. **Dress** for quarter finals and beyond will be white or properly authorised Club coloured shirts above and white trousers or Bowls England regulation white shorts, with flat soled bowling shoes. Bowls England have rules that "tracksuit type trousers" are not acceptable mode of dress for these competitions. Club coloured shirts, if worn on the green should be replaced in the Clubhouse afterward.
- 10.1.2. **Coloured** shirts, pullovers, cardigans and waterproofs may be worn by Club players provided that the County has given approval for coloured shirts to be worn by the members of Clubs under its jurisdiction and that the design and colour of the shirts have been registered by the Club with, and approved by, the County. It is a requirement that if coloured shirts are to be worn the same coloured shirt must be worn by all members of the team or side, or not worn by any members.
- 10.1.3. **From** the County Championship quarter final stage onwards, the County Association dress code will apply. However, in doing so, consideration will be given to BE Regulation 50 Appendix A

10.2. SCWBA only

- 10.2.1. Dress for the Two Wood Day, quarter finals, semi-finals and finals of the County Competition, Benevolent Two Wood Triples and President's Day shall be white/cream tailored trousers, tailored crops, skirt, culottes or Bowls England regulation white shorts, shall be worn, flat soled bowling shoes . NB: All members of a team must wear the same shirt, the design of which must be registered with Bowls Surrey.
- 10.2.2. Tights/Stockings are optional at all times. If worn they should be shades of brown and not knee length. White socks may only be worn with full-length trousers. Ankle socks should not be worn; "footsies" worn with skirts or crops should be inconspicuous.
- 10.2.3. Hats are optional at all times but if worn they must be white. Baseball caps (White or County) may be worn but the correct way round.
- 10.2.4. Earrings, if worn, shall be small studs
- 10.2.5. White waterproof clothing may be used, or, providing all members of a team wear the same, registered Club coloured waterproof/fleeces are permitted.
- 10.2.6. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel may be worn provided that all members of a team wear the same colour above and/or below the waist.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE COMPETITION RULES WILL RESULT IN THE DEFAULTING COMPETITOR OR TEAM BEING SCRATCHED. WHILST THE LAWS OF THE SPORT HAVE BEEN DEvised OVER THE YEARS TO COVER EVERY EVENTUALITY, THERE ARE OCCASIONS WHEN INCIDENTS OCCUR NOT COVERED BY ANY PARTICULAR RULE. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IT MUST BE LEFT TO THE SPORTSMANSHIP OF THE PLAYERS INVOLVED TO RESOLVE ANY DIFFICULT SITUATIONS.

BOWLS SURREY COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

B BOWLS SURREY MIXED COMPETITIONS ONLY

1. Mixed Pairs shall be played on a drawn rink over 21 ends plus two trial ends. 4 woods per player.
2. Mixed Fours shall be played on a drawn rink over 21 ends plus two trial ends. 2 woods per player:
3. Mixed Pairs shall have one player of each gender; Mixed Fours shall consist of two players of each gender.
4. Team members must be from the same affiliated club.
5. All entries shall be made via the affiliation system. Entries must reach their Club Secretary by the due date with the appropriate fee.
6. All players taking part in the first game shall constitute the team.
7. **Substitution:**
 - **Mixed Pairs**
 - Only one substitution can be used throughout the competition. They can only replace a player of the same gender.
 - **Mixed Fours**
 - Only one substitution may be used throughout the competition. The substitute can only replace a player of the same gender. Once that substitution has been made no other substitute will be allowed.
8. The first drawn name is the Challenger and the second name is the Opponent;
9. In the first round the Challenger shall contact their opponent within 7 days of the draw being announced.
 - The Challenger must offer 3 dates on different days of the week. One **must** be a weekend.
 - The opponent must accept one of the dates within 48 hours of the challenge.
 - In subsequent rounds, prior to the semi-final, the Challenger must contact the opponent within 48 hours of the previous round. If the Opponent has not been challenged at least 10 days before the play by date, they become the Challenger.
 - The original Challenger **must be challenged** within 7 days of the play by date and offered one date to play the match on the new challengers' green.
 - Should there be any problems contacting an opponent, the Bowls Surrey Mixed Competition Secretaries must be advised.
10. All matches shall be played either on weekdays in the evenings with a start time no earlier than 6pm or at weekends. For weekday games an earlier start may be arranged by mutual agreement between competitors but in the absence of mutual agreement, the start time of no earlier than 6pm shall be adhered to.
11. The draw for rink/s to be played on shall be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport (Law 3.1). See Bowls Surrey Rule 1.10.
12. For exceptional circumstances and weather conditions, refer to Rule 6 of Bowls Surrey Rules and Regulations.
13. No extension of the "play by date" for a round will be allowed.
14. All rounds up to the semi-final shall be played on the Challenger's green.
15. The semi-finals are to be played on a neutral green arranged by the Challenger and agreed by the Opponent.
 - The green must be at a Bowls Surrey affiliated club;
 - It is the Challenger's duty to find out if green fees are payable to the host club before the green is booked;
 - If the competitors cannot agree a neutral green, it will be decided by the Bowls Surrey Mixed Competition Secretaries;
16. Finalists can wear coloured shirts trousers, pullovers, cardigans and/or jackets, in club colours for Finals Day, provision the apparel has been registered with Bowls Surrey. If coloured club clothing is worn, all members of the team or side must wear the same colour and design. If this is not possible all the members of the team must wear white.
17. Any competitor unable to field a team in the next round or attend Finals Day **must** give a walkover as early possible.

BOWLS SURREY COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

18. Results shall be entered via the online system or by telephoning the Bowls Surrey Mixed Competition Secretaries on the day of the match, but no later than 10pm or by email within 24 hours
19. A trophy will be awarded to the winning team but no County badge or points will be awarded.
20. **The decision of the Bowls Surrey Mixed Competition Secretaries on any matter is final.**

BOWLS SURREY COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

C APPENDIX A

Guidelines for Green Rangers on receipt of a complaint of an unfit rink

These guidelines are solely concerned with a tie in progress.

Under Rule 7.5 of the Competition Rules Policy

All protests about the condition and fitness of a green must be made before the commencement of the sixth end of a tie. The playing of the tie must cease and the nearest Green Ranger contacted immediately, either directly by phone or through the appropriate Hon. Competition Secretary. The Green Ranger will inspect the green within 24 hours. If the Green Ranger certifies that the green is unfit for play the home club will be informed immediately and arrangements will be made for the tie to be played on the opponent's green at the discretion of the Competition Secretary. Should the Green Ranger certify the green fit to play, the tie must be resumed from the point it ceased. Should play continue other than on the original day, trial ends will be permitted. The decision of the Green Ranger relating to all protests under this rule shall be final and binding on all competitors concerned.

Actions to be taken by the attending Ranger

1. On receiving a complaint either directly from a player or the Area Competition Secretary the Ranger must attend the venue as soon as possible or if unable to attend arrange for a replacement to attend.
2. The Ranger shall familiarise himself with the details of the complaint and after visually assessing the rink, bowl to a short, medium and long jack on both hands.
3. He should note the consistency of the draw or lack thereof, at least two bowls on each hand to the stated lengths shall be bowled.
4. If in the opinion of the Ranger the rink is of a standard to permit fair competition, play will continue as dictated in the rule (see above). The matter will then be closed: no appeal will be allowed.
5. If the opinion is that the rink is not fit, the rules in 7.5 (see above) will operate.
6. If the tie cannot be decided as set out above, then arrangements must be made for the tie to be completed before the date of the following round.