



COMPETITION BYLAWS – 2023 (BE 15 Nov 21)

Championship Competitions formats according to the 2022 Bowls England Summary issued 15/11/21.

Singles (Inc Junior):	4 Bowls each	21 Shots	2 Bowls each	21 Ends
Pairs (Inc Junior):	4 Bowls each	18 Ends		
Triples	3 Bowls each	18 Ends		
Fours/Snr Fours	2 Bowls each	18 Ends		

1.
 - A). The competitions shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Hertfordshire Bowls who have paid their subscriptions.
 - B). The entrance fee, payable at time of entry, shall be at such rate determined by Council. Entries on the fully completed official form and signed by the Club Honorary Secretary shall be received by the Honorary Executive Secretary not later than December 31st each year.
 - C). For Junior competitions the Executive Committee may at its discretion allow later entry and payment.
 - D). Entry in the Unbadged Singles competition is open to members who have under 10 points at the date of entry.
 - E). Each competitor shall purchase a current handbook if issued.
2. No restriction shall be placed upon any member playing in more than one competition, but no player shall allow their name to be submitted from more than one club.
3.
 - A). The Competitions shall be played under the WB Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Crystal Mark 4 Issued August 2022) and the Rules of Bowls England (including any limitations as to age, etc.) except where otherwise provided in these rules, and shall be under the management of the Executive Committee.
 - B). The Executive Committee shall delegate to the Hon. Division Secretaries or other designated officer the day to day administration of ties up to semi final stage.
 - C). The Hon. Executive Secretary shall fix the dates for all rounds but reserve the right to make such alteration to published dates as is considered necessary for the purpose of County or National business. Where competition entries are sufficient a second date may be added for play in the first and second rounds.
 - D). All questions or disputes that may arise and which do not come within the scope of the Umpire's duties, shall be determined by the relevant gender Hon. Secretary or Hon. Executive Secretary, whose decision shall be final and binding.
4. For Dress Code for all Competitions refer to Dress Code Bylaws.
5.
 - A). Ties shall be played ON, or by mutual agreement BEFORE, the date shown for each round up to but not including the Quarter Finals.
 - B). The first named shall be the challenger who shall have a choice of green up to the Neutral Green stage. They must contact their opponent to advise venue and agree the time. Failure to do so in accordance with Rule 10 will result in the challenge switching to the opponent who will have the choice of venue and match time. Subject to the stipulations of Bylaw 5E.
 - C). In all Singles competitions, the challenger must appoint a Marker. In the event that they fail to do so, the opponent may claim a "walk over". At Neutral Green stage, the host club shall provide a Marker. For the semi final and final stages, Markers shall be allocated by the Secretariat.
 - D). Where more than one date is shown for a round the challenger shall have choice of date.
 - E). No player shall be compelled to accept a time earlier than 6.00pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am Saturday and Sunday, nor after 6.30pm on any day.
 - F). In the event of the challenger's green not being available or not conforming to the requirements of Bowls England, the game shall be played on the opponent's green. Should neither green be available nor conform to such requirements, the challenger shall have choice of a neutral green in the same area. No game may be postponed to another date without permission of the relevant Hon. Division Secretary in the first instance or another member of the secretariat.
 - G). A tie conceded remains conceded.
6.
 - A). In the Pairs, Triples & Fours competitions, the players taking part in the first game constitute the team. The named entrant is automatically deemed to be a member of the team, and may not play for any other team in the same competition. In exceptional circumstances the named Entrant may be changed subject to County and Bowls England approval.

- B). One additional, and the same, player may be used as a substitute at any time provided that they have not already played in that competition. The substitute may play in any position.
 - C). In Single Handed competitions competitors finding that they cannot play on the designated Quarter Final, Semi Final and Finals dates and time shall immediately withdraw from that competition.
7. A). The last sixteen places shall be allocated to Divisions in proportion to entries.
B). Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Finals will be played on nominated greens.
 8. If a party arrives more than half an hour after the time fixed for the game the other party may claim a “walk over”.
 9. The winners of all competitions shall telephone, text or email their results to the appointed person as shown on the competition draw page by 22.00 hours on the same day as the competition round is played. Where two dates are shown the results should be telephoned in on the second date. If a substitute is used this must be notified at the time of reporting the match result. Failure to comply can result in disqualification.
 10. If a challenge has not been received 48 hours before the appropriate fixed date of the round, the role of challenger moves to the opponent who will have the choice of venue and time subject to the stipulations of Bylaw 5E. It is a requirement of the Bylaw that the relevant Hon Divisional Secretary is informed of the change in venue. Failure of either party to comply with this Bylaw will result in both sides being disqualified.
 11. In case of any disputes, appeals must be made within 24 hours of the game’s completion, accompanied by a clear statement in writing to the relevant Hon. County Secretary, together with evidence if such exists.
 12. In competitions involving ‘by dates’. Two dates must be offered, unless the individual competition rules stipulate otherwise. No fixed County date may be offered if any player is still playing in that competition or International date if the player is representing England.
 13. An allowance at a rate determined by the Executive Committee from time to time, may be paid to those competing in the Bowls England National Championships and having reached the third round, are required to stay overnight to play in that and subsequent stages of the same competition.
 14. A. County Representatives at the Bowls England National Championships for Four & Two Bowls Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours, and Junior Singles will be either the Champions or Finalists and will be determined by Bowls England according to a table of entries per county.
B. The Champion of the Junior Pairs and Senior Fours will represent the County at the National Championships.
 15. The Champions of the Men’s Championship Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours, Two Bowl Singles and Junior Singles shall represent the Association in the Eastern Counties B.A. Championships.
 16. **Two Bowls Day.** Trial ends can be played at the beginning of every game.

Competition Result Reporting.

1. Results must be Telephoned, Text or Emailed before 22.00 hours on the day the match takes place to the named person at the header of each Competition.
2. When reporting results you must state the Competition played, your name, your opponent’s name, the score, team players’ names of both sides and if a substitute is used; their name and who they replaced.
3. Each Team must complete a Match Scorecard which shall be completed with all Players names and signed at the end of the match by the opponents Skip. This scorecard must be retained by the winning team and taken to all subsequent round ties. Not a requirement in Singles Matches.
4. It is up to each team to ensure that the team they are playing against consists of the named players of previous round(s) in accordance with Competition Bylaw 6.
5. Remember, to keep all scorecards in case any member of your team needs to verify their Points for future County play.
6. Please ensure that your contact details in the Competitors Directory are correct, as these, along with any other contact details held, will be used by each Competition controller to make contact.

INCLEMENT WEATHER (BE Regulations Appendix J)

Inclement weather shall mean the existence of rain or abnormal climatic conditions (whether they be those of hail, snow, cold, high wind, extreme high temperature or any combination thereof) by virtue of which it is either not reasonable or possible to play

Unusual situations not covered within the above can often arise. If a situation arises that is not covered by the above, Players, Markers, Umpires and Officials shall use their common sense and a spirit of fair play to decide on the appropriate course of Action.

For fixed / on dates the match should be re-arranged as soon as possible and before the next round date.

Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark 4

32 Game Stoppages

32.1 If a game is stopped because of darkness, weather conditions or any other valid reason by:

32.1.1 the Controlling Body

32.1.2 the Umpire after an appeal has been made by the players

32.1.3 agreement between the players when the above are not present, the game must be continued either on the same day or on a different day. The scores will be as they were when the game was stopped.