

Witham Bowls Club Competition Regulations

It should be appreciated that no set of rules governing a competition has yet achieved such perfection to be able to cope with every situation. This set of rules is no exception. Unusual incidents not provided for in these rules will occur.

These rules have therefore been framed in the hope and belief that true sportsmanship will always prevail. It is hoped that in the absence of any express rule players will find a fair and common sense solution to any given problem.

- 1.1 All competitions shall be played in accordance with the laws of the game, as prescribed by Bowls England.
- 1.2 Competition entries are open to full playing members who have paid their annual subscription by Sunday 17th April 2022.
- 1.3 Control of all competitions shall be in the hands of the club Competition Secretary and the club Bowling Committee.
- 1.4 All disputes between competitors should be referred to the club Competition Secretary, who will consult with the club Bowling Committee where appropriate.
- 2.1 Members must send their competition entry forms to the club Competition Secretary no later than Sunday 17th April 2022.
- 2.2 Club finals will be played on the weekend of 10th-11th September 2022 and members should not enter any competition if they are not available to play on those dates.
- 2.3 The spare finals day will only be used in the event of inclement weather, illness, or if the member is playing in CMBL, NWE, County or National Competitions.
- 2.4 If a competitor is unable to play in the final of any competition for reasons other than those detailed in clause 2.3, then he/she will be replaced by the losing semi-finalist.
- 2.5 Competitors and Markers shall wear grey below the waist and white above the waist. Club shirts are permitted to be worn. Competition finals will be Whites and club shirts.

Witham Bowls Club

Competition Regulations

- 3.1 The draw for competitions will be made by the Competitions Secretary, with a minimum of two club members also present to validate and witness the independence of the draw.
- 3.2 Any competition will only be run if there are enough players to ensure that at least one round is played before the finals. If there are not enough entrants for a competition, that individual competition will not be run.
- 3.3 The first of the two names bracketed together on the draw is the challenger, who must, without delay, arrange with his/her opponent to play the tie in good time – on or before the *'play-by date'*.
- 3.4 The challenger must provide his/her opponent with a choice of at **least three** different dates, one of which must be accepted.
- 3.5 The dates offered by the challenger must include at least two weekdays, and one weekend. Neither player should be compelled to play before 6pm. Players should make **every possible effort** to avoid playing on Friday Club Nights.
- 3.6 When a competitor is likely to be a prospective opponent whilst away on holiday, whether as the challenger or challenged, they should contact and inform all relevant parties of such, before they go away.
- 3.7 If the challenger has failed to challenge his/her opponent, the match will be awarded to the opponent. If the member challenged has failed to accept the challenge, the match will be awarded to the challenger.
- 3.8 County, Group, League and National matches take priority over club competitions – if there is a clash with any of the dates offered by the challenger then an alternative date must be offered.
- 3.9 If a match has not been completed by the *'play by'* date the opponent will usually be awarded a “walk over”. If there is a dispute the Competitions Secretary will make a decision based upon the information provided by the challenger and the opponent.
- 4.1 If there is a dispute as to whether the green is playable or not and both players are unable to agree, the matter should be referred to the Green Manager, or a member of the club Bowling Committee in his absence.
- 4.2 If a player/team fails to appear and be ready to play within 30 minutes after the agreed start time for the tie, the opponent/team may claim a “walk over”.

Witham Bowls Club Competition Regulations

- 4.3 All result cards shall be signed by the losing competitor and passed, by the winning competitor, to the club Competition Secretary.
- 4.4 The winning competitor is responsible for ensuring that the match result, including scores, are correctly recorded on the club competition sheets.
- 4.5 In the event of scores being equal when all rounds have been played, an extra end will be played. The challenger shall toss a coin and the winner of the toss will decide who shall play first.
- 4.6 In the event of adverse weather conditions stopping a match, the scores and number of ends played shall be recorded and agreed by both players. The competitors shall mutually arrange another date for the game to be continued.
- 4.7 The challenger is responsible for supplying a competent Marker for all singles matches up to, and including, the semi-finals. Competent Markers will be appointed for the club finals.
- 4.8 The challenger shall have the choice of rinks and is responsible for ensuring that the match is correctly entered on the rink booking sheet.
- 5.1 In Pairs competitions the players taking part in the first match shall constitute the team and shall normally play together throughout the competition.
- 5.2 At least one of the original pairings must play in each round.
- 5.2 One additional, and the same player, may be used as a substitute at any time provided they have not already played or entered in the same competition. This applies to all rounds up to, and including, the final.
- 5.3 The substitute must be of equal or lower handicap than the original player.
- 5.4 The two Skips shall be the judges of all disputes and where they agree their decision shall be final. If they cannot agree, and an umpire has not been appointed, they must mutually agree a person to act as umpire to resolve the issue.
- 6.1 The Devon Cup (Men's Championship) is open to all male members. Each match shall consist of 21 shots, four bowls each player.
- 6.2 The Scheinberg Cup (Ladies Championship) is open to all female members. Each match shall consist of 21 shots, four bowls each player.

Witham Bowls Club Competition Regulations

- 6.3 The Open Singles Cup (Mixed Singles) is open to all members. Each match shall consist of 21 shots, four bowls each player.
- 6.4 The Collingwood Cup (Mixed Singles) is open to all members who have not previously won any singles title at Witham BC. Each match shall consist of 21 shots, four bowls each player.
- 6.5 The Croxall Cup (Men's Handicap) is open to all male members who are not in their first year of membership. Each match shall consist of 21 shots, four bowls each player.
 - 6.5.1 Both players start the match with zero shots. Player A has a 7 handicap and Player B has a 2 handicap. The difference in handicaps equates to 5. Player A must therefore achieve 21+5 (26 shots) to win and Player B must achieve 21 shots to win.
- 6.6 The Millenium Cup (Mixed Singles) is open to all members. Each match shall consist of 21 ends, two bowls each player.
- 6.7 The Avenue Cup (Men's Pairs) is open to all male members. Each match shall consist of 21 ends, four bowls each player.
 - 6.7.1 Men's Pairs will be selected by the club Bowling Committee.
- 6.8 The Mary Wood Cup (Mixed Pairs) is open to all members. Each match shall consist of 21 ends, four bowls each player.