

# **SOUTHAMPTON & DISTRICT WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION**

## **RULES**

*(including latest tidying up of League section approved at the AGM on 9 November 2018)*

1. The name of the Association shall be the Southampton and District Women's Bowling Association.
2. The object of the Association shall be:-
  - a) To affiliate all Women's Bowling Clubs in Southampton and District within the 'SO' post code subject to the approval of Southampton & District WBA. Members must be affiliated to Bowls Hampshire. The District shall be affiliated to 'Bowls England';
  - b) To hold annual competitions in Singles, Pairs, Triples and Rinks;
  - c) To arrange the Southampton and District Leagues;
  - d) To arrange inter Association Matches;
  - e) To give impetus to the game of bowls.
3. The Association shall be conducted by seven elected Officers, the Past President and one member from each club, called the Council.
4. The Selection Committee shall consist of the Match Secretary, President and at least one other Officer.
5. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held no later than the last week in November and at that meeting the Officers for the ensuing year shall be elected, i.e. President, Vice President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. League Secretary, Hon. Competition Secretary, Hon. Match Secretary and one Hon. Independent Examiner. Nominations for S & D WBA Officer positions must be proposed and seconded by officers of the bowling club from which the nomination is received. When no nominations for Officer positions have been received, if willing, the current Officers may continue in their role without the need to be re-nominated for that year. The retiring President will sit on the Committee as Past President and be Deputy President for the following year. All members of affiliated Clubs may attend the A.G.M., with two elected Delegates from each club with powers to vote.
6. An Extraordinary General Meeting can be called by the Committee at any time or by 25% of the Council Members having voting rights stating the objects thereof with no less than 14 days notice.
7. The Hon. Secretary shall keep records of business transactions at all meetings. The Hon. Treasurer shall record all financial business and shall submit to the A.G.M. an account for the year duly signed by one auditor.
8. The Annual Subscription and League Subscriptions to be announced at the A.G.M., to be paid by the 31<sup>st</sup> of January.
9. Alterations or additions to these Rules shall be made at the A.G.M. All suggested additions or alterations to the Rules must be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary by the 1<sup>st</sup> September. Any resolutions or propositions regarding the Association should be sent to the Hon. Secretary by the 1<sup>st</sup> September.
10. The dress code should conform to the current Bowls England rules with the following additions:
  - (1) District League & Competitions - above the waist, white or cream or garments using registered club colours only if all 8 players are wearing them. Colours must be registered and approved by Bowls Hampshire. White or cream below the waist.
  - (2) For District Representative games – only white or cream tops allowed. Wearing of club blazer is optional.
11. If at an A.G.M. any resolution or proposition is defeated by 75% or more it cannot be submitted again for two years.

## **COMPETITION RULES**

12. Competitions shall be played under the rules as published in the "Laws of the Sport of Bowls".

13. Members may enter District Leagues & Competitions from one and the same Club only. This includes Club Champion.

14. Championships shall consist of:-

- Champion of Champions Singles (4 woods) 21 shots
- Open Singles (Wm. Day) (4 woods) 21 shots
- Championship Pairs 21 ends
- Pairs (Wm. Day) 21 ends
- Triples 18 ends
- Ciss Dyer 2 Wood Triples 18 ends
- Fours 21 ends
- Singles Two Woods 21 ends
- District Club Championship – A team shall consist of 11 players. 5 games shall be played to a conclusion; playing an extra end, if necessary, to decide any drawn game. The 5 games played will consist of fours (2 wood, 21 ends), triples (3 woods, 18 ends), pairs (4 woods, 21 ends), 4 wood singles (21 shots) and 2 wood singles (21 ends). The team winning most games to take the match.

Two trial ends shall be allowed in all matches. In the event of a tie, an extra end shall be played, the Skips to toss. The winner chooses either Jack or last wood.

The decision of the Hon. Competition Secretary is final.

15. District Championship Entries;

- Champion of Champions;
- Championship Pairs is played with the runner up Champion of each club plus a partner, who cannot be the Club Champion;
- For all other Championships any members of the same club may enter;
- No substitutes are allowed for any Singles Matches other than in the District Club Championship. Substitutes are allowed for all other Championships in any position;
- Entries for all the Championships must be sent to the Hon. Competition Secretary by a pre-arranged date, together with the appropriate fees. The draw is to be made by the Hon. Competition Secretary and two other Officers within 14 days of the closing date.

16. The Hon. Competition Secretary to advise entrants of their opponents and the dates by which games must be played. A 30 minute grace shall be given in all games. Results to be advised by dates given. In the event that the Challenger fails to contact the Opponent by eight days before the play by date the Opponent shall become the Challenger with all the benefits. Three dates are to be given, one of which should be an evening or weekend but at least one of those dates must be a morning or afternoon session. Where a fixed date has been set, no competitor shall be compelled to accept a starting time earlier than 6pm or later than 6.30pm. If the Opponent fails to accept any dates given the Challenger will take the match.

All semi-finals in the Southampton & District knockout competitions should be played on a neutral green excluding day competitions.

## **LEAGUE RULES**

17 **Entry**

- 17.1 Clubs may enter teams in the rinks and or the triples leagues but may not have two teams in the triples without at least one team in the rinks. Entries must be made at the time of affiliation (by 14 January).
- 17.2 The fee shall be set at the Association's annual general meeting.

18 **Composition**

Leagues (rinks and/or triples) shall be drawn up by the league secretary each season based on:

- the entries made from affiliated clubs by 14 January;
- the final positions of teams in the previous season having taken into account eligibility for promotion and relegation;
- new teams, including any who left during the season, starting in the lowest division;
- the overall interest of all clubs and league competition. This may mean that some entries may be switched from rinks to triples, or some entries from club(s) with multiple teams are declined.

19 **Schedule of matches**

- 19.1 This will be published by the league secretary no later than the end of February.

- 19.2 All matches shall be scheduled to be played before the end of August.
- 19.3 Matches shall be played on Thursdays at 2pm, unless clubs agree to play on a different date and/or time. Any new arrangement(s) shall be notified without delay to the league secretary by the home club.
- 19.4 No matches shall be conceded without the permission of the league secretary, and only in exceptional circumstances. The opposition shall be awarded 4 points and 10 shots. The offending team shall be placed at the bottom of their division at the end of the season.
- 19.5 All league matches must be played by 14 September.

## **20 Matches**

- 20.1 Teams shall be of 6 players (2 x triples) or 8 players (2 x rinks) playing against drawn opponents. Captains shall toss for the choice of jack or last bowl. They shall be responsible for the good conduct of their players, including dress, stickers on bowls, location of the scorecards during the match and respect for possession of the rink.
- 20.2 There shall be two trial ends, plus 18 ends (triples) or 21 ends (rinks). A result will be achieved if a minimum of 15 ends (triples) or 18 ends (rinks), agreed either in advance or during the course of the match by both team captains, have been completed.
- 20.3 There are two points for an overall win plus one for each winning triple/rink or ½ point for a drawn triple/rink.
- 20.4 The two team captains shall complete, check and sign the scorecards and then the match record at the end of the match. The home team shall be responsible for notifying the result (overall shots and points for each team) to the league secretary by text or email by 7pm on the same day as the match, and sending the match record to the league secretary by email or post within five working days.
- 20.5 Team captains shall retain their scorecards for the whole season in case they need to be scrutinised by the league secretary.

## **21 Players**

### **Registration**

- 21.1 Each team in the league must register at least the minimum number of players for each team (6 for triples, 8 for rinks) for each division plus all reserves with the league secretary by 31 May. Players may be added at any time by text or email to the league secretary but must not play before being registered.
- 21.2 If a team plays an unregistered player the team shall be considered to be incomplete and shots deducted (33% for triples, 25% for rinks) from their scorecard.
- 21.3 If a team plays an unregistered player more than once in a season the team shall be placed at the bottom of their division at the end of the season.

### **Deployment**

- 21.4 Players registered for a rinks team must not play in a triples team, or vice versa. If they do their scorecard will be null.
- 21.5 Players registered for a higher team must not play for a lower team, if they do their scorecard will be null. If a team contravenes rules 21.4 and/or rule 21.5 more than once the team shall be placed at the bottom of their division at the end of the season.
- 21.6 Reserves may play in any team however once they have played three matches:
- in one format (triples or rinks) they are deemed to be registered to that format
  - in the same team they are deemed to be registered in that team.
- 21.7 If they subsequently play in the incorrect format or for a lower team rule 21.6 shall be invoked.

### **Exceptional circumstances**

## **22 Postponements**

- 22.1 Teams may agree to postpone their match, but this should be requested at least 24 hours before the start time of the scheduled match.
- 22.2 A team shall be permitted a postponement without the agreement of the opposition if, on the date when the match was to be played, they have registered players who are
- involved in county or national fixed date competitions, or
  - John's trials, or
  - have at least two registered players who need to attend an extraordinary club event including club tour or funeral.
- 22.3 Within 24 hours a postponement may be called only because of inclement weather or the green deemed unplayable. The use of protective mats is prohibited.

## **23 Playing short**

- 23.1 If a team is incomplete outside the 24 hour deadline for a postponement, the match should still be played. In triples this will be two against three: the incomplete team shall play with four bowls each and in the full team both lead and second shall play with three bowls each, and the skip two bowls. 33% of the number of shots

- will be deducted. In rinks this will be three against four: in the incomplete team the lead and second shall have three bowls each and the skip two bowls. 25% of the number of shots will be deducted.
- 23.2 If a club can field only one team out of the two, three points will automatically be forfeited by the defaulting team and the remaining one point will be awarded on the result of the game on the one match played.
- 23.3 A team is only allowed to play short twice throughout the season. A team contravening this rule shall be placed at the bottom of their league at the end of the season.
- 24 **Player not turning up, or illness of player**  
If a player fails to turn up (after 30 minutes grace) or if a player has to leave the rink through illness and there being no substitute, the match shall proceed with the bowls being made up by the remaining players. In triples the depleted team shall play with 4 bowls each, and in the other team with the lead and second shall play with 3 bowls each and the skip 2 bowls; the depleted team shall have a shot deduction of 33% from the last fully completed end. In rinks the depleted team the lead and second shall play with 3 bowls each and the skip with 2 bowls; the depleted team shall have a shot deduction of 25% from the last fully completed end.
- 25 **Stoppages**  
A match may only be stopped by the green keeper or the home captain if significant damage is being caused to the green. Otherwise it may be stopped through inclement weather or adverse conditions if both captains agree. If any players give up without these conditions, the game is forfeited and their opponents shall receive 4 points and 10 shots.
- 26 **Resumption of matches**  
If a league game is discontinued, it shall be resumed (after two trial ends) with the score as it was when the game was stopped. An end commenced, but not completed before leaving the green shall be declared null. An alternative date shall be agreed between the captains as soon as possible and notified to the league secretary. Both sides shall play the same teams, where possible; if another player is substituted, no player who played in another team on the date of the original match may play in a re-arranged match. Any team violating the rule shall forfeit the match and their opponents shall receive 4 points and 10 shots.
- 27 **Champions, promotion and relegation**
- 27.1 In each league, the team having the greatest number of points shall be the champion.
- 27.2 If there is a tie on points, league positions will be decided on shot difference. If this is equal then the aggregate results of the league matches between the teams will be used.
- 27.3 Generally, but subject to rule 18, the two highest teams shall be eligible for promotion and the two lowest eligible for relegation.
- 28 **Disputes**  
The league secretary's decision on any disputes is final.