

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

## **RULES**

*(Amended at the AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 & EGM on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2017)*

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. Leagues to be organised in Divisions appropriate to the forthcoming season. Clubs may enter teams for the Leagues, but no named member may play in more than one team during the season other than players from a lower division may play in a higher division on no more than two occasions. Names of Team members and a separate list of reserves to be registered with the League Secretary by 31 May. If a team plays an unregistered player the rink will be considered to be incomplete and 25% of their shots will be deducted. If a team plays an unregistered player more one once in a season the team shall be relegated at the end of the season to the lower division, irrespective of its final position. If a player registered with a higher team plays in the lower team the rink score will be zero. If team plays any players registered in a higher team in a lower team more than once the team shall be relegated at the end of the season to the lower division, irrespective of its final position.

18. Reserves can play in any team, however, once they have played three matches in one team they are deemed to be part of the team. If a player becomes deemed to be part of a higher team and subsequently plays in a lower team rule 17 will be invoked.

19. In each league, the team winning the greatest number of points shall be the Champion Club. If there is a tie on points, league positions will be decided on shot difference.
20. The two teams with the greatest number of points will be promoted and the two teams with the least number of points will be relegated where appropriate, at the end of the season.
21. If a Club wants to enter a League team (1<sup>st</sup> or additional) it must be voted in at Council Meeting.
22. Any team that leaves the League during the season must re-apply to enter a League team and will be placed in the lowest league
23. League Matches shall be played as 2 Rinks to 21 ends. Two trial ends are allowed. Captains to toss and the winner to choose either Jack or last wood:
- League matches will normally be played on Thursdays at 2.00 pm.
  - If through inclement weather or adverse conditions a game is stopped by a green-keeper or in the absence of a green-keeper, both Skips agreeing, 18 ends may constitute a game. If any players give up without these conditions, the game is forfeited and their opponents receiving 4 points and 10 shots.
  - If a league game is discontinued, it shall be resumed 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. If resumed on another day **TWO TRIAL** ends are allowed. When a match is resumed, where possible, both sides shall play the same teams. When 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 receiving 4 points and 10 shots.
  - Other than for adverse weather conditions, league matches may only be postponed in the following circumstances unless agreed by the opposing side:
    - i) COUNTY & NATIONAL COMPETITION FIXED DATES (including John's Trophy trials) - if any club has players involved in County or National competition fixed dates coinciding with the Thursday league fixture, the league game must be re-arranged if requested.
    - ii) EXTRAORDINARY ORGANISED CLUB EVENTS including club tours and funerals where more than two players are involved.
  - The deadline for postponing a league match is 24 hours before the arranged time. After this, a match can only be postponed due to inclement weather or the green deemed to be unplayable.
  - If a team is incomplete after the 24 hour deadline, the match must still be played three against four, on both rinks if necessary, the bowls being made up by the lead & two playing three bowls each and 25% deduction from the triples score will apply (as per Laws of the Game).
  - If a club can only field one rink out of the two, 3 points will automatically be forfeited by the defaulting team and the remaining 1 point will be awarded on the result of the game on the one rink played.
  - A club is only allowed to play an incomplete team twice throughout the season. A team contravening this rule shall be relegated at the end of the season to the lower division, irrespective of its final position.
  - No club can concede a match throughout the season unless under exceptional circumstances, which must be agreed by the League Secretary. In the event of a club conceding a match, the opposing side shall be awarded 4 points and 10 shots. A club conceding more than one match in a season shall be relegated at the end of the season to the lower division, irrespective of its final position.
  - If a player has to leave the rink *through illness* and there being no substitute the match will proceed with the bowls being made up by the lead & two playing three bowls each and the 25% deduction from the triples score then on applies;
  - If a player fails to turn up, the match will be played three against four the bowls being made up by the lead & two playing three bowls each and 25% deduction from the triples score will apply (as per Laws of the Game).
  - All matches must be completed by 14<sup>th</sup> September.
  - The League Secretary has the right to see the scorecards at any time during the season and her decision on any disputes is final.
24. Results of matches must be sent to Hon. League Secretary as soon as possible following the match.

Points awarded for League shall be:-

- 2 points for an overall win *plus*
- 1 point for each winning Rink *or* ½ point for a drawn Rink