

Portsmouth & District Women's Bowling Association

Portsmouth and District Competition Rules

1. CONDITIONS

- 1.1 The Portsmouth & District Women's Bowling Association (P&DWBA) Competitions shall be played under the World Bowls Laws of the Sport of Bowls Current Edition and be administered by the P&DWBA Competition Secretary.
- 1.2 The P&DWBA will provide the following competitions:
 - Two Wood Singles
 - Four wood singles
 - Consolation Singles
 - Pairs
 - Triples
 - Fours
 - Champion of Champions
 - Interclub Triples
 - Club Challenge
 - Gill May Trophy
 - Two Fun days (Anniversary Day and Pat Duckworth Day)

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 P&DWBA competitions are confined to members of affiliated clubs to the P&DWBA. Those who are members of more than one P&DWBA affiliated club must enter competitions from one club only.
- 2.2 All entries must be made through Club Secretaries on the appropriate forms and accompanied by the appropriate fees to reach the Competition Secretary no later than the date determined by the Competition Secretary
- 2.3 P&DWBA have adopted the Bowls England Transgender Policy and will be following that for all competitions. [Bowls-England-Revised-Trans-and-Gender-Diverse-Policy-Nov-2025.pdf](#)

3. MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Apart from some Prelims all rounds up to the finals of the competitions will be play on dates. Games may be played earlier ONLY if by mutual agreement.
- 3.2 Games will be played on the challengers green unless mutually agreed alternative green is chosen.
- 3.3 Finals will be played on the P&DWBA Presidents green unless the club chooses not to provide a venue and the presidents green is unsuitable for finals. If this situation occurs the President and Competition Secretary will identify an appropriate venue.

- 3.4 The Competition Secretary will identify an appropriate Umpire or responsible person/Markers for the finals.
- 3.5 Club stickers must be used on both sides of each bowl. No additional stickers are allowed.
- 3.6 The entry fee for all competitions shall be decided by the Annual General Meeting.

4. DRESS CODE

- 4.1 Dress above the waist shall be white shirts or club shirts
- 4.2 Where players wear club shirts all players in a team/side must wear them.
- 4.3 In all rounds leading up to the Final dress below the waist shall be whites, greys, coloured apparel that is the club's dress. All players in a side must wear the same colours.
- 4.4 A mixture of trousers, skirts, culottes, shorts etc. may be worn but all players must wear the same colour, shorts (if worn) should conform to Bowls England uniform regulations so that we can present a consistent image for the sport.
- 4.5 Shell Suits, jeans, cargos and leggings are not acceptable.
- 4.6 Shorts may not, however, be worn if the Club has a rule prohibiting their use. (It is incumbent upon competitors to check before play commences).
- 4.7 Whites or Club colours must be worn for the finals.
- 4.8 In the first instance of a breach of the dress code being brought to/or seen by the Competition Secretary, a warning will be given to the offending Team/Club. Any subsequent breach may lead to disqualification from that competition.
- 4.9 Footwear must either be specific bowls shoes or have a flat sole. If the club where the game takes place has a rule prohibiting non-bowls shoes or sandals this must be honoured.

5. DRAWS, CHALLENGERS AND OPPONENTS, BEHAVIOUR

- 5.1 The draw for each competition shall be undertaken and managed by the Competition Secretary with at least one other persons present.
- 5.2 The first drawn shall be the challenger who shall have choice of green and rink.
- 5.3 All clubs affiliated to the P&D WBA must state the nature of the playing surface (grass or synthetic) on which all their P&D WBA Competitions will be played.
- 5.4 The green (ie grass or carpet) is to be registered before the 31st of January.
- 5.5 The club must only play on the registered playing surface. Where a Club has both grass and synthetic surfaces, the challenger must state which surface is to be played on when making arrangements for the game.
- 5.6 Where the green of the challenger is, for any reason, deemed unfit for play, the game must be played on the opponent's green or a selected green by mutual agreement.
- 5.7 The challenger shall make all the arrangements for the game and in the case of Singles, provide a competent marker.

- 5.8 The home player or team is responsible for any green fees in all P&D WBA competitions.
- 5.9 No extension of time will be granted for the playing of a round except where greens are deemed to be unfit due to inclement weather or extreme circumstances if agreed with Competition secretary.
- 5.10 If you require an extension this **must be agreed** with the Competition secretary. Failure to do this may result in one or both teams/competitors being disqualified from the competition.
- 5.11 The only other exception to this rule relates to the semi-finals which will be played during Leamington week. If a player or an immediate family member (child, partner, grandchild) is playing at Leamington on the play on date then there is scope to rearrange the date, but this must be agreed with the competition secretary.
- 5.12 If a green is considered by either player/team to be dangerous or unplayable then, in the absence of the greenkeeper, the umpire (if present) shall decide whether to continue or suspend play.
- 5.13 When games are abandoned, players shall mutually arrange to play the tie and notify the result to the Competition Secretary within four days of the original specified date, unless a new date is set by the Competition Secretary. Failure to comply may result in both challengers and opponents being eliminated from the competition.
- 5.14 The time for the commencement of P&D WBA Competitions shall be mutually agreed but no competitor shall be compelled to agree a starting time on weekdays earlier than 6.00pm or later than 6.30pm or weekends – start time no earlier than 9.30am or later than 6.30pm.
- 5.15 If a player fails to appear or is not ready to play within thirty minutes of the agreed time for the game, his/her opponent can claim a 'walk over'. Unless contact has been made by the delayed team/player and there were unforeseen circumstances

6. **CONSTITUTION OF TEAMS AND SUBSTITUTION**

- 6.1 Each entry need contain only one name. That named entrant shall not play in any other entry for that particular discipline.
- 6.2 The players taking part in the first game of the respective competition shall constitute 'the team' for the remainder of the competition.
- 6.3 A substitute is allowed if a player is injured or unavailable on the play on date due to holiday, illness or family emergency (except in the singles).
- 6.4 Prior to the game being commenced or between rounds, if a substitute is required, she may play in any position. She must be a member of the club to which the side belongs, and she should not have already played in the competition. If a substitute is required during the match she may play in any position apart from Skip.
- 6.5 If required the same named substitute must be used throughout the competition, including the semi-finals and finals.

6.6 The Competition Secretary must be notified of any substitutes.

7. QUESTIONS AND DISPUTES

7.1 All questions and disputes which arise, and which do not come within the scope of these rules or the Laws of the Sport, should be referred to the Competition Secretary who may seek guidance from the P&D WBA Committee if necessary.

7.2 Protest against any condition under which a tie is played must be made to the opposition and recorded on the scorecard before six ends have been played and notified to the Competition Secretary immediately after the game.

7.3 Protest against the use of bowls or equipment, must in the first instance be made to the opposition, then to the Competition Secretary, immediately after the game.

7.4 The game should be completed as if no protest has been made. The result of the game may stand if the protester so wishes but, once made, the protest must be proceeded with.

7.5 Appeals against any decision by the Competition Secretary must be made in writing within 24 hours of the receipt of such a decision, making a clear statement of the point in issue and accompanied by any evidence available.

7.6 The decision of the P&D WBA Committee shall be final and binding.

8. FORMAT

8.1 Singles 21 shots 4 Bowls

8.2 Pairs 18 ends 4 Bowls each player (extra end if necessary)

8.3 Triples 18 ends 3 Bowls each player (extra end if necessary)

8.4 Fours 18 ends 2 Bowls each player (extra end if necessary)

8.5 Interclub Triples Two teams of three players 18 ends 3 bowls each player (see rules below)

8.6 Club Challenge 1 two wood single, 1 Four wood single, 1 Pair, 1 triple, 1 four (see rules below)

9. CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

9.1 This competition is open to all clubs affiliated to P&D WBA

9.2 Players eligible to enter are the Club's Ladies Four-Bowl Singles Champion from the previous year

9.3 Entrants will represent the club where they were the Club Ladies champion. Players who have moved club during the close season are still be eligible to enter the Champion of Champions providing that P&D WBA Competition Secretary receives written approval from the Club where they secured qualification no later than 31 December in the year they were the club's ladies singles champion.

9.4 Each match shall be 21 shots, four bowls each player.

10. CONSOLATION SINGLES

10.1 Players who are knocked out of the Four wood singles in their first game will automatically be entered into this competition.

11. INTERCLUB TRIPLES

- 11.1 A two-Triple competition of 18 ends and three bowls for each player (6 players)
- 11.2 One entry per P&D WBA Affiliated club.
- 11.3 The match to be played on the same green simultaneously leading to an overall score between the teams for each club.
- 11.4 Failure to field 6 players will result in a walk over.
- 11.5 In the event of a tie an extra end(s) shall be played by one rink, the captains to toss for Jack.
- 11.6 The rink to play the extra end will be determined by the toss of a coin, at the same time the Captains toss for the mat (one toss for both teams).
- 11.7 Any extra end will commence only after both rinks have completed play.
- 11.8 Should a match be abandoned because of inclement weather then, provided a total of 24 ends have been played, the result shall stand.
- 11.9 Finals will be played during finals week

12. CLUB CHALLENGE

- 12.1 A team competition, with one entry per P&D WBA Club.
- 12.2 Comprising 11 players who shall play two wood singles 21 ends, Four wood singles 21 shots, pairs – 4 woods each & 18 ends, triples – 3 woods each & 18 ends and fours – 2 woods each & 18 ends
- 12.3 Failure to field 11 players will result in a walkover. All disciplines shall be played to completion no drawn matches. If an extra end is needed, toss again for the mat.
- 12.4 The winner shall be the team who wins the most rinks.
- 12.5 A player taken ill during a game may be replaced by a substitute If the affected player is a skip, one of the remaining players shall take his/her place and the substitute may then play in one of the other positions.
- 12.6 For this competition only, a substitute is allowed for the singles players.
- 12.7 Should a match be abandoned because of inclement weather then, provided a total of 60 ends has been played, the result shall stand.

13. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

- 13.1 Results must be e-mailed to the Competition Secretary with either a photo or scanned copy of the score card p.dcompsec@gmail.com within 24 hrs of the match being played. If the score card has been emailed, then there is no need to post the original.
- 13.2 The result must be sent in by the winning team/player. If the result is not received by the competition secretary with 24 hrs then the player may be disqualified.
- 13.3 The original should be kept by the winning Team until either the final has been played or the team is knocked out of the competition, in case of any disputes.
- 13.4 The scorecards must bear the names and initials of those taking part and signed by both skips. Skips are reminded that they are certifying not only the accuracy of the score but also the names of those taking part.

14. HEALTH & SAFETY

- (i) If the temperature is 30 degrees then agreement must be sought between the two sides to ensure their players are happy to play in the heat.
- (ii) If the green is wet and either skip deems it too dangerous due to risk of accident/injury, to either start or continue to play then the match should be abandoned (see rules above).
- (iii) A green will not be deemed dangerous or unplayable if a player slips due to their footwear, (ladies who play predominantly on carpet will have very shiny soles on their shoes, which could result in slipping on only slightly damp grass).

Please remember that there will always be room for common sense to prevail.