

# Derby West End Bowls Club – Competition Rules

1. Unless otherwise stated in these rules, ALL competitions are to be played according to the “Laws of the Sport of Bowls” (Bowls England) or “Laws of the Game” (English Bowling Federation) as applicable.
2. A sub-committee consisting of the competition secretary and two other committee members will be set up to make the draws for the relevant competitions and to award handicaps to entrants for the handicap competitions. The sub-committee will also make the draws to decide the pairings for pairs competitions. Triples teams will be decided on the day of the triples competition but the sub-committee will attempt to balance the teams by sorting players according to their known strengths i.e. skips, leads etc.
3. Singles competitions are to be played with four woods (except EBF 2-wood competition) the winner being the first to score 21 points
4. Handicaps awarded by the sub-committee will be in the range from 0 to 10, so that no player has to win more than 21 points to win their match. The handicap awarded will apply for all rounds of the competition
5. Pairs competitions will be played with four woods each, the winner being the highest score after 21 ends. If the scores are tied after 21 ends then another deciding end will be played
6. The Triples competition will be played on a day set by the committee, and will be played with three woods each, the number of ends to be decided on the day according to the number of teams, weather conditions and time available. The aim should be to play 18 ends if conditions allow, but may be reduced to 15 ends if required. Play should continue until two finalists are produced, who will go forward to play the final game on the club finals day. If the scores are tied after the agreed number of ends then another deciding end will be played
7. No competition will be arranged if the number of entries does not allow for at least a semi-final to take place
8. ALL finals will be played on the finals day (or days) set by the committee
9. In the event that a competitor(s) is to play in more than three finals, then some games may be moved to another day with the agreement of the competition secretary
10. Finals day dress will be club shirts with white bottoms
11. The closing date for competition entries will be 30<sup>th</sup> April
12. The competitions will be controlled by the “Competition Secretary” who will decide on the dates by which each round shall be played. Only the competition secretary should amend/update the competition sheets
13. The “play by” dates published for each round should be adhered to by ALL entrants unless otherwise agreed by the competition secretary, and should only be changed due to exceptional circumstances
14. The first named player in each round shall be “the challenger”. The challenger will be responsible for arranging the time and date of the game, and for arranging a marker for singles matches. The challenger must offer his opponent at least three dates for play, with not more than two dates in any one week (a week being Monday to Sunday). The offer must be made no later than 12 days before the closing date for the round. The time for commencing the game should be mutually agreed, but no player should be compelled to start play before 6:00 pm Monday to Friday, or 3:00 pm Saturday and Sunday, or after 6:30pm on any day. The opponent should reply within 48 hours of the challenge, accepting one of the dates offered. If none of the dates offered are acceptable to the opponent, then he/she should try to arrange an alternative date with the challenger. If they fail to agree a date for their game then the round closing date shall become the “play on” date
15. Once a game has been agreed, no alteration to date or time shall be allowed without the agreement of both parties. If the player requesting a change cannot make a new agreement with their opponent, then they must play on the previously agreed date and time or forfeit the game
16. If a game has been arranged and the players turn up to find that there are no rinks available, or that the green has been “closed” and no play is possible; or having started to play, no conclusion can be reached due to adverse weather conditions or unforeseen illness on the green, then a new date and time (within the round closure date) should be arranged immediately. If a new date or time cannot be agreed within the round closure date, then the parties must decide which of them is to progress to the next round. If they cannot agree which is to go through, they must inform the competition secretary immediately and the secretary will make a judgement on the information given
17. If a player arrives more than 30 minutes after the agreed start time the opponent may, if so desired, claim the match and proceed to the next round
18. If a match is not played by the round closure date, the challenger will be deemed to be at fault and will forfeit the round and the opponent will proceed to the next round. If the challenger feels that they have complied with the rules but have been unable to reach an agreement with their opponent, then the challenger should submit a card to the competition secretary, within three days of the round closure date, claiming the match and explaining the circumstances. The competition secretary will then make a judgement on the information given
19. On completion of a match the players, or skips, should both agree and sign the score card and place the card in the competition secretary’s box provided
20. In the pairs and triples competitions the players playing the first round shall be the same players playing in subsequent rounds in that competition. If a player is unable to carry on due to exceptional circumstances, then the competition secretary should be informed, and the secretary will try to arrange a substitute of similar ability. The playing position of any pair/triple will be fixed for that round but may be rotated, as desired, from round to round
21. The Richard Elliott Rose Bowl competition is open to all members over 60 years of age, and who have reached their 60<sup>th</sup> birthday by 30<sup>th</sup> April in the year of the competition
22. The RJ McGill Novice Single competition is open to male members who have not previously won any of “Club Championship” (BE), EBF 2-wood championship, or the McGill cup itself
23. The Britannia Shield competition is open to lady members who have not previously won any of “Club Championship” (BE), EBF 2-wood championship, or the Britannia Shield itself
24. The Mixed Pairs entrants must comprise one man and one lady per team, but the pairs may arrange their own partnerships prior to the commencement of the competition. Any changes to pairings after the commencement of the competition must be with the agreement of the competition secretary
25. In the event of a member having a dispute with a decision made by the competition secretary, the member should submit a written complaint to the Club Secretary. The management committee will appoint an emergency sub-committee comprising three club members, who are not involved with the dispute, who will investigate the matter and reach a decision. Such a decision will be final and binding on all parties
26. These rules are not meant to cover all possible eventualities and members are expected to behave in a normal sportsmanlike manner at all times, and to give full co-operation to the competition secretary