

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP GUIDANCE NOTES [2024]

PLEASE NOTE: ALL COMPETITION DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1. County Championships leading to National Championships shall be administered by the County Association under the Rules and Regulations of Bowls England and in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Bowls England Regulation 50.1.1).
2. County Championships refer to the Four Wood Singles (21 shots), Two Wood Singles (21 ends), Four Wood Pairs (18 ends), Three Wood Triples (18 ends), Two Wood Fours (18 ends), Junior Singles (21 shots), Junior Four Wood Pairs (18 ends) and Two Wood Senior Fours (18 ends).
3. Venues and times may vary, so please ensure that you know where and when you are playing your competition. Where an opponent has a (W) next to their name, these games will start at 6.00pm. An earlier start time may be arranged by mutual agreement between competitors and the Competition Secretary in order to ensure rink availability (Note: a change may not always be possible).

The following provisions apply:

- a) If a team arranges for a substitute who is a worker, their opponent and the Competition Secretary must be notified to confirm the alternative start time of 6.00 pm. After the first game, Substitutes must be noted on the Card.
 - b) If you are approached by a team with workers/students, you will be expected to accommodate them.
 - c) If you are unable to agree a time with your opponent, the Competition Secretary will decide when you should play.
4. Matches can be claimed if players arrive more than thirty minutes late.
 5. If a competition is due to be played in the evening, at Victoria Park, the competitors can decide between them to agree a neutral venue, this will avoid extra travel. It must be agreed by both teams/individuals. Should both competitors playing in the evening be drawn from the same club they may play on their home green, providing both competitors agree, otherwise they can agree a neutral green. In the event they fail to agree, the competition will be played at Leamington.
 6. If games are arranged at a different venue to Victoria Park, the winner is expected to email the result to the Competition Secretary immediately after the game. **Then please send a digital copy of the signed scorecards to her a.s.a.p. Please retain the originals in case of any discrepancies.**
 7. £2 per player is payable by each team, for all games, except those played on the Challenger's Home Green. If you have received a walk-over £2 per player is due prior to the start of the next game.
 8. The Dress Code for players competing in all rounds of the County Championships leading up to the National Championships shall be
Home and Away - Grey regulation skirt, culottes, tailored full length trousers, tailored cropped trousers or tailored shorts; Club shirt. Club registered apparel may be worn providing all members of a side or team wear the same colour below the waist. **Quarters, Semi Finals and Finals** - white regulation skirt, culottes, tailored full length trousers, tailored cropped trousers or tailored shorts, club shirt. Club registered apparel may be worn providing all members of a side or team wear the same colour below the waist.
Players are advised that they can have stickers on their bowls (they do not have to be club stickers, but they should all match). If players decide to have no stickers the whole team must follow suit. Warwickshire WBA stickers are only for use at County Matches. The Rules and Regulations of Bowls England in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls state:

- 52.1.8 The Controlling Body can supply adhesive (stick-on) markings for players to temporarily fix to both sides of their bowls or allow players to use their own markings. When markings are used:
- 52.1.8.1 they are part of the bowl for all purposes under the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.
 - 52.1.8.2 there must be only one layer of markings fixed to either side of the bowl.
 - 52.1.8.3 they must not be put over the serial number and the World Bowls Stamp which are present on the bias side of the bowl.
 - 52.1.8.4 all bowls belonging to players within a team or side must have these markings on them and the markings must all be the same design and colour. However, players may use markings which are different in size from those used by other players in their team or side where this is necessary due to differences in the sizes of either the manufacturers' rings or the distinguishing marks on the bowls.
 - 52.1.8.5 if opposing teams or sides have the same design or colour of markings and an alternative is not available, players in the team or side listed second in the draw must remove their markings.
9. If for some reason you are unable to play your competition, you must inform the Competition Secretary IMMEDIATELY AND TELEPHONE YOUR OPPONENT to ensure they are aware, have a bye and are not required to play. You should have a particularly good reason for withdrawing from a competition; an explanation will be expected and passed to the County Executive for their information. Green Fees, if applicable, will still be payable.
10. In the event of no decision being reached IN ANY ROUND owing to exceptional weather conditions, and where this makes it impossible to re-arrange a competition before the completion date, the aggregate score, in uncompleted games in which five ends or more have been played, will stand as the result unless otherwise specified. If the score is tied the result will be decided by the toss of a coin. Competitions not started or where less than five ends have been completed will be decided by the toss of a coin, or by mutual agreement.
11. Prize winners who do not attend the Annual Luncheon without good reason will not receive a prize. All prize winners are required to collect both prize and trophy. If unable to attend a pre-nominated person will be responsible for collecting both.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- i) Players must not crowd the Jack and full attention to the position of each wood should be noted so that when your turn comes to bowl there is no need to ask who is shot.
- ii) Persons not engaged in the game shall preserve an attitude of strict neutrality and, neither by act or word, disturb or advise the players.
- iii) 4 WOOD/2 WOOD SINGLES – The Challenger (first named) is expected to supply a Marker for rounds prior to the Quarter Finals.
- iv) Possession of the mat ends when the delivered bowl comes to rest; do not delay your opposition from commencing play by late return to the mat.
- v) The match card must be kept by a player on the green (Crystal Mark V4 40.1)

Vivienne Belt
Competition Secretary