

THREE MILE CROSS BOWLING CLUB

MENS, LADIES AND MIXED CLUB COMPETITION RULES

Competitions committee: (Men's Competition Secretary + Ladies' Competition Secretary and the Club Captain)

COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE

Club Competitions Committee is Authorised by the Management committee to oversee and ensure the following is done by those detailed in a timely manner.

- A. Men's Competition Secretary to Draw up all men's and mixed competitions.
- B. Ladies' Competition Secretary to Draw up all ladies' competitions.
- C. Men's Competition Secretary to allocate the handicaps to the Men's Handicap Competition.
- D. Competitions Committee to Progress all Ladies, Men's, and Mixed competitions to the final stage on time.
- E. Competitions Committee to make all arrangements for the finals of all competitions to be played on Finals Weekend.
- F. Competitions Committee to make all necessary arrangements for the completion of "one day" competitions.

To achieve all the above objectives, it is necessary for competitors to be bound by a small set of rules and to establish procedures to administer these rules. The rules have been carefully considered and devised to be of benefit to everyone taking part. If any competitor requires clarification of any rule or wishes to discuss any point regarding competitions, please feel free to approach any member of the Competitions Committee. Please remember that no set of rules can cover every eventuality and will require the good will and good sense of those for whose benefit they have been drawn up.

COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

The following procedures will be as adopted by the Competitions Committee to administer the competition rules.

- a) The competitions sheets will be checked the Day After the Final Date for each round by a member of the Competitions Committee and any game not played will be scratched from the competition (ie both players/teams) unless permission has been given to play after the "Final Date" or the match is subject of a claim under Competition Rules 3.4 or 3.5.
- b) If a claim has been lodged in accordance with Competition Rules 3.4 or 3.5 the Competitions Committee will consider the circumstances and the decision will be reported to both players/teams.
- c) The decision of the Competitions Committee can be:
 - 1. Dismiss the claim and scratch the match from the competition
 - 2. Award the match to the claimant/s
 - 3. Award the match to the opponent/s
 - 4. Order the match to be played on a date decided by the Committee.

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NOTES FOR COMPETITORS

1. The duration set for completing each round is considered sufficient to cover holidays, work or domestic commitments and short-term illness/injury bearing in mind the necessity to progress the competitions to a conclusion in the time available. It is unlikely that dispensation will be given for an extension for those reasons.
2. Please try to help yourself and opponent/s by arranging your matches quickly and as early as possible before the final date. Claiming a game must be the last resort.
3. ONLY in Exceptional Circumstances will the Competitions Committee give dispensation for a match to be played after the final date for the round.
4. Because of the necessity to maintain progress, the Competitions Committee's decision in any case brought under rules 3.4 and 3.5, or any other dispute, will be final.

COMPETITON RULES

All COMPETITORS are requested to familiarise themselves with the Competition Rules.

1. Conditions

- 1.1 The club competitions shall comprise: Singles, Pairs, Triples, Two Wood Singles, Fixed Jack (See Fixed Jack rules) and Handicap Singles (See competition handicaps).
- 1.2 BOTH players/teams will be equally responsible for arranging their match by the **Final Date** for the round to be played.
- 1.3 All games shall be administered under the Rules and Regulations of Bowls England.
- 1.4 Competitions shall be played under the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls and shall be under the management of Three Mile Cross Club Competitions Sub-Committee.
- 1.5 Men's Pairs, Partners Trophy, Ladies Triples, Men's Triples, Mixed Pairs, Ladies and Men's Fixed Jack, and the Finals of Competitions are to be played on fixed dates as determined by the of Three Mile Cross Club Competitions Sub-Committee.
- 1.6 All arranged matches must be shown in the rink booking system.
- 1.7 Variations and Extensions of the dates set for all rounds and finals of the Competitions will only be varied under exceptional circumstances, if approved by Three Mile Cross Bowls Club Competitions Sub-Committee.

2. Questions and Disputes

- 2.1 Where a player or team feel they have a case for claiming a match which cannot be amicably arranged before the **Final Date** a clear statement in writing, of the point at issue shall be communicated to the Competition Secretary. This is to be as soon as possible, but no later than SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE FINAL DATE for the round in question, together with evidence, if such exists
- 2.2 The Competition Sub Committee (Men's Competition Secretary + Ladies' Competition Secretary and the Club Captain) shall review and rule on all questions and disputes that may

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arise, and which do not come under the scope of the Umpires duties. The decision of the Committee shall be final and binding.

3. Duties of Challenger and Opponent

3.1 At all stages of Competitions the first named in the draw shall be the 'Challenger' and the second named the 'Opponent'.

3.2 It is the responsibility of the 'Challenger' to ascertain their 'Opponent' for the next round

3.3 In the early stages of all singles Competitions it is the responsibility of the 'Challenger' to provide a competent marker.

3.4 Fixed Date Competitions:

(a) The 'Challenger' shall confirm the fixture and the commencement time with their 'Opponent' after receiving either (i) the draw or (ii) the details of their next 'Opponent'.

(b) In the event of (a) not happening it is the responsibility of the Opponent to contact the Challenger.

(c) Except in respect of the final stages of Competitions it shall be acceptable for the 'Challenger' or the 'Opponent' to seek a variation of the fixed date provided the proposed new date is not later than the original date fixed for the round. A member of the competitions committee must be informed of the date the game is to be played. If both parties cannot agree to the proposed variation, the match shall be played on the date originally fixed.

(d) Rinks for fixed date competitions will be drawn by the Competitions Committee on the day.

(e) Permission to play a match after the fixed date will only be given by the competitions committee in exceptional circumstances.

3.5 Play by Date Competitions:

(a) Where Competitions are not on a fixed date the 'Challenger' shall offer their 'Opponent', within SEVEN DAYS of the closing date of the previous round at least three dates for play, one of which must be a Saturday or a Sunday. The offering of two different start times on a single date does not count as two dates. A minimum of 48 hours' notice is required for any dates to be eligible.

(b) The 'Opponent' shall within 24 hours of receipt of the challenge, reply and accept one of the dates offered unless they are already playing in a Club Competition or County Competition, in which case another date must be offered.

(c) If a challenge has not been made within the specified period, the 'Opponent' shall become the 'Challenger' and make all match arrangements including the offering of dates and the choice of rink.

(d) For preliminary / first round matches, where the draw is known prior to the start of the Competition, the 'Challenger' does not need to offer dates until 21 days before the closing date of that round, nor does the opponent need to accept a date until 19 days before the closing date of that round.

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3.6 A 'Competitor' failing to comply with either 3.4 or 3.5 shall be scratched upon the successful application by the opposing player, side or team and failing such application before the last day of the round, both shall be scratched.

3.7 The time for the commencement of a match shall be mutually agreed but no player, side or team shall be compelled to accept a start time earlier than 6.00pm (Monday to Friday) or 9:30am (Saturday or Sunday), nor later than 6:30pm on any day.

3.8 In accordance with Law 5.3.1 of the 'Laws of the Sport of Bowls' the start of any match shall be deemed to be when the jack is delivered by the first player to play the first end.

3.9 The winner of each round shall enter their result on the competition sheet posted in the clubhouse, no later than 10pm on the day the game is played.

3.10 In the case of all pairs, triples and fours, the names of the players playing in each game shall be entered on the competition sheet posted in the clubhouse, no later than 10pm on the day the game is played.

3.11 A team receiving a walkover must update the competition sheet posted in the clubhouse with the names of their full team or notify the relevant Competition Secretary if not already entered, before entering the result.

4. Rinks for Ties

4.1 In the Early Stages the 'Challenger' shall have the choice of 'Rink' and make all arrangements for the game. The draw for rink(s) to be played on to be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport (Law 3) and the information contained in the glossary of the current Bowls England Rules & Regulations 50-70.

4.2 Final Stages and Finals of all Competitions shall be played on rinks nominated and at times specified by the Competitions secretary.

4.3 The Competitions Sub Committee reserves the right to change the published dates and rinks of the Final Stages and Finals of individual competitions due to player commitments in County Competitions.

4.4 Should the green be unplayable, at the start time of the match or within four days prior to the FINAL DATE, the game may be rearranged after the Final Date if necessary but not later than four days after that date. The 'Challenger' should seek permission from the Competition Sub Committee to play on another day. The first point of contact shall be the Competition Secretary. Failure to do this will give the opponents grounds for claiming the match. The "seven day" rule requirement need not apply in this case but the claim must be made before the FINAL DATE for the round.

4.5 When games are stopped because of severe weather conditions, ill health etc. The Competition Secretary should be informed and the players shall mutually agree a date to complete the game as in "Laws of the Sport of Bowls".

4.6 Where a player/team requests, from their opponents, a postponement of an arranged match for any reason, he/they must be in a position to offer dates, within the duration of the round, that are suitable to the opponent/s. Failure to do this will give the opponents grounds for claiming the match. The "seven day" rule requirement need not apply in this case but the claim must be made before the FINAL DATE for the round.

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5. Dress for Competitions - Please note all reference to white clothing should read predominately white.

5.1 Ladies

- (a) Up to and including Semi Finals dress is casual.
- (b) For Finals - Club registered coloured shirt, the same colour shirt must be worn by all members of the team/side. White regulation skirt, tailored full length/cropped trousers or shorts.
- (c) Flat soled bowling shoes must be worn on the green.
- (d) Hats are always optional.

5.2 Men

- (a) Up to and including Semi Finals dress is casual.
- (b) For Finals - Club registered coloured shirt, the same colour shirt must be worn by all members of the team/side. White regulation full length trousers or shorts.
- (c) Flat soled bowling shoes must be worn on the green.
- (d) Hats are always optional.

5.3 Markers

- (a) Up to and including Semi Finals dress is casual.
- (b) For Finals - Club registered coloured shirt and White regulation skirt, tailored full length/cropped trousers or shorts.
- (c) Flat soled bowling shoes must be worn on the green.
- (d) Hats are always optional.

6. General

6.1 During play, personal use of mobile phones should not be used apart for emergencies or exceptional circumstances. Before play commences the Competition Organiser and the Opponent should also be advised.

6.2 During Competitions, subject to the agreement of the players concerned, Markers may give an indication of the state of the score using visual indicators.

6.3 Smoking (including electronic cigarettes) on and around the green will be prohibited during all rounds leading to Finals. Failure to adhere to this will result in disqualification.

7. Substitutions in Competitions

7.1 In Team matches involving Pairs, Triples and Fours, the players taking part in the first game shall constitute the Team and shall normally play together throughout the Competition.

7.2 One additional, and the same player, may be used as a substitute at any time provided, they have not already played in the Competition. They may play in any position.

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7.3 The named entrant conceding a walk-over before their first game in any Competition cannot act as a substitute, as this is considered a game played and lost.

7.4 The named entrant of a team cannot be a member or substitute of any other team in the same Competition.

8. Competition Formats

SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

The game shall consist of 21 shots - four bowls each player.

SINGLES NOVICES

The game shall consist of 21 shots - four bowls each player. Only members with less than 5 years of membership with TMX or a previous club can participate.

PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

The game shall consist of 18 ends – four bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a decision is reached.

TRIPLES CHAMPIONSHIP

The game shall consist of 18 ends - three bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a decision is reached.

TWO BOWL SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

The game shall consist of 21 ends - two bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a decision is reached.

FIXED JACK

The game shall end when player/s reach 105 points - four bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when 105 is reached, an extra end or ends must be played until a decision is reached.

HANDICAP

The game shall be the first to 21 shots plus the additional of the difference between the two opponents' handicaps. The difference will be added to the highest handicapped player's score - four bowls each player.

For example: Player "A" has a handicap of plus 7 and Player "B" has a handicap of plus 3. The difference is $7-3=4$. Which means player "A" having the highest handicap, will have to reach 25 shots and player "B" will have to reach 21 shots to win.

Where the handicaps are identical the game will be played until the first player reaches 21 shots.

PARTNERS TROPHY

Being a pairs competition, it will follow the format set out above. The pair entering the competition must be married, be in a civil partnership or be cohabitating on a permanent basis. No substitutes are permitted.