

1 Introduction

- 1.1 **The National Championships** shall comprise: Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours, Junior Singles, Women's Two Wood Singles and Women's Junior Pairs. Rounds played in the County are the preliminary rounds of the National Championships leading to an appearance at the National Championships. **All others are National Competitions and managed by Bowls England.**
- 1.2 Rounds of the National Championships, that are administered and/or controlled by the Association, shall be conducted in accordance by the rules laid down by the Governing Body.
- 1.3 Championship/competition entry shall be confined to members of Affiliated Clubs whose fees for the current year have been paid.
- 1.4 Clubs shall be grouped into Divisions as determined by the Executive Committee.
- 1.5 A Divisional Secretary for each division shall be appointed and who shall manage the Championships up to but not including the quarterfinals.

The following Rules are supplemental to any Rules of the Governing Body and shall apply to all National Championships and County Competitions except where otherwise specified. (See the Individual Championship and Competition Rules, the Bucks County Cup/Plate Rules, the Vi Trundell Trophy, Burnham Plate and the League Bowls Rules).

2 Conditions

- 2.1 All Championships and competitions shall be administered via the appropriate Management Committee.
- 2.2 Bowls used in National Championships/competitions must bear a 'Test' stamp as defined in the Laws of the Sport or English Variations thereof.
- 2.3 The preliminary rounds of the National Championships and Competitions shall only be played on greens and/or rinks that have been starred.
- 2.4 A player:
 - 2.4.1 May enter more than one championship/competition.
 - 2.4.2 May only register once for any championship/competition in any one year.
 - 2.4.3 May not represent more than one Club or County in any one year.
- 2.5 Should a team withdraw from a championship/competition, the reason for withdrawal must be sent in writing to the Divisional Secretary within forty-eight hours of withdrawal.
- 2.6 Should a game be cancelled or abandoned, it shall be played before the date of the next round.

3 Questions, Issues and/or Disputes

- 3.1 In the rounds up to, but not including the Q/Fs, Divisional Secretaries are authorized, subject to the overriding authority of the Competition Secretary and appropriate Management Committee, to answer questions and deal with issues and/or disputes raised appertaining to the administration and playing of the games.
- 3.2 From the Q/Fs onwards, the Competition Secretary shall be responsible for dealing with such matters, subject to the overriding authority of the appropriate Management Committee, and which do not come within the remit of the Umpires.
- 3.3 If the conduct of players and/or officials, or outcome of the game is in dispute, an appeal must be made by the affected team at least three days before the playing of a game, or not more than two days after the game has been played.
- 3.4 A team affected by a decision may appeal as defined in Association Regulations.

4 The Championships

- 4.1 The draw for each championship shall be published.

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- 4.2 The first name shown shall be the challenger, on whose green the game shall be played, and the second name shown is the opponent.
- 4.3 Where the green of a challenger is not starred the challenger shall have the opportunity of playing on a neutral green. If a neutral green cannot be found the game shall be played on the opponents green.
- 4.4 If neither green is starred, the challenger shall have the opportunity of playing on a neutral green. If a neutral green cannot be found, the game shall be played on the challenger's green.
- 4.5 It shall be the responsibility of the opponent to ascertain whether or not the match green or rink is starred before the start of the game.
- 4.6 Where more teams are drawn to play on the same green than green space allows, teams from the same Club playing each other must bring their match forward. Should the number of teams at a Club still exceed the green space available, it shall be the responsibility of the Divisional Secretary to decide which games are brought forward

5 Choice of Rinks

- 5.1 National championships and competitions shall take precedence over other competitions.
- 5.2 Clubs shall make available a minimum of two rinks, but when more than two games are to be played, the Club shall make sufficient rinks available and the opponent shall draw for a rink from the rinks made available, irrespective of gender.

6 Periods of Rounds

- 6.1 Competitors should play their games on the dates specified. Games may be played before the date specified by mutual agreement and the Divisional Secretary must be notified of any such arrangement before the game is played. The agreed date becomes the specified date. Failing such agreement, the team desiring the alteration must give the other team a walkover.
- 6.2 Unless otherwise agreed, play shall commence at 6.00pm. A walk-over may be claimed by the opponent of any team not ready to play within 30 minutes of the specified/agreed time.
- 6.3 In the event of extenuating circumstances, weather, green closure, International Duty, etc, the Divisional Secretary in consultation with the Competition Secretary may extend the specified dates.

7 Notification of Results

- 7.1 The Divisional Secretary must be informed of the result of the game by 10.00pm on the day the game was played.
- 7.2 The winner shall ensure that all scorecards are sent to the Divisional Secretary. *(They must be delivered or posted, 1st class, within 24 hours of the completion of the game).*
- 7.3 The scorecards must:
 - 7.3.1 Identify the particular competition.
 - 7.3.2 State the first name and surname of the participating players.
 - 7.3.3 Be signed by a member of both teams.Ensuring compliance with this rule is the responsibility of the winner of the game.

8 Final Stages

- 8.1 The quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals shall be played on a day and on a green, determined by the appropriate Management Committee.

End

History:

Issue 1.0 - 4th November 2009 –issued for ratification at the BBA IGM.
Issue 1.1 – 1st November 2010 – change to paragraph 1.4