



CHAMPIONSHIP/COMPETITION  
RULES & REGULATIONS 50-70

ISSUED: APRIL 2016

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**National Championships**

Details of competitors in the Women's National Championships must be submitted by the County Association to Bowls England not later than the Monday of Week 30.

Details of competitors in the Men's National Championships must be submitted by the County Association to Bowls England not later than the Monday of Week 31.

The first Monday of the Bowls England National Championships will be in Week 32 of each year.

**National Competitions**

For details on individual National Competition submission dates, please refer to appropriate regulation.

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**Bowls England Regulation: No. 50**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**1. Bowls England National Championships**

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 All County Championships leading to National Championships shall be played either on weekdays in the evenings with a start time no earlier than 6pm or at weekends. For weekday games an earlier start may be arranged by mutual agreement between competitors, but in the absence of mutual agreement the start time of no earlier than 6pm will be adhered to.
- 1.3 Should a player, who has been expelled, or suspended from a Club, be drawn to play at that Club in any Championship game, other than a side game, run under the auspices of or on behalf of Bowls England, the Club must either allow the player access to the changing room and green in order to play the game or alternatively advise the challenger(s) to make arrangements for the game to be played on a neutral green of a Club affiliated to Bowls England. Under no circumstances will the opponent(s) be expected to concede the game. Should the expelled or suspended player be a member of a 'side team' the Club fielding the player must ask the Club from whom he/she was banned for permission for that player to access the Club. If permission is refused the player must be withdrawn from the side. In all other cases the Club may refuse access.
- 1.4 The National Championships shall comprise:
- Singles
  - Pairs
  - Triples
  - Fours
  - Junior Singles
  - Two Wood Singles
  - Women's Junior Pairs
- All others are National Competitions.
- 1.5 Players selected for approved International duties, together with Officers and Officials on duty with the England teams, must be allowed to play in all stages of County Championships leading to National Championships should dates clash.
- 1.6 Should a club cease to exist after the entry date, the members may be permitted, for one season only, to compete under the name of that club irrespective of which club or clubs they have joined.
- 1.7 All Competitors in National Championships must have paid affiliation fees, through their Club, for the current year.
- 1.8 The Administrator of each County Association shall forward to the Chief Executive of Bowls England, the number of entrants in each of the Championships, together with the relevant entrance fees as determined by Bowls England, by the Monday of Week 5.

- 1.9 Each entry shall be made by one named player only, and that player shall be excluded from being a substitute in the same discipline. Should the named entrant in a County Championship event be unable to participate from the outset in the Championship due to exceptional circumstances, the team may request the use of an additional player if required (in addition to the original players that formed the team in the first match). Such a request must be made in writing to Bowls England via the County Association for consideration.
- 1.10 A competitor shall not enter any Bowls England Championships under an assumed name, nor shall they represent or allow their name to be submitted by more than one Club or County, in any one year.
- 1.11 Any entry in a National Championship will be declared invalid if the competitor enters in another United Kingdom's country Championship in the same year.
- 1.12 There is nothing in the Laws of the Sport or in the rules of the National Championships, as at present constituted, which stipulates that matches may not be played on a surface other than grass. However, the Challenger must inform their opponent if there is a likelihood of play on a surface other than grass. It is, however, a condition that National Championships are played outdoors and that the green has been approved by the relevant County Association.
- 1.13 The draw for the rink/s to be played on will be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport.
- 1.14 Suitable flood lighting may be used during these matches.
- 1.15 Fixed groundsheets are acceptable for National Championships however portable/moveable groundsheets are prohibited.
- 1.16 If a player/team fails to appear and be ready to play within 30 minutes after the agreed start time for the tie, the opponent/team may claim a 'walk over'.

## **2. Championship Format**

- 2.1 Singles  
Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player.
- 2.2 Pairs (Two players from the same club)  
Each game shall consist of 21 ends – four bowls each player. The Leads to play their four bowls before the skips. 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.
- 2.3 Triples (Three players from the same club)  
Each 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.
- 2.4 Fours (Four players from the same club)  
Each 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.

- 2.5 **Two-Wood Singles**  
Each 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.
- 2.6 **Junior Singles**  
Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player. The Championships shall be open to all Members of Clubs affiliated to Bowls England who have not attained their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the Championship.
- 2.7 **Women’s Junior Pairs (Players from the same County)**  
Each game shall consist of 18 ends – four bowls each player. The Leads to play their four bowls before the skips. 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. The Championships shall be open to all Members of Clubs affiliated to Bowls England who have not attained their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the Championship. The two players may belong to separate clubs within the same county, so long as both clubs are affiliated to Bowls England.

### **3. Qualifiers for National Championships**

- 3.1 Every County Association will be entitled to two representatives in each discipline at the National Championships, who shall be the County Finalists, with the following exceptions:
- Junior Singles - The six counties with the lowest number of entries will only have one representative.
  - Junior Pairs (Women) – Winning Pair only from County
  - Singles & Two Wood Singles - Counties with 301 or more entries will be entitled to three representatives.
  - Pairs - Counties with 301 or more entries will be entitled to three representatives.
  - Triples - Counties with 251 or more entries will be entitled to three representatives.
  - Fours - Counties with 201 or more entries will be entitled to three representatives.
- 3.2 The names, addresses, contact details and clubs for all of the players entitled to compete in the National Championships will be forwarded to the Chief Executive of Bowls England by the Monday of Week 30 (Women) and the Monday of Week 31 (Men).

### **4. Substitution**

- 4.1 In Pairs, Triples and Fours, the players taking part in the first game shall constitute the team and shall normally play together throughout the Championship.
- 4.2 One additional, and the same player, may be used as a substitute at any time provided they have not already played in the same Championship. They may play in any position.

- 4.3 The named entrant conceding a walkover before their first game in any Championship cannot act as a substitute in the same Championship, as this is considered a game played and lost.
  - 4.4 The named entrant of a team cannot be a member or substitute of any other team in the same Championship.
  - 4.5 If a substitute is required during a game then the rules in the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls apply.
- 5. Dress**
- 5.1 Please refer to Appendix A (Dress Code – Men) or Appendix B (Dress Code – Women) as relevant.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 51**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**1. National Championships – Final Stages**

- 1.1 The name, address, phone number, e-mail address and club of each player qualifying to compete in the final stages shall be forwarded to the Chief Executive of Bowls England by the Monday of Week 30 for Women, and Monday of Week 31 for Men.
- 1.2 The first Monday of the Women’s National Championships will be in Week 32 of each year. The first Monday of the Men’s National Championships will be in Week 34 of each year
- 1.3 In order to avoid a duplication at the National Championships through competitors qualifying in more than one National Championship event, the designated County Official must allocate A or B (+C) representatives accordingly.
- 1.4 The Championships shall be played under the current Laws of the Sport and in accordance with the regulations currently laid down by Bowls England. Competitors must adhere to the Code of Conduct (Appendix D) and also posted on the Bowls England website. This shall be under the management and control of the Tournament Committee who shall determine all questions and disputes that may arise and that do not come within the scope of the Umpire’s duties, as hereinafter defined. The decision of the Tournament Committee shall be final and binding. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to alter starting times and rinks if it is considered necessary or desirable.
- 1.5 A travel subsidy may be paid to players qualifying for the National Championships in the final stages at such a rate as the Bowls England Board may from time to time determine.
- 1.6 At the final stages of all National Championships all bowls must bear a stamp in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

**2. Badge Presentation and Player Registration**

- 2.1 All players must assemble in playing kit near the Badge Presentation Area (A Green) 30 minutes before the start of their first match in any National Championship event to be presented with their National Championship qualifier badge and/or year bar as appropriate.
- 2.2 Every player must complete a Player Profile Form. If players are in more than one event, only one player profile form is required to be completed and this must be handed in for the first event. No profile form, no badge.
- 2.3 Having received a badge for their first event, players receive a year bar for every other event they have qualified in.
- 2.4 Skips/singles players must collect their scorecards and stickers from the Tournament Office before each round.
- 2.5 After the end of each match the winning skip/singles player must take both signed scorecards to the Tournament Office immediately. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification.

2.6 Competitors not on the green ready to play within 15 minutes of the times stated on the draw sheets will be subject to disqualification.

### **3. Substitution**

3.1 All substitutes must be registered with the Tournament Office.

### **4. Slow Play**

4.1 Please refer to Bowls England Slow Play Guidance (Appendix E) and also posted on the Bowls England website.

### **5. Parental Consent**

5.1 Parental consent forms (where applicable) must be completed and submitted.

### **6. Conclusion of Matches**

6.1 Matches must be conceded where it is not possible for the losing team/individual to win to assist with the National Championship Finals schedule.

### **7. Green Fit for Play**

7.1 The Greenkeeper and/or Tournament Director shall be the adjudicators as to whether or not the green is fit for play and shall have the power to postpone play at any point. Should play be postponed the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls will apply.

### **8. Trophy Presentation**

8.1 At the conclusion of all Finals, a presentation will take place on the green. If the award of prize money or gifts is applicable then at least one member from each of the losing Semi-Finalists must attend in playing shirts and whites, otherwise their prize money will be withheld and donated to the English Bowling Associations Charity Trust. The exception to this rule is for any event that holds the Semi-Finals and Final on separate days. The Winners of the Singles (Four-Wood), Junior Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours will represent England in the British Isles Championships the following year.

8.2 The Winners will be presented with the trophy, medal/s and fleece/s at the Annual Dinner. The Runners-Up and Semi-Finalists will also receive medals at the Annual Dinner.

### **9. Dress**

9.1 Please refer to Appendix A (Dress Code – Men) or Appendix B (Dress Code – Women) as relevant.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 52**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**1. Bowls England National Competitions**

- 1.1 The National Competitions shall be played under the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls and in accordance with the Regulations currently laid down by Bowls England. All competitors shall adhere to Appendix D (Code of Conduct), also posted on Bowls England website.
- 1.2 All National Competitions shall be controlled by the Competitions Committee. An Emergency Committee shall consist of any three members of the Competitions Committee and/or Competitions Assistants. The decision of either Committee in each and every circumstance shall be final and binding.
- 1.3 Should a player, who has been expelled, or suspended from a Club, be drawn to play at that Club in any National Competition game, other than a side game, run under the auspices of or on behalf of Bowls England, the Club must either allow the player access to the changing room and green in order to play the game or alternatively advise the challenger(s) to make arrangements for the game to be played on a neutral green of a Club affiliated to Bowls England. Under no circumstances will the opponent(s) be expected to concede the game. Should the expelled, or suspended player be a member of a 'side team' the Club fielding the player must ask the Club from whom he/she was banned for permission for that player to access the Club. If permission is refused the player must be withdrawn from the side. In all other cases the Club may refuse access.
- 1.4 National Competitions consist of the following

Men

Middleton Cup (Inter-County)  
Balcomb Trophy (Inter-County)  
White Rose (Inter-County)  
National Top Club  
National Champion of Champions Singles  
National Senior Singles & Pairs  
National Club Two Fours

Women

Johns Trophy (Inter-County)  
Walker Cup (Inter-County)  
Amy-Rose (Inter-County)  
National Top Club  
National Champion of Champions Singles  
National Senior Singles & Pairs

Mixed

National Family Pairs  
National Mixed Pairs  
National Mixed Fours  
National Tony Allcock Trophy

In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-County Competitions (as listed above) may only represent the county from which they have entered National Championships.

All others events not listed in 1.4 above are National Championships.

- 1.5 Should a club cease to exist after the entry date, the members may be permitted, for one season only, to compete under the name of that club irrespective of which club or clubs they have joined.

- 1.6 Should a club cease to exist prior to the entry date, the Singles Champion shall be eligible for one season only to enter the Champion of Champions under the name of their previous club.
- 1.7 All Competitors in National Competitions must have paid affiliation fees, through their Club, for the current year.
- 1.8 The Administrator of each County Association shall forward to the Chief Executive of Bowls England, the entries in each of the Walker Cup, Johns Trophy, Middleton Cup, Balcomb Trophy and White Rose together with the relevant entrance fees as determined by Bowls England, by the Monday of Week 5. Entries for the Amy Rose Bowl must be received by the Monday of Week 14. The remaining competitions are directly administered by Bowls England.
- 1.9 Competitors shall not enter any Bowls England Competition under an assumed name.
- 1.10 There is nothing in the Laws of the Sport or in the rules of the National Competitions, as at present constituted, which stipulates that matches may not be played on a surface other than grass. However, the Challenger must inform their opponent if there is a likelihood of play on a surface other than grass. It is, however, a condition that National Competitions are played outdoors and that the green has been approved by the relevant County Association.
- 1.11 Suitable flood lighting may be used during these matches.
- 1.12 The format of Rules for the individual National Competitions will be found under the Regulations applicable to each National Competition.
- 1.13 The draw and completion dates for all National Competitions will be made by Bowls England. Each County will decide if the National Competition area will be played on a County, Regional or Open basis as deemed applicable. Matches will be played on a green approved by the County Association and chosen by the Challenger. Where the mileage exceeds 160 miles round trip (measured club to club for club-based events and County Centre to host venue for county-based events) matches will be played on a neutral green midway between the two clubs/counties unless mutually agreed. All inter-area rounds will be played on a neutral green and must be agreed by the two clubs involved. If green fees are payable at the neutral venue they will be shared by both participants/teams/sides.
- 1.14 The Challenger will be responsible for all match arrangements and the payment of rink fees if appropriate.
- 1.15 The draw for the rink/s to be played on will be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport.
- 1.16 The Challenger must offer their opponent within 48 hours of receipt of the draw and results card at least three dates for play, one of which must be a Saturday or Sunday. The time for commencing a match shall be mutually agreed but no player/team/side shall be compelled to accept a time earlier than 6.00pm Monday to Friday or 9.30am on a Saturday or Sundays, nor later than 6.30pm on any day. However, when a draw and result card is issued in advance of the start of the Competition, the Challenger does not need to offer dates until 21 days before the closing date of that round, after which the aforesaid conditions will apply. The Opponent or Opponent teams/sides shall, within 48 hours of receipt of the challenge, reply and accept one of the dates offered.

- 1.17 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 choice of venue.
- 1.18 No extension of the closing date for any round will be granted for any reason whatsoever.
- 1.19 The time for commencing a match shall be mutually agreed but no player/team/side shall be compelled to accept a time earlier than 6pm Monday to Friday or 9.30am on a Saturday or Sunday, nor later than 6.30pm on any day.
- 1.20 If a player/team/side fails to appear and be ready to play within 30 minutes after the agreed time for the tie, the opponent may claim a 'walk over'.
- 1.21 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 fixture before the completion date, the aggregate score, in uncompleted matches in which five ends or more have been played, will stand as the result unless otherwise specified. If the score is a tie then the result will be decided by the toss of a coin. Matches not started and matches in which less than five ends have been completed will be decided by the toss of a coin, or by mutual agreement. This Regulation does not apply to Johns Trophy/Middleton Cup/Walker Cup/Balcomb Trophy/Amy Rose Bowl/White Rose Trophy – see Appendix J for these events.
- 1.22 Fixed groundsheets are acceptable for National Competitions; however portable/moveable groundsheets are prohibited.
- 1.23 The result will be submitted by the winning player or team/side to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.
- 1.24 Regional Finals, where required, will be played at venues selected by Bowls England. Players will be informed of the venues and details by Bowls England.

## **2. Substitution**

- 2.1 The named entrant conceding a walk-over before their first match in any National Competition cannot act as a substitute in the same competition, as this is considered a match played and lost.
- 2.2 The named entrant of a team cannot be a member or substitute of any other team in the same National Competition.
- 2.3 If a substitute is required during a match then the rules in the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls apply.
- 2.4 See individual National Competition Regulation for substitution rules.

## **3. Dress**

- 3.1 Please refer to Appendix A (Dress Code – Men) or Appendix B (Dress Code – Women) as relevant.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 53**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**Johns Trophy – Inter-County Competition (Women)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. This competition shall be open to all County Associations who are Members of Bowls England.
2. All Counties will be assumed to have entered unless they otherwise notify Bowls England before the completion of the previous year's competition.
3. The entrants shall be placed in geographical groups, which will remain the same, but the composition of the sections will be determined by a draw made every second year.
4. The competition shall be divided into two stages – the Group Stages and the Final Stages. In the Group Stages each county shall play one match each year against each other County in their section, home and away alternate years or at a neutral venue for both years. Matches will start at 1.30pm unless mutually agreed.
5. Every County shall be represented by a side consisting of six rinks of four players, all of whom shall be members of an affiliated club to their County Association. No player shall play for more than one County in any one year.
6. Failure to field 24 players will result in a walkover and 22 points will be awarded to the opposing team. Where a county refused to fulfil the fixture the following penalty will apply; 22 points will be awarded to the non-defaulting team and the defaulting team will be excluded from entering the Johns Trophy and the Walker Cup the following year.
- 7. Group Stages**
  - 7.1 The match will consist of 21 ends. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. In each match a win for an individual rink shall be awarded two points and a tie one point. The county that wins by total number of shots of all six rinks shall, in addition, be awarded 10 points. In the event of a tie on shots, each county shall be awarded five points each.
  - 7.2 The county gaining the greatest number of points in each section shall be declared the winner of that section. Should two counties be equal in points and also in shot difference then the winner will be ascertained on the result of the match already played between the two counties.
  - 7.3 In the group stages, should a match end as a tie (both shots and points) after 21 ends then an extra end or ends will be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The Team Managers must toss for jack before the start of the extra end. The total number of shots on all six rinks will count on the extra end and the winning team reported to Bowls England. The extra end will not form part of the score within the group stages, but will **ONLY** be used to separate the two counties if they are level at the conclusion of the group stages after points and shots difference have been taken into account.

- 7.4 When it is not mathematically possible to win by playing a scheduled tie and subject to this being ratified by Bowls England, such a tie may be cancelled. The Counties concerned must be in mutual agreement and would each be responsible for the reimbursement of expenses incurred by the venue booked.
8. Result of Match  
The result will be submitted to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.
9. Bowls Stickers  
Counties will provide bowls stickers for the Group Stages and Quarter-Finals unless provided by the sponsor.
10. Inclement weather  
See Appendix J

## **11. Final Stages**

- 11.1 The Quarter-Finals shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. These will be played between the winners of the two sections in each geographical group. The two counties concerned will be responsible for arranging an umpire and a neutral venue midway between the two counties. If green fees are payable these will be shared by both counties. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then a further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be needed. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21<sup>st</sup> end has been played. The winner will be decided on the total number of shots of all rinks. There are no points for individual rink wins. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end or ends will be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots on all six rinks will count on the extra end.

The Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draws for the Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England on greens appointed by them. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then a further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be needed. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21<sup>st</sup> end has been played. The winner will be decided on the total number of shots of all rinks. There are no points for individual rink wins. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end or ends will be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots of all six rinks will count on the extra end.

- 11.2 Each County qualifying for the Semi-Final stage will supply to Bowls England the names of six rinks and four reserves no later than the Monday of Week 30. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships.
- 11.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.
- 11.4 The Winner and Runner-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 28 Winners/Runners-Up medals presented at the Annual Dinner.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 54**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**Walker Cup – Inter-County Top Two Fours Competition (Women)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. This competition shall be open to all County Associations who are Members of Bowls England.
2. All Counties will be assumed to have entered unless they otherwise notify Bowls England before the completion of the previous year's competition.
3. Every County shall be represented by a side consisting of two rinks of four players, all of whom shall be members of an affiliated club to their County Association. No player shall play for more than one County in any one year.
4. Bowls England shall set dates for all rounds. The draw for the competition including the Regional Final and Semi-Final shall be made by Bowls England.
5. Failure to field eight players will result in a walk-over.
6. The preliminary round and first round will be played by mutual arrangement on the designated dates. The competition will be played on a knockout basis, with the early rounds in geographical areas. Each rink of a side shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player. The County Secretary or Challenging side will make all match arrangements. Matches will start at 1.30pm unless mutually agreed. Arrangements for cost of refreshments and other incidental expenses shall be a domestic matter.
7. The match will consist of 21 ends. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink will play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end should one be required. This must be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21<sup>st</sup> end has been played. The number of shots on both rinks will determine the result. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end will be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
8. Inclement weather  
See Appendix J
9. Counties must inform the Regional Selector of time and venue of preliminary/first round matches. Counties will provide bowls stickers for the preliminary round and first round unless provided by the sponsor.
10. Result of Match  
The result will be submitted to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.

## **11. Final Stages**

- 11.1 The final stages consisting of the Regional Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time, date and venue set by Bowls England. Bowls England shall make the draw for the Regional Finals, Semi-Finals and Final.
- 11.2 Each County qualifying for the Semi-Final stage will supply to Bowls England the names of two rinks and two reserves no later than the Monday of Week 30. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships. A maximum of 10 National Competition badges will be presented to players involved at the National Championships.
- 11.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final of this event.
- 11.4 The Winner and Runner-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals presented at the Annual Dinner.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 55**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**Amy Rose Bowl - 31's & under Inter-County Double Rink (Women)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all County Associations who are members of Bowls England.
2. Every County may enter more than one side and shall be represented by a side/sides consisting of two rinks of four players. All players shall be members of clubs affiliated to their County Association and 31 years of age or under by 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the competition.
3. The Competition will be played on a knockout basis during the National Championships.
4. All Counties **MUST** notify Bowls England by Week 14 of their intention to enter.
5. The draw will be made by Bowls England.
6. Failure to field eight players will result in a walkover.
7. A player under the age of 12 years on the 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the competition may be substituted after eight ends have been played.
8. Junior/Cub bowls may be used.
9. The match will consist of 15 ends. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink will play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This must be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 15<sup>th</sup> end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks will determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 15 ends then an extra end will be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
10. Inclement weather  
See Appendix J
11. Each team reaching the Semi-Finals will receive 10 National Competition Badges.
12. Each County Secretary must supply to Bowls England the names of two rinks and two reserves no later than the Monday of Week 29.
14. Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for this event.
15. The Winners shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals presented after the Final.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 56**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Senior Singles and Pairs Competition (Women)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. Each player shall have reached their 55<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the competition.
3. The two players in the pairs must be members of an affiliated club within the same County.
4. Singles matches will be 21 shots (four bowls each player). The pairs shall be 21 ends (four bowls each player). In the pairs, 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.
5. In the event of a substitute being required in the pairs, one and the same player may come from any club, in the same county, providing they have not already played in the same competition, however, one of the original players must play in all rounds. The substitute may play in any position.
- 6. Final Stages**
  - 6.1 The final stages consisting of the 35 County Winners for both the singles and pairs shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships. The draws for these shall be made by Bowls England.
  - 6.2 Each Team qualifying for the final stage will supply to Bowls England the name of their partner (pairs only) no later than the Monday of Week 30. The players involved at the National Championships will receive a National Competition Badge.
  - 6.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
  - 6.4 The Winners will be presented with a medal and fleece for the singles or two medals and two fleeces for the pairs at the Annual Dinner along with one or two medals respectively for the Runners-Up.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 57**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Top Club Competition (Women)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to Bowls England. Clubs may enter more than one side. No player shall play in more than one of those sides entered. The competition will be held on a knockout basis within each County to establish a champion Top Club.
2. Players are not required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships.
3. The draw will be made by Bowls England. Fixed Weekend dates may be set by County Associations for this competition providing they are within the period of round closures designated by Bowls England.
4. A club side shall consist of 10 players. The disciplines are Four-Wood Singles (21 shots), Four-Wood Pairs (21 ends), Three-Wood Triples (18 ends) and Two-Wood Fours (21 ends). The challenger shall have the choice of green and will make all match arrangements up to the Inter-County stage.
5. Failure to field 10 players will result in a walk-over.
6. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin to decide the choice of jack for the first end and make the draw for rinks for each discipline. The format for the competition will be as follows:
  - 1pt for every discipline won, total of four points available. In the event of a drawn discipline the point will be shared, i.e. ½ point each. After completion of the four disciplines the winning side will be decided by the highest number of points.
  - In the case of a tie, the winner will be decided from the total number of shots scored from the four disciplines. Should these be equal as well as the match score, extra ends in the pairs, triples and fours, will be played to determine the result. Shots do not count on the extra end – only the result of the three disciplines, ie. 2-1, 3-0. All disciplines will be played simultaneously.
7. Between rounds, substitutes/changes are allowed in the side and between disciplines provided the players are members of the same club and have not played for another side during the current competition. For this competition only, substitution during play is allowed for the singles player in case of illness or injury. The score being resumed after interruption.
8. **Inter-County Stages**
  - 8.1 The draw for the Inter-County rounds will be made by Bowls England and published in the Yearbook. At this stage, the challenging side will arrange a neutral green as equidistant as possible (measured from Club to Club).

## **9. Final Stages**

- 9.1 The final stages will take place on dates and venue specified by Bowls England and consist of the eight qualifying sides (80 players). This will be a knockout basis with the Quarter-Final on the Saturday morning and the Semi-Final and Final on Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon respectively.
- 9.2 Each Club qualifying for the final stages will supply Bowls England the names of 10 players and two reserves not later than the Monday of Week 36. A maximum of 12 National Competition badges will be presented to players involved at the finals.
- 9.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 9.4 The Winners will be presented with a maximum of 12 medals and fleeces at the Annual Dinner along with 12 medals for the Runners-Up.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 58**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Family Pairs Competition**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all playing members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. A team shall be comprised of two players. Either player may skip.
3. Players need not necessarily be members of the same Club or County.
4. Eligible players should be from one of the following pairings:
  - Grandmother and granddaughter/grandson
  - Grandfather and granddaughter/grandson
  - Mother and daughter/son
  - Father and daughter/son
  - Sister and sister/brother
  - Brother and brother/sister
  - Step relatives of the above are also eligible to play
  - Husband/partner and wife are not permitted
5. Relationship between players must be declared on the entry form.
6. Substitution  
The two players taking part in the first match constitutes the original team and shall normally play together throughout the competition. At least one of the original pair must play in every round. Substitutes must come from one of the eligible listings and must not have already played or entered the same competition.
7. Each match shall be 21 ends, four bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a result is reached.
- 8. Final Stages**
  - 8.1 The Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals and Final consisting of the last eight teams shall be played on a date set by Bowls England during the National Championships.
  - 8.2 Each team qualifying for the final stages will supply to Bowls England the name of their partner no later than the Monday of Week 31. The players involved will receive a National Competition Badge.
  - 8.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
  - 8.4 The Winners will be presented with two medals and fleeces at the Annual Dinner with two medals for the Runners-Up.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 59**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Champion of Champions Singles Competition (Women)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. Players eligible to enter are as follows:
  - Club Four-Wood Singles Champion
  - County Four-Wood Singles champion
  - County Junior Four-Wood Singles Champion
  - Area Senior Singles Qualifier from the previous year

All the above must be nominated by their Club or County.

In addition the following have automatic entry from Bowls England:

- The previous year's National Champion of Champions
- The previous year's National Four-Wood Singles Champion
- The previous year's National Junior Four-Wood Singles Champion
- The previous year's National Senior Singles Champion

In the event of any one person qualifying in more than one of the aforementioned, only one entry will be accepted.

3. Entries shall be made on the official entry form duly signed by the Club or County Secretary, who shall certify that the nominated player is qualified to enter.
4. Each match shall be 21 shots, four bowls each player.
5. **Final Stages**
  - 5.1 The final stages consisting of the last 16 Competitors shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships. The draws for these shall be made by Bowls England.
  - 5.2 Each player involved in the final stages at the National Championships will receive a National Competition Badge.
  - 5.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
  - 5.4 The Winner will be presented with a medal and a fleece at the Annual Dinner with a medal for the Runner-Up.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 60**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**Middleton Cup – Inter County Competition (Men)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. This competition shall be open to all County Associations who are Members of Bowls England.
2. All Counties will be assumed to have entered unless they otherwise notify Bowls England before the completion of the previous year's competition.
3. The entrants shall be placed in geographical groups, which will remain the same, but the composition of the sections will be determined by a draw made every second year.
4. The competition shall be divided into two stages – the Group Stages and the Final Stages. In the Group Stages each county shall play one match each year against each other County in their section, home and away alternate years or at a neutral venue for both years. Matches to start at 2pm unless mutually agreed.
5. Every County shall be represented by a side consisting of six rinks of four players, all of whom shall be members of an affiliated club to their County Association. No player shall play for more than one County in any one year.
6. Failure to field 24 players will result in a walkover. 22 points will be awarded to the opposing team. Where a county refuses to fulfil the fixture the following penalty will apply; 22 points will be awarded to the non-defaulting team and the defaulting team will be excluded from entering the Middleton Cup and the Balcomb Trophy the following year.
- 7. Group Stages**
  - 7.1 The match will consist of 21 ends. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. In each match a win for an individual rink shall be awarded two points and a tie one point. The county that wins by total number of shots of all six rinks shall, in addition, be awarded 10 points. In the event of a tie on shots, each county shall be awarded five points each.
  - 7.2 The county gaining the greatest number of points in each section shall be declared the winner of that section. Should two counties be equal in points and also in shot difference then the winner will be ascertained on the result of the match already played between the two counties.
  - 7.3 In the group stages, should a match end as a tie (both shots and points) after 21 ends then an extra end or ends will be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The Team Managers must toss for jack before the start of the extra end. The total number of shots on all six rinks will count on the extra end and the winning team reported to Bowls England. The extra end will not form part of the score within the group stages, but will ONLY be used to separate the two counties if they are level at the conclusion of the group stages after points and shots have been taken into account.

- 7.4 When it is not mathematically possible to win by playing a scheduled tie and subject to this being ratified by Bowls England, such a tie may be cancelled. The Counties concerned must be in mutual agreement and would each be responsible for the reimbursement of expenses incurred by the venue.
8. Result of Match  
The result will be submitted to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.
9. Counties will provide bowls stickers for the Group Stages and Quarter-Finals unless provided by the sponsor.
10. Inclement weather  
See Appendix J

## **11. Final Stages**

- 11.1 The Quarter-Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. These will be played between the two sections in each group. The two counties concerned will be responsible for arranging an umpire and a neutral venue midway between the two counties. If green fees are payable these will be shared by both counties. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then a further toss of a coin for the choice of jack (extra end) should one be needed. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. The winner will be decided on the total number of shots of all rinks. There are no points for individual rink wins. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end or ends will be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots of all six rinks will count on the extra end.

Semi-finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis system at a time set by Bowls England. The draw for the Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin to decide the choice of jack for the first and extra end (if required). The winner will be decided on the total number of shots of all rinks. There are no points for individual rink wins. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end or ends will be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots of all six rinks will count on the extra end.

- 11.2 Each County qualifying for the Semi-Final stage will supply to Bowls England the names of six rinks and four reserves no later than the Monday of Week 30. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships.
- 11.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.
- 11.4 The Winner and Runner-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 28 Winner/Runner-Up medals presented at the Annual Dinner.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 61**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Club Two Fours Competition (Men)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to Bowls England. Clubs may enter more than one side. No player shall play in more than one of those sides entered.
2. Players may play for one club in this competition and another club in the Top Club competition, providing they are bona fide members of both clubs. Players are not required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships.
3. The draw will be made by Bowls England.
4. A club side shall consist of two rinks of four players and they shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player. The challenger shall have the choice of green and will make all match arrangements up to the inter-area stage.
5. Failure to field eight players will result in a walk-over.
6. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink will play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This must be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21<sup>st</sup> end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks will determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end will be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
- 7. Inter-Area Stage**
  - 7.1 The draw for the inter-area stage will be made by Bowls England. The challenging side will arrange a neutral green as equidistant as possible (measured from Club to Club).
- 8. Final Stages**
  - 8.1 The final stages consisting of the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draws for the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England.
  - 8.2 Each Club qualifying for the Quarter-Final stage will supply to Bowls England the names of two rinks and two reserves no later than the Monday of Week 31. The Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships. A maximum of 10 National Competition badges will be presented to players involved at the National Championships.
  - 8.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.
  - 8.4 The Winners shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals and fleeces with the Runners-Up receiving a maximum of 10 medals that will be presented at the Annual Dinner.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 62**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Top Club Competition (Men)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to Bowls England. Clubs may enter more than one side. No player shall play in more than one of those sides entered.
2. Players may play for one club in this competition and another club in the Club Two Fours competition, providing they are bona fide members of both clubs. Players are not required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships.
3. The draw will be made by Bowls England.
4. A club side shall consist of 11 players. The disciplines are Two-Wood Singles (21 ends), Four-Wood Singles (21 shots), Four-Wood Pairs (21 ends), Three-Wood Triples (18 ends) and Two-Wood Fours (21 ends). The challenger shall have the choice of green and will make all match arrangements up to the inter-area stage.
5. Failure to field 11 players will result in a walk-over.
6. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin to decide the choice of jack for the first end and extra end (should one be required in any discipline), make the draw for rinks for each discipline and will decide if the two singles matches will be played on the same rink, one after the other. If not all disciplines will start at the same time. An extra end will be played in any discipline should it be a tie – no drawn matches. The winning side will be the one winning the most disciplines.
7. If, in any round of this competition, a singles player is unable to continue due to ill health or any other reason, then that discipline must be conceded. The remaining disciplines should continue to their natural conclusion. Substitutes are allowed during play in the Pairs, Triples and Fours of this event in line with the current Laws of the Sport.
8. Between rounds, substitutes/changes are allowed in the side and between disciplines provided the players are members of the same club and have not played for another side during the current competition.
9. **Inter-Area Stage**
  - 9.1 The draw for the inter-area stage will be made by Bowls England. The challenging side will arrange a neutral green as equidistant as possible (measured from Club to Club).
10. **Final Stages**
  - 10.1 The final stages will take place on dates and at a venue specified by Bowls England and consist of the eight qualifying sides (88) players. This will be a knockout basis with the Quarter-Final on Saturday and the Semi-Final and Final on Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon respectively.

- 10.2 Each Club qualifying for the final stages will supply to Bowls England the names of 11 players and two reserves no later than the Monday of Week 36. A maximum of 13 National Competition badges will be presented to players involved at the finals.
- 10.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 10.4 The Winners will be presented with a maximum of 13 medals and fleeces at the Annual Dinner with 13 medals for the Runners-Up.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 63**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Senior Singles and Pairs Competition (Men)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. Each player shall have reached their 55<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the competition.
3. The two players in the pairs must be members of an affiliated club within the same County.
4. Singles matches will be 21 shots (four bowls each player). The pairs shall be 21 ends (four bowls each player). In the pairs, 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.
5. In the event of a substitute being required in the pairs, one and the same player may come from any club, in the same county, providing they have not already played in the same competition, however, one of the original players must play in all rounds. The substitute may play in any position.
- 6. Final Stages**
  - 6.1 The final stages consisting of the 35 County Winners for both the singles and pairs shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships. The draws for these shall be made by Bowls England.
  - 6.2 Each Team qualifying for the final stage will supply to Bowls England the name of their partner (pairs only) no later than the Monday of Week 30. The players involved at the National Championships will receive a National Competition Badge.
  - 6.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event
  - 6.4 The Winners will be presented with a medal and fleece for the singles or two medals and two fleeces for the pairs at the Annual Dinner with one or two medals respectively for the Runners-Up.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 64**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Champion of Champions Singles Competition (Men)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. Players eligible to enter are as follows:
  - Club Four-Wood Singles Champion
  - County Four-Wood Singles champion
  - County Junior Four-Wood Singles Champion
  - Area Senior Singles Qualifier from previous year.

All the above must be nominated by their Club or County.

In addition the following have automatic entry from Bowls England:

- The previous year's National Champion of Champions
- The previous year's National Four-Wood Singles Champion
- The previous year's National Junior Four-Wood Singles Champion
- The previous year's National Senior Singles Champion

In the event of any one person qualifying in more than one of the aforementioned, only one entry will be accepted.

3. Entries shall be made on the official entry form duly signed by the Club or County Secretary, who shall certify that the nominated player is qualified to enter.
4. Each match shall be 21 shots, four bowls each player.
5. **Final Stages**
  - 5.1 The final stages consisting of the last 16 Competitors shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships. The draws for these shall be made by Bowls England.
  - 5.2 Each player involved in the final stages at the National Championships will receive a National Competition Badge.
  - 5.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
  - 5.4 The Winner will be presented with a medal and a fleece at the Annual Dinner with a medal for the Runner-Up.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 65**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**Balcomb Trophy - National County Top Two Fours Competition (Men)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all County Associations who are members of Bowls England.
2. Every County shall be represented by a side consisting of two rinks of four players.
3. Failure to field eight players will result in a walk-over.
4. All Counties will be assumed to have entered unless they otherwise notify Bowls England before the completion of the previous year's competition.
5. The draw will be made by Bowls England.
6. The preliminary round and the first round will be played by mutual arrangement on or before the closing date. The competition will be played on a knockout basis, with the early rounds in geographical areas. Each rink of a side shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player. The County Secretary or Challenging side will make all match arrangements. Matches to start at 2pm unless mutually agreed.
7. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink will play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This must be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21<sup>st</sup> end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks will determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end will be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
8. Inclement weather  
See Appendix J
9. Counties must inform the Regional Selector of date/time and venue of preliminary/first round matches. The result must be submitted to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.
- 10. Final Stages**
  - 10.1 The final stages consisting of the Regional Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw for the Regional Final, Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England.
  - 10.2 Each county qualifying for the Semi-Final stage will supply to Bowls England the names of two rinks and two reserves no later than the Monday of Week 29. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships. A maximum of 10 National Competition badges will be presented to players involved at the National Championships.

- 10.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 10.4 The Winner and Runner-Up shall receive a maximum of 10 Winner/Runner-Up medals respectively presented at the Annual Dinner.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 66**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**White Rose National County Junior Two Fours Competition (Men)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all County Associations who are members of Bowls England.
2. Every County shall be represented by a side consisting of two rinks of four players. All players shall be members of clubs affiliated to their County Association and have not attained their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the competition.
3. Failure to field eight players will result in a walk-over.
4. All Counties will be assumed to have entered unless they otherwise notify Bowls England before the completion of the previous year's competition.
5. The draw will be made by Bowls England.
6. The preliminary round and the first round will be played by mutual arrangement on or before the closing date. The competition will be played on a knockout basis, with the early rounds in geographical areas. Each rink of a side shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player. The County Secretary or Challenging side will make all match arrangements. Matches to start at 2pm unless mutually agreed.
7. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink will play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This must be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21<sup>st</sup> end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks will determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end will be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
8. Inclement weather  
See Appendix J
9. Counties must inform the Regional Selector of date/time and venue of preliminary/first round matches. The result must be submitted to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.
- 10. Final Stages**
  - 10.1 The final stages consisting of the Regional Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw for the Regional Final, Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England.
  - 10.2 Each county qualifying for the Semi-Final stage will supply to Bowls England the names of two rinks and two reserves no later than the Monday of Week 29. The Semi-Finals and Final

shall be played during the National Championships. A maximum of 10 National Competition badges will be presented to players involved at the National Championships.

- 10.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 10.4 The Winners and Runners-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals presented at the Annual Dinner.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 67**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Mixed Pairs Competition**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. A team shall comprise of one man and one woman. Either player may skip.
3. The two players must be members of an affiliated club within the same county.
4. Players are not required to play from the club/county in which they play their National Championships.
5. Each match shall be 21 ends, four bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a result is reached.
6. **Substitution**  
The two players taking part in the first match constitutes the original team and shall normally play together throughout the competition. One and the same male and/or one and the same female player may be used as a substitute at any time, providing that they have not already played or entered the same competition. However, at least one of the original pair must play in every round.
7. **Final Stages**
  - 7.1 The Final stages consisting of the last 16 teams shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships.
  - 7.2 Each Team qualifying for the final stages will supply to Bowls England the name of each player no later than the Monday of Week 30. The players involved in the final stages will receive a National Competition Badge.
  - 7.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
  - 7.4 The Winners will be presented with two medals and two fleeces at the Men's Annual Dinner along with two medals for the Runners-Up.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 68**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**National Mixed Fours Competition**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. A team shall comprise of two men and two women. Any player may skip.
3. The four players must be members of an affiliated club within the same county.
4. Players are not required to play from the club/county in which they play their National Championships.
5. Each match shall be 21 ends, two bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a result is reached.
6. **Substitution**  
The four players taking part in the first match constitutes the original team and shall normally play together throughout the competition. One and the same male and/or one and the same female player may be used as a substitute at any time, providing that they have not already played or entered the same competition. However, at least one of the original men and one of the original women must play in every round.
7. **Final Stages**
  - 7.1 The final stages consisting of the last 16 teams shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships.
  - 7.2 Each Team qualifying for the final stages will supply to Bowls England the names of their team players no later than the Monday of Week 30. The players involved in the final stages will receive a National Competition Badge.
  - 7.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
  - 7.4 The Winners will be presented with four medals and four fleeces at the Men's Annual Dinner along with four medals for the Runners-Up.

**Bowls England Regulation: No. 69**  
**Approved 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

**Tony Allcock Trophy – National Club Mixed Over 60 Double Rink**  
**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.**

1. The competition shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to Bowls England. Clubs may enter more than one side. No player shall play in more than one of those sides entered.
2. All players shall be aged 60 years or over on April 1<sup>st</sup> in the year of the competition.
3. Players may play for one club in this competition and another club in the Top Club competition and/or the Men's National Club Two Fours Competition, providing they are bona fide members of both clubs. Players are not required to play from the club in which they play in their National Championships.
4. The draw will be made by Bowls England.
5. A club side shall consist of two rinks of four players (two men and two women per rink) and they shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player. The challenger shall have the choice of green and will make all match arrangements up to the inter-area stage.
6. Failure to field eight players will result in a walk-over.
7. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers will toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink will play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This must be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21<sup>st</sup> end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks will determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end will be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
- 8. Inter-Area Stage**
  - 8.1 The draw for the inter-area stage will be made by Bowls England. The challenging side will arrange a neutral green as equidistant as possible (measured from Club to Club).
- 9. Final Stages**
  - 9.1 The final stages consisting of the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw for the final stages shall be made by Bowls England.
  - 9.2 Each Club qualifying for the Quarter-Finals stage will supply to Bowls England the names of two rinks and two reserves (one male and one female) no later than the Monday of Week 30. The Final Stages shall be played during the National Championships. A maximum of 10 National Competition badges will be presented to players involved at the National Championships.
  - 9.3 Bowls England will provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.

- 9.4 The Winners will represent Bowls England in the respective British Isles Championships the following year.
- 9.5 The Winners shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals and fleeces with the Runners-Up receiving a maximum of 10 medals that will be presented at the Men's Annual Dinner.

## Appendix A: Dress Code Men

### 1. Please note: All reference to white shoes, shirts, waterproofs etc., should read predominately white shoes, shirts, waterproofs etc.

1.1 In all rounds leading to the final stages of the National Championships the relevant County Association may stipulate the dress code. However in doing so consideration must at all times be given to 1.1 (a), 1.1 (b), 1.1 (c), 1.1 (d), 1.1 (e), 1.1 (f) and 1.1 (g).

- a) Dress will be grey or white trousers and white, club or county registered shirts with brown, white or grey flat soled shoes. Sandals will not be permitted, in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls England, except in medical circumstances where a doctor's note has been provided.
- b) Club/County apparel may be worn provided that all members of the side or team wear the same and provided that the design of such apparel has been registered to the County/Bowls England.
- c) Bowls England licensed and approved apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn provided that all members of a side or team bear the same colour above and/or below the waist.
- d) Players governed by requirements of a specific ethnic culture will be permitted to wear their traditional dress if they so desire.
- e) Tracksuits, shell suits and jeans are not acceptable.
- f) Headgear, if worn, should be white or a registered colour.
- g) White waterproof clothing may be used, or, providing all members of a side wear the same, registered colour waterproof/fleeces are permitted. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel may also be worn.

1.2 In all rounds leading to the final stages of the National Club Two Fours, Top Club, Tony Allcock Trophy, Senior Singles & Pairs, Champion of Champions, Mixed Pairs, Mixed Fours and Family Pairs the following applies:

- a) Dress will be grey trousers and white, club or County shirt; brown, white or grey flat soled shoes. Sandals will not be permitted, in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls England except in medical circumstances where a doctor's note has been provided.
- b) Club/County apparel may be worn provided that all members of the side or team wear the same and provided that the design of such apparel has been registered to the County/Bowls England.
- c) Bowls England licensed and approved apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn provided that all members of a side or team bear the same colour above and/or below the waist.
- d) Players governed by requirements of a specific ethnic culture will be permitted to wear their traditional dress if they so desire
- e) Tracksuits, shell suits and jeans are not acceptable.
- f) Headgear, if worn, should be white or a registered colour.
- g) White waterproof clothing may be used, or, providing all members of a side wear the same, registered colour waterproof/fleeces are permitted. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel may also be worn.

2.1 Players participating in the National Championship final stages shall wear their County Association's registered colours. Bowls England licensed and approved

apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn below the waist providing that all members of a side or team bear the same colour.

- 2.2 All players participating in Inter-County Events shall wear their County Association's registered county shirts, trousers in all rounds. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn below the waist providing that all members of a side or team bear the same colour.
- 3.1 In the Finals of the National Club Two Fours, Top Club, Tony Allcock Trophy, Senior Singles, Senior Pairs, Champion of Champions, Mixed Pairs, Mixed Fours and Family Pairs the following applies:
  - a) White flat soled bowling shoes will be worn on the green, white belt (if worn), white socks, white, cream, club or county coloured shirt and trousers, white or cream pullover or cardigan or if worn with coloured shirt may be the same colour as the shirt, white cap/hat or other approved headwear, National, County, or Club tie, braces, if worn, should not be visible. Sandals will not be permitted, in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls England except in medical circumstances where a doctor's note has been provided.
  - b) Club/County apparel may be worn, provided that all members of the side or team wear the same and provided that the design of the clothing has been registered by the club/county with the County/Bowls England.
  - c) Bowls England licensed and approved apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn provided that all members of a side or team bear the same colour above and/or below the waist.
- 4.1 Players governed by requirements of a specific ethnic culture will be permitted to wear their traditional dress if they so desire.
- 4.2 Tracksuits, shell suits and jeans are not acceptable
- 4.3 Head gear, if worn, should be white or a registered colour
- 4.4 White waterproof clothing may be used, or, providing all members of a side wear the same, registered colour waterproof/fleeces are permitted. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel may also be worn
- 4.5 During play, white flat soled shoes will be worn on the green. Sandals will not be permitted, in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls England except in medical circumstances where a doctor's note has been provided.

## Appendix B: Dress Code Women

### 1. Please note: All reference to white shoes, shirts, waterproofs etc., should read predominately white shoes, shirts, waterproofs etc.

1.1 In all rounds leading to the final stages of the National Championships the relevant County Association may stipulate the dress code. However in doing so consideration must at all times be given to 1.1 (a), 1.1 (b), 1.1 (c), 1.1 (d), 1.1 (e), 1.1 (f) and 1.1 (g).

- a) Dress will be grey or white regulation skirt, culottes, and tailored trousers or tailored cropped trousers; white, club or county shirt, brown, white or grey flat soled shoes. Sandals will not be permitted, in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls England, except in medical circumstances where a doctor's note has been provided.
- b) Club/County apparel may be worn provided that all members of the side or team wear the same and provided that the design of such apparel has been registered to the County/Bowls England.
- c) Bowls England licensed and approved apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn provided that all members of a side or team bear the same colour above and/or below the waist.
- d) Players governed by requirements of a specific ethnic culture will be permitted to wear their traditional dress if they so desire.
- e) Headgear, if worn, should be white or a registered colour.
- f) Tights or stockings are optional at all times. If worn they must be in shades of brown. Plain white socks may be worn with trousers. Tracksuits, shell suits and jeans are not acceptable.
- g) White waterproof clothing may be used, or, providing all members of a side or team wear the same, registered coloured waterproof/fleeces are permitted. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel may also be worn.

1.2 In all rounds leading to the finals of the National Top Club, Tony Allcock Trophy, Senior Singles, Senior Pairs, Champion of Champions, Family Pairs, Mixed Pairs & Mixed Fours the following applies:

- a) Dress will be grey regulation skirt, culottes, and tailored trousers or tailored cropped trousers; white, club or county shirt, brown, white or grey flat soled shoes. Sandals will not be permitted, in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls England except in medical circumstances where a doctor's note has been provided.
- b) Club/County apparel may be worn provided that all members of the side or team wear the same and provided that the design of such apparel has been registered to the County/Bowls England.
- c) Bowls England licensed and approved apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn provided that all members of a side or team bear the same colour above and/or below the waist.
- d) Players governed by requirements of a specific ethnic culture will be permitted to wear their traditional dress if they so desire.
- e) Headgear, if worn, should be white or a registered colour.
- f) Tights or stockings are optional at all times. If worn they must be in shades of brown. Plain white socks may be worn with trousers. Tracksuits, shell suits and jeans are not acceptable.

- g) White waterproof clothing may be used, or, providing all members of a side or team wear the same, registered coloured waterproof/fleeces are permitted. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel may also be worn.
- 2.1 Players participating in the National Championship Final Stages shall wear their County Association's registered colours. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn below the waist providing that all members of a side or team bear the same colour.
  - 2.2 All players participating in Inter-County Events shall wear their County Association's registered county shirts, skirts, trousers in all rounds. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn below the waist providing that all members of a side or team bear the same colour.
  - 2.3 Skirts must be of regulation style, having four inverted pleats, two at the front and two at the back. They must be long enough to fall below the knee at the front and below the knee crease at the back. Cropped trousers should fall midway between the knee and ankle.
  - 2.4 Tights or stockings are optional at all times. If worn they must be in shades of brown. Plain white socks may be worn with trousers.
  - 3.1 In the Finals of the National Top Club, Tony Allcock Trophy, Senior Singles & Pairs, Champion of Champions, Mixed Pairs, Mixed Fours and Family Pairs the following applies:
    - a) White flat soled bowling shoes, white, cream, club or county coloured regulation dress, skirt, culottes, tailored full length trousers or tailored cropped trousers of opaque material, shirt style blouse, plain waistcoat/cardigan/pullover. The dress or skirt must be of regulation style, having four inverted pleats, two at the front and two at the back. They must be long enough to fall below the knee at the front and below the knee crease at the back. Cropped trousers should fall midway between the knee and ankle. Sandals will not be permitted, in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls England except in medical circumstances where a doctor's note has been provided.
    - b) Club/County apparel may be worn, provided that all members of the side or team wear the same and provided that the design of the clothing has been registered by the club/county with the County/Bowls England.
    - c) Bowls England licensed and approved apparel may be worn provided that all members of a side or team bear the same colour above and/or below the waist.
  - 4.1 Players governed by requirements of a specific ethnic culture will be permitted to wear their traditional dress if they so desire.
  - 4.2 Tracksuits, shell suits and jeans are not acceptable
  - 4.3 Head gear, if worn, should be white or a registered colour

- 4.4 White waterproof clothing may be used, or, providing all members of a side wear the same, registered colour waterproof/fleeces are permitted. Bowls England licensed and approved apparel may also be worn
- 4.5 During play, white flat soled shoes will be worn on the green. Sandals will not be permitted, in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls England except in medical circumstances where a doctor's note has been provided.

## **Appendix C: Bowls**

- 6.1 In the early stages of National Championships and National Competitions when no umpire is present, the onus of checking the date stamp on bowls rests with the opposing player or players concerned.
- 6.2 For rounds leading to the final stages of National Championships and National Competitions, refer to Bowls England Domestic Regulations in the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.
- 6.3 Should a player wish to challenge the suitability of their opponent's bowls they should refer to Bowls England Domestic Regulations in the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls. The fee lodged will be £50.

## **Appendix D: Code of Conduct**

### ***Competitors in Bowls England National Championship/Competition Finals***

This code of conduct applies to all players who participate in the Bowls England National Championship and National Competition Finals, and is to be read in conjunction with the Bowls England Regulations for National Championships and National Competitions.

All players who participate in the National Championship and Competition Finals, at whichever prescribed venue, shall at all times conduct themselves in such a manner that reflects favourably upon themselves, Bowls England and the County or Club that he/she is representing at national level.

In particular he/she should:

1. Report punctually at the prescribed time and place.
2. Be conversant with and comply with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and all Bowls England domestic rules and by-laws relating to National Championships and National Competitions.
3. Adhere to Bowls England's Betting Integrity Guidance (Bowls England Regulation No.4.6)
4. Adhere to Bowls England's Disciplinary Regulations (Bowls England Regulation No.9, No.9A or No.9B apply as applicable)
5. Adhere to Bowls England's Anti-Doping Guidance (Please refer to Bowls England website)
6. Adhere to Bowls England Equality Policy (Please refer to Bowls England website)
7. Play all matches to completion i.e. to the required number of shots or ends. However, matches must be conceded where it is not mathematically possible for the losing team/individual to win. Otherwise matches may only be conceded in the case of illness or otherwise at the discretion of the Tournament Director (or nominated deputy).
8. Not cheat in order to gain unfair advantage, or cheat in order to deliberately lose a game.
9. Not use any form of gamesmanship in an attempt to gain unfair advantage.
10. Comply strictly with the guidance relating to 'slow play'.
11. Not render himself/herself unfit through alcohol or drugs on or off the bowling green.
12. Show respect to colleagues, opponents and officials and not subject them to any physical or verbal abuse at any time.
13. Smoking on the green is prohibited during all games, this includes electronic cigarettes.
14. The use of mobile phones on the green is prohibited during all games.

Failure to adhere to the above will result in an initial warning that will be issued by a nominated umpire. Should the player continue to not adhere they will be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy), whose decision will be final.

## Appendix E: Slow Play

The following will be enforced in the final stages of all Bowls England National Championships and Competitions. Only the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) can disqualify players.

- 1 Four-Wood Singles – Neither player may visit the head until both have delivered three bowls each. Should a player wish to visit the head prior to this point being reached the permission of the marker must be obtained. The maximum time that a player may deliberate before playing a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached they will be warned by the marker. Any further non compliance will be reported by the marker to an Umpire in charge of the green. The Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) may disqualify the offending player from taking any further part in the competition.
- 2 Two-Wood Singles – Neither player may visit the head until both have delivered one bowl each. Should a player wish to visit the head prior to this point being reached the permission of the marker must be obtained. The maximum time that a player may deliberate before playing a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached they will be warned by the marker. Any further non compliance will be reported by the marker to an Umpire in charge of the green. The tournament director (or nominated deputy) may disqualify the offending player from taking any further part in the competition.
- 3 Pairs – Neither Lead may visit the head until both players have delivered three bowls each. There is no restriction on Skips revisiting the head should they wish to do so. The maximum time that a player may confer before delivering a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached and not picked up by an Umpire in charge of the green, the aggrieved opposing Skip should bring the notice of the infringement to the Umpire. The Skip of the offending Pair will be warned by the Umpire and should there be further non compliance the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) may disqualify the offending Pair from taking any further part in the competition.
- 4 Triples – Neither Lead may visit the head until both have delivered their three bowls each. The Second players, having left the head after the Leads have delivered their bowls may not return to the head until both players have delivered two bowls each. There is no restriction on Skips revisiting the head should they wish to do so. The maximum time that a player may confer before delivering a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached and not picked up by an Umpire in charge of the green, the aggrieved opposing Skip should bring the notice of the infringement to the Umpire. The Skip of the offending Triple will be warned by the Umpire and should there be further non compliance the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) may disqualify the offending Triple from taking any further part in the competition.
- 5 Fours – The Lead and Second players may not visit the head until all four players have delivered their two bowls. There is no restriction on the Third players or the Skips revisiting the head should they wish to do so. The maximum time that a player may confer before delivering a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached and not picked up by an Umpire in charge of the green, the aggrieved opposing Skip should bring the notice of the infringement to the Umpire. The Skip of the offending Four will be warned by the Umpire and should there be further non compliance

the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) may disqualify the offending Four from taking any further part in the competition.

## **Appendix F: Umpires**

Umpires, when officially present, shall be appointed by the County Association or Bowls England in conjunction with the English Bowls Umpires Association and shall determine such points as may arise during the course of the play and the application of Bowls England Regulations and 'Laws of the Sport of Bowls' thereto. Their decision shall be final.

## **Appendix G: Smoking and Anti-Doping**

Smoking on the green is prohibited during all matches played under the jurisdiction of Bowls England. Failure to adhere to this will result in disqualification. This prohibition includes all electronic cigarettes.

The Anti-Doping rules of Bowls England are the UK Anti-Doping Rules published by UK Anti-Doping (or its successor), as amended from time to time. Such Rules shall take effect from 1st July 2010. The UK Anti-Doping Rules can be viewed at: [www.ukad.org.uk/documents/uk-anti-doping-rules](http://www.ukad.org.uk/documents/uk-anti-doping-rules)

## **Appendix H: Protection of Junior Bowlers and Adults at Risk**

Bowls England has a Safeguarding Policy and Adults at Risk Policy, which recognises and acknowledges its responsibilities to safeguard the welfare of young persons and adults at risk participating in its activities. More information can be found at: [www.safeguardingbowls.org](http://www.safeguardingbowls.org)

## **Appendix I: Players with Disabilities**

Wheelchairs must be of a type approved by both World Bowls and Bowls England. The two types currently recognised for use in England are the 'Bradshaw Buggy' and the 'Clippy'.

The wheelchair shall be recognised as being an integral part of the wheelchair player in all instances when a jack or bowl is displaced or interfered with by the wheelchair as per the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

At the point of delivery of the jack or bowl, refer to the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

Artificial devices may be used by players with disabilities for delivering the jack or bowl provided they are approved by Bowls England.

Visually impaired bowlers can use any form of assistance necessary (including having an assistant with them) to allow them to take part as long as the assistance is approved by the Governing Body for Visually Impaired Bowlers. The assistant shall not be deemed to be in contravention of the Laws of the Sport if that assistant relays to the player the instruction of the skip, assists in directing the player or keeps the player informed as to where the jack or bowl finished after delivery.

Players with a hearing disability may use aids (i.e walkie-talkies) in line with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

## **Appendix J: Inclement Weather**

### ***Middleton Cup/Johns Trophy***

In the event of the umpire and/or green-keeper deciding that no play or no further play is possible, matches in which the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 72 will be deemed to have been completed and the score will stand. In matches where the total number of ends played is less than 72, the tie will be deemed to be void and the match will be replayed at a later date. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Green keeper play will cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared null and void.

### ***Balcomb Trophy/White Rose Trophy/Walker Cup***

In the event of the umpire and/or green-keeper deciding that no play or no further play is possible, matches in which the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 24 will be deemed to have been completed and the score will stand. In matches where the total number of ends played is less than 24, the tie will be deemed to be void and the match will be replayed at a later date unless a result is mutually agreed. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Green-keeper play will cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared null and void.

### ***Amy Rose Bowl***

In the event of the Tournament Director and/or greenkeeper deciding that no play or no further play is possible, matches in which the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 18 will be deemed to have been completed and the score will stand. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Green keeper play will cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared null and void.