



# **RULES AND REGULATIONS 50-70**

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## **Regulation 50: National Championships (County Stages)**

### **50.1 General**

**50.1.1** All County Championships (as listed at 50.1.2) leading to National Bowls Finals shall be administered by the relevant County Association. These must be in accordance with the Bowls England Rules and Regulations set out in this document, and in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

**50.1.2** This Regulation refers to the following events:

- Four-Bowl Singles (one player, four bowls each, first to 21 shots)
- Two-Bowl Singles (one player, two bowls each, 21 ends\*)
- Pairs (two players, four bowls each, 18 ends\*)
- Triples (three players, three bowls each, 18 ends\*)
- Fours (four players, two bowls each, 18 ends\*)
- U24 Singles (one player, four bowls each, first to 21 shots)
- U24 Pairs (two players, three bowls each, 18 ends\*)
- Senior Fours (four players, two bowls each, 18 ends\*)

In the event of scores being equal on all events marked with \*, then an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached

**50.1.3** Championships are only open to members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England. For all junior championships, players must be under the age 24 on the 1st of April in that year. For the senior fours, players must be aged 55 and over on the 1st of April in that year (Sanction B applies).

**50.1.4** Players must not enter any Bowls England Championship under an assumed name or allow their name to be submitted by more than one club/county/country in any one year, with the exception the Junior Pairs, where players may belong to different affiliated clubs within the same county (Sanction B applies).

**50.1.5** Should a club cease to exist after the entry date, affiliated members are permitted, for one season only, to compete under the name of that club irrespective of which club or clubs they have joined.

**50.1.6** County Administrators must submit the number of entrants in each of the National Championships, together with the relevant entry fees to Bowls England no later than the 4th March that year (Sanction A applies).

**50.1.7** Entries must be made by one named entrant only.

50.1.7.1 Named entrants are excluded from being a substitute in the same discipline, even when a walkover in the first round has taken place (Sanction B applies).



- 50.1.7.2 If the named entrant is unable to participate (from the outset) due to exceptional circumstances, the team may request the use of an additional player. Requests must be made in writing to the County Association.
- 50.1.7.3 If the named entrant changes club within the same county they may request, via their County Association, to have their named entrant status transferred to another entrant in Pairs, Triples & Fours events prior to 1st March in the year of the competition.
- 50.1.7.4 The named entrant may move Singles entries subject to County Association approval.
- 50.1.7.5 If the named entrant changes County they may request, via their County Association, approval from Bowls England to have their named entrant status transferred to another entrant in Pairs, Triples & Fours events or removed to allow their participation in future matches that season under the jurisdiction of Bowls England. Deadline for changes is 1st March in the year of the competition.

## **50.2 Match Arrangements**

**50.2.1** All County Championships leading to National Finals, unless mutually agreed, must be played on either:

**(1) Weekdays**

Start time no earlier than 6pm or later than 6.30pm

**(2) Weekends**

Start time no earlier than 9.30am or later than 6.30pm

If a player/team fails to be ready within 30 minutes of the start time (Sanction I applies).

**50.2.2** Players and Officials selected by Bowls England for International Duties must be accommodated in all stages of the following events:

- Four-Bowl Singles
- Pairs
- Triples
- Fours
- U24 Singles
- U24 Pairs

**50.2.3** Suitable flood lighting may be used during any round.

**50.2.4** The playing surface must be either vegetation (grass) or a synthetic surface as per the Laws of the Sport (Law 46.4). It is a condition that National Events are played outdoors and that the green has been approved by the relevant County Association. Fixed groundsheets (those laid/pegged down for the duration of the



match) are acceptable for National Championships. Portable groundsheets are permitted subject to the approval of the host venue and/or greenkeeper.

**50.2.5** Players who have been drawn to play at a club that they have either been expelled or suspended from, should either be allowed to access the changing room and green in order to play the game or alternatively the challenger should make arrangements to play at a neutral venue affiliated to Bowls England. The neutral venue should not be any additional mileage from that of the original club.

**50.2.6** The draw for rink/s to be played on shall be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport, refer to Appendix C for guidance (Sanction J applies).

**50.2.7** In the event of game stoppages in all Championships, the match must be played to a finish as per the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Law 33 applies. If necessary future rounds must be realigned to accommodate. Please refer to Appendix F.

**50.2.8** Substitutions

50.2.8.1 In team games, the players competing in the first match will constitute the team. One additional, and the same player, may be used as a substitute provided they have not already played or entered the Championship (Sanction B applies).

50.2.8.2 Substitutes may play in any position (Sanction B applies). If a substitute is required during a game, then the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Law 32) apply.

50.2.8.3 If the named entrant is unable to participate in the first match, the named entrant is the only substitute that can be brought into the team in all future rounds unless 50.1.7.2 applies (Sanction B applies).

**50.2.9** For dress code please refer to Appendix.

### **50.3 Qualifiers for National Finals**

**50.3.1** Every County Association shall be entitled to at least one representative in each Championship discipline. The representative details must be forwarded to Bowls England no later than the Monday of Week Number 32.

**50.3.2** County Associations must allocate qualifiers according to their procedure set out at the start of the season. Bowls England reserves the right to change representatives if the need arises following submission.

## **Regulation 51: National Championships (Final Stages)**

### **51.1 General**

- 51.1.1** The final stages of all events listed at 50.1.2 will be played under the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls and in accordance with these regulations.
- 51.1.2** Competitors must adhere to the Player Code of Conduct for National Finals (Appendix K).
- 51.1.3** The Tournament Director shall determine any questions or disputes that may arise, that do not come within the scope of the umpire's duties. The decision of the Tournament Director shall be final and binding.
- 51.1.4** The Tournament Director reserves the right to alter starting times and rinks if it is considered necessary or desirable.
- 51.1.5** The Tournament Director, in consultation with the Greenkeeper, 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 shall apply.
- 51.1.6** At the National Finals all bowls shall bear the world bowls stamp in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Law 53) (Sanction L applies). See Appendix G for clarification.

### **51.2 Arrangements for Play**

- 51.2.1** Skips/singles players shall collect their scorecards and/or stickers from the Tournament Office before each round and register all substitutes shall be registered with the Tournament Office.
- 51.2.2** Parental consent forms (where applicable) shall be completed and submitted.
- 51.2.3** Competitors must be on the green ready to play within 15 minutes of the agreed start time (Sanction N applies)
- 51.2.4** Competitors shall adhere to the Bowls England Slow Play Guidance (Sanction O applies)
- 51.2.5** Matches must be conceded where it is not possible for the losing team/individual to win as per the Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Law 26.3).
- 51.2.6** After the end of each match the winning skip (or player in Singles) shall take the signed scorecard/s to the Tournament Office immediately. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification (Sanction P applies)
- 51.2.7** For dress code please refer to Appendix.



### **51.3 Trophy Presentation**

**51.3.1** At the conclusion of all Finals, a trophy presentation to both finalists shall take place on the green (Sanction Q applies).

**51.3.2** The Winners of the Four-Bowl Singles, U24 Singles, U24 Pairs, Pairs, Triples, Fours and Senior Fours shall represent England in the British Bowls Championships the following year.

## **Regulation 52: Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **52.1 General**

**52.1.1** All events covered by Regulation 52 shall be administered by Bowls England in accordance with the Bowls England Rules and Regulations set out in this document, and the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

**52.1.2** These events are only open to members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England (Sanction B applies).

**52.1.3** Should a club cease to exist after the entry date, affiliated members are permitted, for one season only, to compete under the name of that club irrespective of which club or clubs they have joined. In addition, the Club Singles Champion shall be eligible to enter the Champion of Champions.

### **52.2 Competition Types**

**52.2.1** These events consist of the following:

- Inter-County events
- Inter-Club events
- National events

52.2.1.1 Inter-County events consist of:

- Johns Trophy
- Walker Cup
- Amy Rose Bowl
- Middleton Cup
- Balcomb Trophy
- White Rose Trophy
- O60 Mixed Inter-County

52.2.1.2 Players must not enter any Bowls England Inter-County events under an assumed name or allow their name to be submitted by more than one County/Country in any one year. Players must represent the County in which they have entered the National Championships and must not participate in National Championships in another country or represent another Country in International Teams (Sanction D applies).

52.2.1.3 Inter-Club events consist of:

- Men's Top Club
- Women's Top Club
- Club Two Fours (Open)
- Club Over 60 Mixed Two Fours



52.2.1.4 Players must not enter any Bowls England Inter-Club events under an assumed name or allow their name to be submitted by more than one Club/County/Country in any one year. Players must represent the Club which they have entered National Championships and must not enter National Championships in another Country or represent another Country in International Teams. (Sanction D applies).

52.2.1.5 Individual events consist of:

- Family Pairs
- Champion of Champions
- O60 Singles
- O60 Pairs
- Mixed Pairs
- Mixed Fours
- Foundation Pairs
- Under 17 Singles

52.2.1.6 Players must not enter any Bowls England individual events under an assumed name or allow their name to be submitted by more than one team in any one year (Sanction B applies).

52.2.1.7 Under 17 Singles: Players must represent the County in which they have entered the National Championships and must not participate in National Championships in another country or represent another Country in International Teams (Sanction D applies).

**52.2.2** Entries must be made by one named entrant only.

52.2.2.2 Named entrants are excluded from being a substitute in the same discipline, even when a walkover in the first round has taken place (Sanction B applies).

52.2.2.3 If the named entrant is unable to participate (from the outset) due to exceptional circumstances, the team may request the name and contact details to be changed on the draw and the use of an additional player. Requests must be made in writing to Bowls England.

52.2.2.4 If the named entrant changes club/county they may request approval from Bowls England to have their details/entries amended prior to 1st March in the year of the competition. Any changes after this date will incur a charge of £80.

52.2.2.4 Should an individual who as a named entrant entered National Events change county during the close season, they may request written approval from Bowls England for their National Competition entries to be transferred to somebody else to allow their participation in future matches that season under the jurisdiction of Bowls England. Deadline for changes 1<sup>st</sup> March in the year of the competition.

## **Match Arrangements (Excluding regional finals)**

- 52.3.1** The Competition Areas, draw and completion dates for all National events shall be made by Bowls England. Area draws shall be based upon the entry figures from the previous year. The format of rules for the individual events shall be found under the corresponding regulation.
- 52.3.2** In all qualification rounds (excluding inter-county events), the Challenger shall be responsible for the match arrangements and should be responsible for the payment of rink fees (where applicable) and umpire fees (when appointed), except when matches take place at a neutral venue when all costs shall be shared by both participants/teams/sides.
- 52.3.3** In singles the challenger is responsible for arranging a marker.
- 52.3.4** The appointment of an umpire at matches prior to the National Finals in Individual or Inter-Club Events is entirely optional.

## **52.4 Match Location**

- 52.4.1** Matches shall be played on the challengers affiliated green as shown on the draw unless another venue is mutually agreed by both parties.
- 52.4.2** If the mileage exceeds 200 miles round trip (club to club for club-based events and county centre to match venue for county-based events via the shortest route on google maps) matches must be played on a neutral green arranged by the challenger. Routes involving teams from the Isle of Wight must be calculated via the Southampton ferry.
- 52.4.3** All rounds in the final stages prior to the national finals shall be played on a neutral green arranged by the challenger. In the round prior to qualifying for the National Finals, the Men's and Women's Top Club All-England Round of 16 will be played on a predetermined set date. All area finals in Inter-Club events shall be played on a neutral green (unless mutually agreed).
- 52.4.4** Players who have been drawn to play at a club that they have either been expelled or suspended from, should either be allowed to access the changing room and green in order to play the game or alternatively the challenger should make arrangements to play at a neutral venue affiliated to Bowls England.
- 52.4.5** Neutral Greens should be approximately midway or equal distance between the two clubs/counties unless mutually agreed.
- 52.4.6** The use of the same neutral green in future rounds is permissible.
- 52.4.7** Suitable flood lighting may be used during any round.
- 52.4.8** The playing surface must be either vegetation (grass) or a synthetic surface as per the Laws of the Sport (Law 46.4). It is a condition that National Events are played outdoors and that the green has been approved by the relevant County



Association. Fixed groundsheets (those laid/pegged down for the duration of the match) are acceptable for National Events. Portable groundsheets are permitted subject to the approval of the host venue and/or greenkeeper.

## **52.5 Offering of dates**

**52.5.1** For an opening match, the Challenger must offer their opponent three dates of play no later than 21 days in advance of the closing date of the round. Dates offered must fall within the 19-day window of the opening round (Sanction E). When either a challenger or opponent of the tie is competing in an earlier round, and the awaiting opposition has a bye to the next round then rule 52.5.2 will apply.

**52.5.2** For all subsequent rounds, the Challenger must offer their opponent, within 24 hours after the closing date of the previous round, three dates of play. The three dates offered must fall within the window of the round (Sanction F).

**52.5.3** Failure to offer eligible dates (challenger) – Opponent becomes ‘challenger’ and must make all match arrangements within 48 hours of the previous round (Sanction E & Sanction F)

**52.5.4** Matches may be played in advance of 21 days of the opening round closing date or prior to the closing date of the previous round only by mutual agreement.

**52.5.5** A minimum of 72 hours after the close of the previous round, 19 days prior in the case of a first match is required for any dates offered to be eligible unless mutually agreed (Sanction E applies).

**52.5.6** The offering of two different start times on a single date does not count as two dates.

52.5.6.1 At least one of the dates offered must be a Saturday or Sunday. There is no requirement that a weekday date must be offered. Bank holidays are classed as either a weekend OR weekday date.

52.5.6.2 The start time for any match shall be set by the Challenger when the dates are offered and, unless mutually agreed, must be played on either:

**(1) Weekdays**

Start time no earlier than 6pm or later than 6.30pm\*

\* The Challenger in O60 Singles, O60 Pairs and the Mixed Over 60 Inter-Club Two Fours may offer a start time between 9.30am and 6.30pm on weekdays

**(2) Weekends**

Start time no earlier than 9.30am or later than 6.30pm

If a player/team fails to be ready to play within 30 minutes of the agreed start time Sanction I applies.



**52.5.7** The opponent must accept a date for play no later than 72 hours after the close of the previous round (Sanction F applies). For a first match – 19 days prior to the close of the round applies (Sanction E applies).

**52.5.8** No extension of the closing date for any round shall be granted for any reason whatsoever.

## **52.6 General Matters**

**52.6.1** The draw for rink/s to be played on shall be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport, please refer to Appendix C for guidance (Sanction J applies).

**52.6.2** For dress code please refer to Appendix B1 & B2. If not adhered to Sanction K applies.

**52.6.3** For Inclement Weather refer to Appendix F.

**52.6.4** The result shall be submitted by the winning player or team/side to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods (Sanction Q applies).

## **52.7 Player Code of Conduct**

Competitors must adhere to the Bowls England Player Code of Conduct



## **Regulation 53: Inter-County Championship Women's (Johns Trophy) & Men's (Middleton Cup)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **53.1 General**

- 53.1.1** This competition is restricted to one side per county open to all County Associations who are Members of Bowls England.
- 53.1.2** Each County Association shall forward to Bowls England, the entries in each of the Inter-County Competitions together with any relevant entry fees.
- 53.1.3** Each 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.
- 53.1.4** Failure to field 24 players shall result in a walkover (Sanction I applies).
- 53.1.5** All matches shall start at 2pm unless mutually agreed. The last round of group games within the same group, (excluding dead rubbers), shall start at the same time (2pm unless mutually agreed between all competing counties).
- 53.1.6** In matches up to and including the quarter-finals, the two participating counties shall arrange for fixtures to be played either:
- 53.1.6.1 At a venue in one of the two counties (home team to arrange umpire);
  - 53.1.6.2 On a 3 rink home/3 rink away basis (each county to arrange umpire)
  - 53.1.6.3 At a neutral venue midway between the two counties (two counties to mutually arrange and pay costs accordingly);
  - 53.1.6.4 The two counties will be responsible for sharing all costs incurred regardless of venue
- In the group stages, the same will apply to year one and year two of the group tie.
- 53.1.7** Counties shall provide bowls stickers in all rounds up to and including the quarter-finals unless provided by a sponsor

### **53.2 Group Stages**

- 53.2.1** Teams will be divided into eight groups as determined by Bowls England in accordance with regional demands, with each group played as a round robin league. Each group winner shall progress to the quarter-finals. Thereafter is played to a knockout format. Each rink shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player.

- 53.2.2** 22 points are available for each match in the group stages – 2 points for a rink win, 1 point for a rink tie and 10 points for the team with the highest aggregate score. In an event of a tie on shots 5 points will be awarded to each team.
- 53.2.3** Should a match end as a tie (both shots and points) after 21 ends then an extra end or ends shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots on all six rinks shall count on the extra end and the winning team reported to Bowls England. **The extra end shall not form part of the score within the group stages** but shall 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.
- 53.2.4** Where a county is unable or refuses to fulfil a fixture in the group, they will be removed from the competition immediately and any matches played previously declared 'void'. If both counties agree not to fulfil a fixture (dead rubber) match points will be shared equally to both sides in order that the group can be completed on the Bowls England competition portal.
- 53.2.5** The county gaining the greatest number of points in each group shall be declared the winner of that section. Should two counties be equal in points and also in shot difference then the winner shall be ascertained on the result of the match already played between the two counties.
- 53.2.6** Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away.

### **53.3 Quarter-Finals**

- 53.3.1** The two counties concerned shall be responsible for arranging an Umpire (via the English Bowls Umpires Association). Costs for green fees/umpiring fees shall be shared by both counties.
- 53.3.2** Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall 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 shall 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 shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots on all six rinks shall count on the extra end.

### **53.4 Final Stages**

- 53.4.1** Each county qualifying for the Semi-Final stage shall supply to Bowls England the names of six rinks and four reserves upon request. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the Aviva National Bowls Finals.
- 53.4.2** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.



**53.4.3** The Winner and Runner-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 28 Winners/Runners-Up medals.



## **Regulation 54: Inter-County Women's (Walker Cup) & Men's (Balcomb Trophy)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **54.1 General**

This competition shall be open to all County Associations who are Members of Bowls England.

Each County Association shall forward to Bowls England, the entries in each of the Inter-County Competitions together with any relevant entry fees as determined by Bowls England.

Every county shall be represented by a side consisting of 10 players, all of whom shall be members of an affiliated club to their County Association. Failure to field 10 players shall result in a walkover (Sanction I applies). No player shall play for more than one county in any one year. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate (Sanction D applies).

Bowls England shall determine the dates for all rounds, groups and venues.

### **54.2 Format of Play**

Players will participate in the following disciplines:

- Singles (four bowls each player, first to 21)
- Pairs (three bowls per player, 18 ends)
- Triples (two bowls per player, 18 ends)
- Fours (two bowls per player, 15 ends)

The county side may be changed ahead of the start of each individual match/round.

Each match will be limited to a time limit of two hours 30 minutes (including trial ends). All ends must be played in all disciplines unless a discipline is 'timed-out'.

In the event of a 'dead end' the jack will be re-spotted on the T (or as near as possible to the T in line with the current Laws of the Sport)

### **54.3 Scoring – Regional Finals**

- Per discipline – 3 pts for a win; 1 pt for a draw
- Per match – 12 pts for a win; 6 pts for a draw





The county that tops the group at the conclusion of the group stages on will qualify for the Aviva National Bowls Finals.

This will be determined by (in order):

- Overall points
- Overall shots difference
- Overall shots scored

If there is a 'tie' between two counties once these factors are taken into account, the result (shots aggregate) in the match between the two counties concerned will determine the group winner. Should shots be level at conclusion of the match, the winning team will be determined by the winner of the Singles fixture between those two counties. Should this still not produce a winner, each county will select one player to play a one-end tie-break to determine the winner.

### **54.3 Scoring – Final Stages**

In the final stages the winning team will be determined on shots aggregate across the four disciplines. Should shots be level at conclusion of the match, the winning team will be determined by the winner of the Singles fixture. Should this still not produce a winner, the Singles players will play a one-end tie-break to determine the winner.

Matches at the Aviva National Bowls Finals must be conceded once the overall result is determined.

### **54.5 Final Stages**

The final stages (quarter-finals, semi-finals and final) shall be played on a knockout basis during the Aviva National Bowls Finals.

Each county qualifying for the final stages shall supply to Bowls England its squad's details upon request.

Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for final stages.

The Winner and Runner-Up shall receive a maximum of 12 Winners medals.



## **Regulation 55: Inter-County Junior Women (Amy Rose Bowl) & Men (White Rose Trophy)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **55.1 General**

The competition shall be open to all County Associations who are members of Bowls England.

Each county Association shall forward to Bowls England, entries in each of the Inter-County events together with any relevant entry fees as determined by Bowls England.

Each county may enter more than one side of five players. Counties are permitted to form teams with neighbouring counties (subject to approval from Bowls England) in order to enable full participation by players aged under 24 across England.

All players shall be members of clubs affiliated to their County Association and under 24 years of age by 1st April in the year of the competition. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate (Sanction D applies).

Substitution of players is permitted at the end of each set.

Junior/Cub bowls may be used.

Bowls England shall determine the dates for all rounds, groups and venues. Each group to be played as a round robin league, each group winner shall progress to the quarter-finals which will take place at the Aviva National Bowls Finals. Thereafter the event is played to a knockout format.

### **55.2 Format of Play**

Players will participate in the following disciplines:

- Singles (four bowls each player, two sets of seven ends)
- Pairs (three bowls per player, 2 sets of six ends)
- Triples (two bowls per player, 2 sets of six ends)
- Fours (two bowls per player, 2 sets of five ends)

Each match will feature two sessions

- Pairs/Triples – Session 1
- Singles/Fours – Session 2



Counties may change players/disciplines prior to the start of each individual match

Each session will have a time limit of one hour 15 minutes (including trial ends). All ends must be played in all disciplines unless a discipline is 'timed-out'.

In the event of a 'dead end' the jack will be re-spotted on the T (or as near as possible to the T in line with the current Laws of the Sport)

Before the start of each match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away.

### **55.3 Scoring – Regional Finals**

- Per discipline – 3 pts for a win; 1 pt for a draw
- Per match – 12 pts for a win; 6 pts for a draw

The county/team that tops the group at the conclusion of the group stages on will qualify for the Aviva National Bowls Finals. This will be determined by (in order):

- Overall points
- Overall shots difference
- Overall shots scored

Should there still be a 'tie' between two counties once these factors are taken into account, the result (shots aggregate) in the match between the two counties concerned will determine the group winner.

If there is a 'tie' between two counties once these factors are taken into account, the result (shots aggregate) in the match between the two counties concerned will determine the group winner. Should shots be level at conclusion of the match, the winning team will be determined by the winner of the Singles fixture between those two counties. Should this still not produce a winner, each county will select one player to play a one-end tie-break to determine the winner.

### **55.4 Scoring – Final Stages**

In the final stages the winning team will be determined on shots aggregate across the four disciplines. Should shots be level at conclusion of the match, the winning team will be determined by the winner of the Singles fixture. Should this still not produce a winner, the Singles players will play a one-end tie-break to determine the winner.

### **55.5 Final Stages**

The final stages consisting of the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis during the Aviva National Bowls Finals.



Each county qualifying for the Quarter-Final stage shall supply to Bowls England the names of five players and two reserves upon request.

Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the Final Stages of this event.

The Winner and Runner-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 7 Winners medals.



## **Regulation 56: O60 Mixed Inter-County Championship**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **56.1 General**

- 56.1.1** This competition is restricted to one side per county open to all County Associations who are Members of Bowls England.
- 56.1.2** All players shall be aged 60 years or over on April 1st in the year of the competition (Sanction D applies).
- 56.1.3** A County side shall be represented by a side consisting of six rinks of four players (two men and two women per rink), all of whom shall be members of an affiliated club to their County Association (Sanction D applies).
- 56.1.4** Failure to field 24 players shall result in a walkover (Sanction I applies).
- 56.1.5** All matches shall start at 11.30am unless mutually agreed.
- 56.1.6** In matches up to and including the quarter-finals, the participating counties shall arrange for fixtures to be played either:
- 56.1.6.1 At a venue in one of the two counties (home team to arrange umpire);
  - 56.1.6.2 On a 3 rink home/3 rink away basis (each county to arrange umpire).
  - 56.1.6.3 At a neutral venue midway between the two counties (two counties to mutually arrange and pay costs accordingly).
- 56.1.7** Umpire fees and green fees payable shall be shared by both counties in all rounds.
- 56.1.8** Counties shall provide bowls stickers in all rounds up to and including the quarter-finals unless provided by a sponsor.
- 56.1.9** Each rink shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player. The side with the highest aggregate score across all six rinks at the conclusion of the match will be the winner.
- 56.1.10** Should a match end as a tie on shots after 21 ends then an extra end or ends shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots on all six rinks shall count on the extra end and the winning team reported to Bowls England.
- 56.1.11** Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall 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 shall 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 shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots on all six rinks shall count on the extra end.

## **56.2 Final Stages**

**56.2.1** Each county qualifying for the Semi-Final stage shall supply to Bowls England the names of six rinks and four reserves upon request. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the Aviva National Bowls Finals.

**56.2.2** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.

**56.2.3** The Winner and Runner-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 28 Winners/Runners-Up medals.

## **Regulation 57: National Top Club (Women)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **57.1 General**

**57.1.1** 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 (Sanction D applies).

**57.1.2** Players are required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-Club Competitions may only represent one club should they belong to more than one club. (Sanction D applies).

**57.1.3** Fixed dates may be set by County Associations subject to the following:

- Both clubs participating in the round are affiliated to the same County Association
- The dates for each round set by the County Association shall fall within the round closing dates for that particular round set by Bowls England
- The set date meets the requirement of the playing times/days specified in Regulation 52.5.6.2
- Fixed dates will be utilized for the All-England Round of 16 set by Bowls England.

**57.1.4** A club side shall consist of 10 players. The disciplines are Four- Bowl Singles (21 shots), Four-Bowl Pairs (18 ends), Three-Bowl Triples (18 ends) and Two- Bowl Fours (18 ends). The challenger shall have the choice of green and shall make all match arrangements.

**57.1.5** Failure to field 10 players shall result in a walk-over (Sanction I applies).

**57.1.6** Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away, and make the draw for rinks for each discipline. The format for the competition shall be as follows:

- 1pt for every discipline won, total of four points available. In the event of a drawn discipline the point shall be shared, i.e. ½ point each. After completion of the four disciplines the winning side shall be decided by the highest number of points.
- In the case of a tie, the winner shall 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, shall be played to determine the result. A further toss of the coin shall take place, the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away on the extra ends.



- Shots do not count on the extra end – only the result of the three disciplines, i.e. 2-1, 3-0. All disciplines shall be played simultaneously.
- In singles, no shots above 21 will count towards the aggregate score.

**57.1.7** Between rounds, team 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 (Sanction D applies). 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. Substitutes are allowed during play in the Pairs, Triples and Fours of this event in line with the current Laws of the Sport.

## **57.2 Final Stages**

**57.2.1** The Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals and Final consisting of the last eight teams shall compete at the Aviva National Bowls Finals. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.

**57.2.2** Each Club qualifying for the National Finals shall supply Bowls England the names of the ten players and two reserves upon request. A maximum of 12 National Competition participation badges shall be presented to players involved at the finals.

**57.2.3** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.

**57.2.4** The Winners shall be presented with a maximum of 12 medals and a Club Pennant along with 12 medals for the Runners-Up.



## **Regulation 58: National Top Club (Men)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **58.1 General**

**58.1.1** 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 (Sanction D applies).

**58.1.2** Players are required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-Club Competitions may only represent one club should they belong to more than one club (Sanction D applies).

**58.1.3** Fixed dates may be set by County Associations subject to the following:

- Both clubs participating in the round are affiliated to the same County Association
- The dates for each round set by the County Association shall fall within the round closing dates for that particular round set by Bowls England
- The set date meets the requirement of the playing times/days specified in Regulation 52.5.6.2
- Fixed dates will be utilized for the All-England Round of 16 set by Bowls England.

**58.1.4** A club side shall consist of 11 players. The disciplines are Two- Bowl Singles (21 ends), Four- Bowl Singles (21 shots), Four-Bowl Pairs (18 ends), Three-Bowl Triples (18 ends) and Two- Bowl Fours (18 ends). The challenger shall have the choice of green and shall make all match arrangements up to the inter-area stage.

**58.1.5** Failure to field 11 players shall result in a walk-over (Sanction I applies).

**58.1.6** Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away, a further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required and make the draw for rinks for each discipline. All disciplines shall start at the same time unless, when arranging the fixture, it is agreed that the singles matches shall be played on the same rink one after the other. An extra end shall be played in any discipline should it be a tie – no drawn matches. 1pt for every discipline won, total of five points available, the winning side shall be the one winning the most disciplines.

**58.1.7** 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 shall 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 (Law 33).

**58.1.8** Between rounds, team 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 (Sanction B applies).

## **58.2 Final Stages**

**58.2.1** The Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals and Final consisting of the last eight teams shall compete at the Aviva National Bowls Finals. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.

**58.2.2** Each Club qualifying for the National Finals shall supply Bowls England the names of the eleven players and two reserves upon request.

**58.2.3** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.

**58.2.4** The Winners shall be presented with a maximum of 13 medals and a Club Pennant along with 13 medals for the Runners-Up.

## **Regulation 59: National Club Two Fours (Open)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **59.1 General**

**59.1.1** 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 (Sanction D applies).

**59.1.2** Players are required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-Club Competitions may only represent one club should they belong to more than one club (Sanction D applies).

**59.1.3** Fixed dates may be set by County Associations subject to the following:

- Both clubs participating in the round are affiliated to the same County Association
- The dates for each round set by the County Association shall fall within the round closing dates for that particular round set by Bowls England
- The set date meets the requirement of the playing times/days specified in Regulation 52.5.6.2

**59.1.4** A club side shall consist of two rinks of four players, and they shall play 18 ends, two bowls each player. The challenger shall have the choice of green and shall make all match arrangements.

**59.1.5** Failure to field eight players shall result in a walkover (Sanction I applies).

**59.1.6** Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall 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 shall play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This shall 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 18th end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks shall determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 18 ends on each rink then an extra end shall be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.

**59.1.7** Between rounds, team 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 (Sanction B applies).



## **59.2 Final Stages**

**59.2.1** The National finals 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 shall be made by Bowls England.

**59.2.2** The Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the Aviva National Bowls Finals.

**59.2.3** Each club qualifying for the Quarter-Final stage shall supply to Bowls England the names of the two rinks and two reserves upon request.

**59.2.4** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.

**59.2.5** The Winners shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals, and a Club Pennant with the Runners-Up receiving a maximum of 10 medals.

## **Regulation 60: National Club Mixed Over 60s Two Fours (Tony Allcock Trophy)**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **60.1 General**

- 60.1.1** All players shall be aged 60 years or over on April 1st in the year of the competition (Sanction D applies).
- 60.1.2** Players are required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-Club Competitions may only represent one club should they belong to more than one club (Sanction D applies).
- 60.1.3** Fixed dates may be set by County Associations subject to the following:
- Both clubs participating in the round are affiliated to the same County Association
  - The dates for each round set by the County Association shall fall within the round closing dates for that particular round set by Bowls England
  - The set date meets the requirement of the playing times/days specified in Regulation 52.5.6.2
- 60.1.4** A club side shall consist of two rinks of four players from its membership in accordance with the National Competition regulations (two men and two women per rink) and they shall play 18 ends, two bowls each player. The challenger shall have the choice of green and shall make all match arrangements.
- 60.1.5** Failure to field eight players shall result in a walk-over (Sanction I applies).
- 60.1.6** Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall 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 shall play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This shall 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 18th end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks shall determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 18 ends then an extra end shall be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
- 60.1.7** Between rounds, team 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 (Sanction B applies).



## **60.2 Final Stages**

- 60.2.1** The National finals 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 Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England.
- 60.2.2** The Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the Aviva National Bowls Finals. A maximum of 10 National Competition participation badges shall be presented to players involved.
- 60.2.3** Each club qualifying for the Quarter-Final stage shall supply to Bowls England the names of the two rinks and two reserves upon request.
- 60.2.4** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.
- 60.2.5** The Winners shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals, and a Club Pennant with the Runners-Up receiving a maximum of 10 medals.

## **Regulation 61: National Over 60 Singles**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **61.1 General**

**61.1.1** The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.

**61.1.2** Each player shall have reached their 60th birthday by 1st April in the year of the competition. (Sanction B applies)

**61.1.3** Players shall play from the same county in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate. (Sanction B applies)

**61.1.4** Senior Singles matches shall be 21 shots (four bowls each player).

### **61.2 Final Stages**

**61.2.1** The last 16 shall compete at the National finals on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.

**61.2.2** All players involved at the National Finals shall receive a National Competition participation badge.

**61.2.3** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.

**61.2.4** The Winners shall be presented with a medal and fleece.

## **Regulation 62: National Over 60 Pairs**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **62.1 General**

- 62.1.1** The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
- 62.1.2** Each player shall have reached their 60th birthday by 1st April in the year of the competition. (Sanction B applies)
- 62.1.3** The two players in the Senior Pairs shall be members of an affiliated club within the same county. (Sanction B applies)
- 62.1.4** Players shall play from the same county in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate. (Sanction B applies)
- 62.1.5** Senior Pairs shall be 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 shall be played until a decision is reached.
- 62.1.6** The two players taking part in the first match constitutes the original team and shall normally play together throughout the competition. In the event of a substitute being required, 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 shall play in all rounds. The substitute may play in any position. (Sanction H applies).

If the named entrant is unable to participate in the first match, the named entrant is the only player (substitute) that can be brought into the team in all future rounds unless 52.2.2.2 applies.

### **62.2 Final Stages**

- 62.2.1** The last 16 shall compete at the National finals on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.
- 62.2.2** Each Team qualifying for the National Finals final stage shall supply to Bowls England the name of their partner upon request. The players involved at the National Finals shall receive a National Competition participation badge.
- 62.2.3** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event
- 62.2.4** The Winners shall be presented with a medal and fleece





## **Regulation 63: National Champion of Champions Singles**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **63.1 General**

The competition shall be open to all clubs affiliated to Bowls England.

Open to all current male and female Club Championship Singles Champions only. If the Current singles Champion is not able to enter no substitution is permissible. Sanction B applies for any entrants who do not meet the eligibility criteria above.

Entrants will represent the club where they qualified and placed in the area that the club is assigned to.

In the event of a member being the Singles Champion of more than one affiliated club during the same season, only one entry for that player will be accepted – this being the Club from where the player entered events listed at [1] in the season in the year of qualification.

#### **[1] County Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours, U24 singles, O55 Fours, Two Bowl Singles**

Players who have moved club during the close season shall still be eligible to enter the Champion of Champions providing that Bowls England receives written approval from the Club Secretary where they secured qualification no later than 1st March 2025 (Sanction C applies).

If Club approval is granted the entrant will be placed into the respective area of their new club.

Each match shall be 21 shots, four bowls each player.

### **63.2 Final Stages**

The last 8 shall compete at the National finals on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.

Each player involved in the National finals shall receive a participation badge.

Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.

The Winner shall be presented with a medal and a fleece, with a medal for the Runner-Up.

## **Regulation 64: National Mixed Pairs**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **64.1 General**

- 64.1.1** The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
- 64.1.2** A team shall comprise of one man and one woman. Either player may skip.
- 64.1.3** Players shall play from the same county in which they play their National Championships, with the exception of those clubs affiliated to two counties due to historic geographic circumstances (Sanction B applies). Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.
- 64.1.4** Each match shall be 18 ends, three bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a result is reached.
- 64.1.5** The two players taking part in the first match constitutes the original team and shall normally play together throughout the competition. In the event of a substitute being required, one and the same male and/or one and the same female player may come from any club, in the same county, providing they have not already played in the same competition. One of the original players shall play in all rounds. The substitute may play in any position. (Sanction H applies).

If the named entrant is unable to participate in the first match, the named entrant is the only substitute that can be brought into the team in all future rounds unless 52.2.2.2 applies.

### **64.2 Final Stages**

- 64.2.1** The last 8 shall compete at the National finals on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.
- 64.2.2** Each Team qualifying for the final stages shall supply to Bowls England the name of each player upon request. The players involved in the National finals shall receive a National Competition participation badge.
- 64.2.3** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 64.2.4** The Winners shall be presented with two medals and two fleeces along with two medals for the Runners-Up.



## **Regulation 65: National Mixed Fours**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **65.1 General**

- 65.1.1** The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
- 65.1.2** A team shall comprise of two men and two women. Any player may skip.
- 65.1.3** Players shall play from the same county in which they play their National Championships, with the exception of those clubs affiliated to two counties due to historic geographic circumstances (Sanction B applies). Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.
- 65.1.4** Each match shall be 18 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 shall be played until a result is reached.
- 65.1.5** The four players taking part in the first match constitutes the original team and shall normally play together throughout the competition. In the event of a substitute being required, one and the same male and/or one and the same female player may come from any club, in the same county, providing they have not already played in the same competition. One male and one female of the original players shall play in all rounds. The substitute may play in any position. (Sanction H applies).

If the named entrant is unable to participate in the first match, the named entrant is the only substitute that can be brought into the team in all future rounds unless 52.2.2.2 applies.

### **65.2 Final Stages**

- 65.2.1** The last 8 shall compete at the National finals on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.
- 65.2.2** Each Team qualifying for the final stages shall supply to Bowls England the names of their team players upon request. The players involved in the National Finals shall receive a National Competition participation badge.
- 65.2.3** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 65.2.4** The Winners shall be presented with four medals and four fleeces along with four medals for the Runners-Up.

## **Regulation 66: National Family Pairs**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **66.1 General**

**66.1.1** The competition shall be open to all playing members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England who have not participated in any of the following events since and including 2020:

- International play (including U25 and U18 internationals)
- Walker Cup
- Balcomb Trophy

**66.1.2** A team shall be comprised of two players. Either player may skip.

**66.1.3** Players need not necessarily be members of the same club or county. Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.

**66.1.4** Each match shall be 18 ends, three bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a result is reached.

**66.1.5** 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
- Marriage
- Civil Partnership

The following pairings and/or players are therefore not eligible:

- In-laws
- International Players since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020
- Anyone who has played Walker Cup or Balcomb Trophy since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020

Sanction B applies to any entries that do not meet the eligibility criteria.

**66.1.6** Relationship between players and/or information on playing experience shall be declared on request.

**66.1.7** 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 shall play in every round. Substitutes shall come from one of the eligible listings and shall not have already played or entered the same competition. (Sanction H applies)

If the named entrant is unable to participate in the first match, the named entrant is the only substitute that can be brought into the team in all future rounds unless 52.2.2.2 applies.

**66.1.8** Each match shall be 18 ends, three bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a result is reached.

**66.1.9** Junior/Cub bowls may be used.

## **66.2 Final Stages**

**66.2.1** The Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals and Final shall be played on a date set by Bowls England during the National Finals. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.

**66.2.2** Each team qualifying for the final stages shall supply to Bowls England the name of their partner upon request. The players involved shall receive a National Competition participation badge.

**66.2.3** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.

**66.2.4** The Winners shall be presented with two medals and fleeces with two medals for the Runners-Up.

## **Regulation 67: National Foundation Pairs**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **67.1 General**

- 67.1.1** The competition shall be open to playing members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
- 67.1.2** A team shall consist of two players each playing three bowls each. Either player may skip.
- 67.1.3** Both players must represent the same Club this being where they have entered National Championships.
- 67.1.4** Eligibility: Neither player in the pair must have previously qualified for the National Finals in any event listed below:
- Four-Bowl Singles
  - Pairs
  - Triples
  - Fours
  - Over 55 Fours
  - U25 Singles
  - U25 Pairs
  - Two-Bowl Singles
  - Champion of Champions
  - Balcomb Trophy
  - Walker Cup

**Players who have participated at the National Finals in any events not listed above are eligible to enter.**

At least one player in the pair must have less than three years of playing experience (both players are permitted to have less than three years of playing experience) – for 2025 entries this person must have started playing bowls no earlier than 1 April 2022.

Three years playing experience includes all bowls codes e.g. indoors, outdoors, crown green etc

All players under 17 are eligible regardless of playing experience.

**The following are eligible pairings for 2025 season:**

- One player who has never played at national finals in listed events AND one player who has less than three years bowling experience;



- One player who has never played at national finals in listed events AND one player aged under 17 on 1 April 2025;
- One player who has less than three years bowling experience AND one player aged under 17 on 1 April 2025;
- Two players with less than three years bowling experience;
- Two players aged under 17 on 1 April 2025;

Sanction B applies to any entries that do not meet the eligibility criteria.

**67.1.5** All entries will be accepted in good faith. Playing history of entered players shall be declared on request.

**67.1.6** 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 shall play in every round. Substitutes shall come from one of the eligible listings, shall not have already played or entered the same competition (Sanction H applies) and will not impact on the eligibility requirements for this event.

If the named entrant is unable to participate in the first match, the named entrant is the only substitute that can be brought into the team in all future rounds unless 52.2.2.2 applies.

**67.1.7** Each match shall consist of 2 sets of 9 ends, 1 point for a set win, ½ point for a set tie. A set will be decided if at any point it becomes impossible to win, or draw given the number of ends remaining.

If the scores are equal when both sets have been played, an additional end or ends shall be played until a set result is reached.

After completing a set, each team has the option to change playing positions, however the opposition must be informed of the change before the jack is cast, indicating the start of the next set or additional end(s).

**67.1.8** Junior/Cub bowls may be used.

## **67.2 Final Stages**

**67.2.1** The Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final shall be played during the Aviva National Bowls Finals. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.

**67.2.2** Each team qualifying for the final stages shall supply to Bowls England the name of their partner upon request. The players involved shall receive a National Competition participation badge.

**67.2.3** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.

**67.2.4** The Winners shall be presented with two medals and fleeces with two medals for the Runners-Up.



## **Regulation 68: National Under 17's Singles**

**This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – Bowls England Managed National Championships**

### **68.1 General**

- 68.1.1** The competition shall be open to members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
- 68.1.2** Each player shall be under 17 years of age on the 1st April in the year of the competition. (Sanction B applies)
- 68.1.3** Players shall play from the same county in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. (Sanction B applies)
- 68.1.4** Matches shall be first to 21 shots (four bowls each player).
- 68.1.5** Junior/Cub bowls may be used.

### **68.2 Final Stages**

- 68.2.1** The quarter finalists shall compete at the National finals on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw shall be made by Bowls England.
- 68.2.2** All players involved at the National Finals shall receive a National Competition participation badge.
- 68.2.3** Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 68.2.4** The Winners shall be presented with a medal and fleece
- 68.2.5** The winner of both the men's and women's event will be invited to represent England in the British Bowls Championships the following year.



## Sanctions

Sanction Ref	Sanction
A	If entries are not received by the closing date, late entries will not be accepted.
B	Should a player (and their team/side where applicable) be found to be ineligible prior to the start of a match or within 24 hours of the conclusion of that match (in writing by email notification to Bowls England), their opponent in that round will be granted a walkover.  If more than 24 hours have elapsed since the conclusion of the match, then the ineligible player (and their team/side where applicable) will be disqualified and their opponent in the next round will be granted a walkover.
C	<b>Champion of Champions</b> If written approval from the club official where qualification was secured is not received by Bowls England the offending player will be disqualified.
D	<b>Inter Club – Knockout Rounds</b> Any team found to have fielded an ineligible player will be disqualified – Sanction B applies. <b>Inter County – Knockout Rounds</b> Any team found to have fielded an ineligible player will be disqualified – Sanction B applies. <b>Inter County – Middleton and Johns Group Stages</b> Any team found to have fielded an ineligible player in any match will concede the match to their opponent (22 points and 30 shots).
E	<b>Offering of Dates – In an opening match</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If the challenger (Player A) offers non-eligible dates, the opponent (Player B) must request eligible dates.</li> <li>2. Failure by the challenger (Player A) to offer eligible dates in advance of 21 days of the closing date of the round, the opponent (Player B) will become the challenger and must make all match arrangements in advance of 20 days of the closing date of the round.</li> <li>3. Failure by the opponent (Player A) to accept a date in advance of 19 days of the closing date of the round– the challenger (Player B) may claim the game.</li> <li>4. Failure to offer eligible dates having become challenger (Player B) – both parties disqualified.</li> <li>5. Failure by both players/teams/sides to offer dates – both parties disqualified</li> <li>6. If anyone wishes to make a claim, written evidence will be required.</li> </ol>
F	<b>Offering of Dates – Subsequent Rounds</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If the challenger (Player A) offers non-eligible dates, the opponent (Player B) must request eligible dates.</li> <li>2. Failure by the challenger (Player A) to offer eligible dates within 24 hours of the previous round, the opponent (Player B) will become the challenger and must make all match arrangements within 48 hours of the previous round.</li> <li>3. Failure by the opponent (Player A) to accept a date within 72 hours of the previous round– the challenger (Player B) may claim the game.</li> </ol>

	<p>4. Failure to offer eligible dates having become challenger (Player B) – both parties disqualified.</p> <p>5. If anyone wishes to make a claim, written evidence will be necessary.</p> <p>6. Failure by both players/teams/sides to offer dates – both parties disqualified</p>
G	<p><b>International Duty</b> County association must accommodate</p>
H	<p><b>Substitutions - Individual Competitions:</b> At least one player who participated in the opening match must play in all subsequent rounds (mixed fours one of each gender applies).</p> <p>Any team that does not field a player who participated in the opening match in subsequent rounds will be disqualified. Sanction B then applies.</p>
I	<p>If a player/team is not ready to play within 30 minutes after the agreed start time in any round, their opponent/team may claim a walkover. No walkover can be claimed once a game has started.</p>
J	<p>Should the Challenger not offer a draw for rinks or if rinks offered are not on the markers as set out prior to the draw takes place, then the Opponent may claim a walkover prior to the start of the match. Should the game commence then no walkover may be claimed.</p>
K	<p>If a player/side do not adhere to the dress code, they will receive a written warning from the competition administrator regarding future conduct in that event.</p> <p>The offending player/side will be disqualified and their opponent in the next round awarded a walkover should there be a further reported instance in the same event.</p>
L	<p>Any bowls that do not meet the requirements for that event may not be used. See Appendix G for detail.</p>
M	<p><b>Result Submission</b> If no result for a match has been submitted within 24 hours of the closing date of the previous round both parties will be subject to disqualification.</p>
N	<p><b>National Finals:</b> If a player/team is not ready to play within 15 minutes after the agreed start time in any round, their opponent/team will be given a walkover. Should the game commence then no walkover may be claimed.</p>
O	<p><b>National Finals:</b> All players must abide by the Slow Play appendix. Failure to adhere will result in disqualification. See Appendix K for detail.</p>
P	<p><b>National Finals:</b> Failure for winning player/team to take signed scorecard/s to Tournament Office within 15 minutes of the end of the game will result in disqualification.</p>
Q	<p><b>National Finals:</b> If a finalist does not attend the Trophy Presentation, all prize money will be donated to the EBA Charity Trust.</p>



## **Appendix A and Appendix B: Dress Code**

To be updated prior to the start of the 2025 season.



### **Appendix C: Draw for Rinks**

1. A draw for rink/s to be played on shall be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport (Law 1.3).
2. For a match requiring one rink, a minimum of two rinks shall be offered to the opponent.
3. For a match requiring more than one rink, the minimum number of rinks offered shall be at least equal to the number of rinks required as follows:
  - i. One rink required = Two rinks offered
  - ii. Two rinks required = Two rinks offered
  - iii. Four rinks required = Four rinks offered
  - iv. Five rinks required = Five rinks offered
  - v. Six rinks required = Six rinks offered
4. How rinks are determined for play is a domestic matter.
5. Rink markings must not be changed once the draw for rinks has been made. (Sanction J). If rinks are marked up in both directions the direction of play must be stipulated prior to rinks being offered (Sanction J).

### **Appendix D: Umpires**

Umpires shall be appointed to officiate by the County Association or Bowls England in conjunction with the English Bowls Umpires Association.

### **Appendix E: Smoking (including Electronic Cigarettes)**

Smoking on the green is prohibited during all matches played under the jurisdiction of Bowls England. For the purpose of clarification, the 'green' in this instance is deemed to include a minimum of 2 metres of the bank surrounding the playing area. Should the Club where the game is being played have a total ban on smoking on its premises, the Club prohibition shall apply. Failure to adhere to this shall result in disqualification. This prohibition includes all electronic cigarettes/vapes.

Guidance regarding smoking during the Aviva National Bowls Finals will be published within the Event Competitor Pack.



## **Appendix F: Inclement Weather**

Inclement weather shall mean the existence of rain or abnormal climatic conditions (whether they be those of heavy rain, thunder & lighting, hail, snow, cold, high wind, extreme high temperature or any combination thereof) by virtue of which it is either not reasonable or possible to play.

Unusual situations not covered within the above can often arise. If a situation arises that is not covered by the above, Players, Markers, Umpires and Officials shall use their common sense and a spirit of fair play to decide on the appropriate course of action.

In the event of inclement weather and no play/no further play being possible as determined by Tournament Director, Umpire and/or Greenkeeper (or players if no officials are in attendance) the following shall apply as relevant:

### ***National Championships – Including all County Rounds***

1. All matches are to be played to a finish as referred within the Laws of the Sport V4 – Game Stoppages (Law 33)
2. If it is not possible to conclude play on the day, then the match should be completed prior to the next round taking place. If this is not possible, future rounds must be realigned to accommodate.

### ***Individual National Events***

1. When a match is stopped by the by Tournament Director, Umpire and/or Greenkeeper (or players if no officials are in attendance) play shall cease immediately. Ends started but not completed shall be declared 'dead'.
2. When it is not possible to resume the match on the day:
  - a. If the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 5 (Five) the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score shall stand.
  - b. If the total number of ends played is less than five, the remainder of the match shall, wherever possible, be played at a later date, (please refer to Laws of the Sport Law 33: Game Stoppages for guidance).
  - c. Should it not be possible to play the match to its conclusion by the closing date of the round, the winner shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
3. At National Finals, the decision of the Tournament Director on postponed/abandoned matches shall be final.

### ***Middleton Cup/Johns Trophy O60 Mixed Inter-County***

4. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Greenkeeper play shall cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared 'dead'.
5. When it is not possible to resume the match on the day:



- a. If the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 42 the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score shall stand.
  - b. If the total number of ends played is less than 42, the remainder of the match shall be played at a later date (please refer to Laws of the Sport Law 33: Game Stoppages for guidance).
6. The participating counties shall agree a date for any postponed/abandoned match/es to be played.
  7. Bowls England shall make the final decision on the date/venue of a postponed/abandoned match/es should participating counties be unable to agree amicably.
  8. At National Finals, the decision of the Tournament Director on postponed/abandoned matches shall be final.

#### ***Balcomb Trophy/Walker Cup***

1. Further information will be included in the Conditions of Play for these events.

#### ***Amy Rose Bowl/White Rose Trophy***

1. Further information will be included in the Conditions of Play for these events.

#### ***Mixed Over 60 Inter-Club Two Fours/Inter-Club Two Fours***

1. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Greenkeeper (or players if no officials are in attendance) play shall cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared null and void.
2. When it is not possible to resume the match on the day:
  - a. If the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 10 the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score shall stand.
  - b. If the total number of ends played is less than 10, the remainder of the match shall, wherever possible, be played at a later date (please refer to Laws of the Sport Law 33: Game Stoppages for guidance).
3. Should it not be possible to play the match to its conclusion by the closing date of the round, the winner shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
4. At National Finals, the decision of the Tournament Director on postponed/abandoned matches shall be final.

#### ***Top Club (Men's & Women's)***

1. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Greenkeeper (or players if no officials are in attendance) play shall cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared null and void.
2. When it is not possible to resume the match on the day:
  - a. If the total number of ends played in each discipline equals or exceeds five the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score shall stand.



- b. If the total number of ends played in each discipline is less than five, the remainder of the match shall, wherever possible, be played at a later date (please refer to 'Law 33: Game Stoppages' for guidance).
3. Should it not be possible to play the match to its conclusion by the closing date of the round, the winner shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
4. At National Finals, the decision of the Tournament Director on postponed/abandoned matches shall be final.

## Appendix G: Bowls

### 1 All Rounds prior to the National Finals

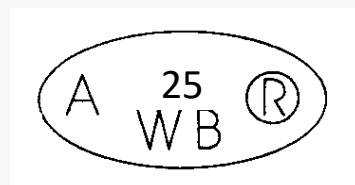
- 1.1 To include all National Championships up to and including the County Final. All early rounds and All England rounds in National Events. All Inter-County Competitions including Regional Finals.
- 1.2 All bowls shall bear a clearly legible stamp which has an expiry date of 1985 or later. These bowls can be used for the rounds leading to the National finals. All bowls shall be from the same set as stated in the Laws of the Sport V4 (Law 2.4).



- 1.3 Bowls that do not meet the requirements of 1.2 shall not be used (Sanction L)
- 1.4 Cub Bowls and Junior Bowls are exempt from being stamped.
- 1.5 In the rounds leading to the National Finals of the National Championships and National Events when no Umpire is present, the opposing player or players shall check the legality of the date stamp on each other's bowls.
- 1.6 Should a player wish to challenge the suitability of their opponent's bowls, as regards the bias, they should refer to The Laws of the Sport V4 (Laws 52.4 and 52.5). Bowls England Domestic Regulations also apply. The fee to be lodged shall be £50.

### 2 National Finals

- 2.1 All bowls must bear a stamp in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport V4 (Law 53). A World Bowls Ltd stamp with a date of the current year (2025) or later will be valid.



- 2.2 Bowls that do not meet the requirements of 2.1 shall not be used (Sanction L)
- 2.3 Should a player wish to challenge the suitability of their opponent's bowls, as regards the bias, they should refer to The Laws of the Sport V4 (52.4 and 52.5). Bowls England Domestic Regulations also apply. The fee to be lodged shall be £50.





### **Appendix H: Anti-Doping**

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. The UK Anti-Doping Rules can be viewed at: <https://www.ukad.org.uk/about/anti-doping-rules>

### **Appendix I: Bowls England Policies and Guidelines**

All players must be aware and abide by Bowls England Regulation 2.5.2, which can be found [here](#). This includes, but is not limited to, abiding by all disciplinary/misconduct regulations and policies such as safeguarding, anti-doping and inclusion.



## **Appendix J: Players with Disabilities**

Wheelchairs shall be of a type approved by Bowls England following consultation with relevant disability bowls organisations and greenkeepers. For guidance on purchasing a wheelchair [click here](#).

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 V4.

Walking frames shall be of a type approved by Bowls England following consultation with relevant disability bowls organisations. The types currently recognised for use in England are the 'Rollator' (to be used to get to the green but not to be sat on the green during play), 'Bowls Buddy' and the 'Bowls Walker'.

Physically disabled bowlers may use a support such as the Bowls Mate or walking aid with a base at least than 76 millimetres in diameter as a support whilst bowling the jack or bowls or as an aid whilst walking.

A physically disabled player may kneel on the green to deliver the bowl or jack in accordance with the current laws of the game.

Artificial devices may be used by players with disabilities for delivering the jack or bowl provided they are approved by Bowls England following consultation with relevant disability bowls organisations. Currently this includes the standard bowling arm, the DHB Hacksaw bowling arm and the bowls launcher

The individual shall decide before a game starts if they are going to use an aid. If they decide to then they shall use it for the duration of that game.

Visually impaired bowlers can use any form of assistance necessary (including having director with them) to allow them to take part as long as the assistance is approved by Bowls England, this includes having a white breakable string down the centre or the rink. The director shall not be deemed to be in contravention of the Laws of the Sport if that director 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. Visually Impaired players who are using a Director and String for a match out of courtesy are to inform the opposition and the Umpire before the match starts

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



### **Appendix K: Time Limits**

To be updated following the Bowls England AGM in February 2025

### **Appendix L: Slow Play**

To be updated following Bowls England AGM in February 2025.

### **Appendix M: Code of Conduct**

The Player Code of Conduct may be viewed [here](#).