

Marden Bowls Club.

Club Competition Rules

1. The Club Competitions will be organised by the Executive Committee, who will elect a Competition Secretary and a small sub-committee to oversee the smooth running of competitions.

Sub Committee: Competition Secretary, Club Secretary, Club Captain and one lady.

2. Competitions will be conducted on a knockout basis, unless otherwise stipulated for competitions with low entry uptake, when a 'round robin' competition could be run to provide more bowling.

Entrance fees for each competition will be fixed by the Executive Committee and paid by competitors on submission of the official entry form.

3. Matches will be played by the nominated round completion date or on dates pre-arranged by the Competition Secretary. Arrangements for playing the FINALS of all competitions will be decided by the Competition Secretary in liaison with his/her subcommittee. FINALS will be played without restriction on trial ends, time limits or restricted visits to the head, as provided for within the Laws of the Sport governing Outdoor Bowling.

Either Trial ends, in finals, are played or the first two ends are played with ALL SHOTS counting. ONE SHOT ON THE FIRST TWO ENDS is not allowed in finals.

4. The challenger (the first named on the draw sheet) will offer at least two dates to his/her opponent on different days and times and arrange a rink booking in accordance with relevant club rules. In the event of the challenger failing to arrange the match within ten days of the play by date, the opponent will become the challenger and will arrange the fixture as detailed above.

Every effort should be made by all players involved to get matches played by using good co-operation. If for reasons of holiday/illness etc.,

and an extension to the date is required, then the challenger should make the arrangements with the Competition Secretary.

In Singles competitions, it is the responsibility of the challenger to arrange a marker

The players named on the scorecard of the initial game will constitute the official team. Scorecards should be left in the rack of the Competition noticeboard, and the Competition Secretary will update the draw sheet accordingly.

5. Members entering competitions should check that that they are available to play on at least one of the stipulated days of play set aside for Finals Weekend as listed in the fixture booklet. Where a Singles entry suddenly finds their self in the situation of non-availability on either Finals Day, they should immediately withdraw from the competitions before they play any matches after this situation has come their notice. In singles matches and a player has qualified for the final, and for circumstances beyond their control they cannot play on finals weekend, then the Competition Secretary should make every effort to have the game played on an alternative date. If this is not possible, then the other qualifying finalist will be awarded the game with no final. Good co-operation required!!

The players named on the scorecard of the initial game will constitute the official team. Completed scorecards should be left in the rack of the Competition noticeboard, and the Competition Secretary will update the draw sheet accordingly.

In pairs competitions, one additional player, and the same player, may be used as a substitute for reasons such as illness or holiday, provide they have not already played in this competition. A substitute may be selected by the Competition Secretary from a pool of names held by him/her and may play in any position.

6. Winners of the **Ladies and Men's Singles Championship competitions** progress (if they choose to do so) to the Bowls England Champion of Champions representing Marden BC the following season. For this reason, if a member has dual club membership, they should not enter the Championship at both clubs. Marden Bowls Club are not prepared to

find themselves without an entry in the Champion of Champions because he/she is representing another Club.

As these two competitions are preliminaries to National events it is imported that every round is played with or without trial ends, and not substituted with one shot on the first two ends. Every game should also be played to its completion with the winner being the first to twenty-one shots with four bowls per player. Please note. If national rules for this event alter at any time, then the Club must follow suit.

7. Rules for other club competitions are more relaxed and listed below:

Men' and Ladies Pairs. These are drawn competitions and played with four bowls per player for EIGHTEEN ends.

Over 65 Pairs. This is for members over the age 65 years on or before 1st May. This is a drawn competition and open to men and ladies and played with four bowls per player over FIFTEEN ends.

Mixed Pairs. This is a competition covered by a lady's invitation to a male partner. The competition is played with four bowls per player over EIGHTEEN ends.

Over 65 Singles. This is open to both men and ladies over the age of 65 years on or before 1st May and played with four bowls per player with the winner being the first to twenty-one shots.

Handicap Singles. This is open to both men and ladies and played with four bowls per player with the winner being the first to twenty-one shots. The Competition sub-committee will award each competitor a handicap ranging from zero to seven. On the commencement of play the scoreboard will read zero for one player and seven (or whichever handicap is given) for player two.

2 Wood Singles. This competition is open to both men and ladies and played with two bowls each over a maximum of twenty-one ends.

Yardstick. This is a competition for ladies only and played with four bowls per player over fifteen ends. Every bowl within a measure of one yard will count with the winner being the player with the highest score after fifteen ends.

Stan Lovell Trophy. This is open to both men and ladies and is a drawn two wood competition. For rounds up to the final the competition will be played the best of three sets with the winner of each set being the first to NINE shots.

The Final will be played the best of five sets with the winner of each set being the first to SEVEN shots.

From previous experience, the success of this competition improves when rounds are played on play by dates, rather than a one-day event.

Novice Cup. The competition is open to both men and ladies and played as a four-bowl singles competition. Stipulation of entry is that an entrant has never previously won any club, county, local association, or national competitions (singles or team) at Marden or indeed any previous clubs where they may have held membership in previous seasons.

In the event of any competition game being tied at the completion of ends, then an extra end will be played, with a toss of a coin deciding who bowls the first bowl.

8. Drawn Competitions. After receipt of all entries, it is the responsibility of the Competition and his/her sub-committee to draw partners. Firstly, players are placed into two separate bags (50% in each bag). One bag will contain names of the more experienced bowlers wishing to enter this competition, whereas the second bag will contain names of the less experienced bowlers. From then on, a name is picked from each bag to form a pair.
9. Dress code for early rounds competitors must wear bowling shoes, white or predominately white bowls manufactured tops or club tops, grey trousers/skirts, or Bowls England registered shorts.
Dress for Finals will be stipulated by the Competition Secretary and made known to the competitors.

10. Any appeal or grievance must be made in writing to the Competition Secretary within 24 hours of the incident taking place. The Competition sub-committee will meet and give consideration to the complaint, whilst also considering Laws/Rules laid down by governing bodies and the Rules of the Sport. The decision made by the sub-committee will be final and relayed to the complainant.

11. It is the responsibility of Competition winners to return trophies to the Clubhouse, no later than 1st October so that they can be engraved in readiness for the Annual Presentation in January. The Club have recently increased the Trophy Cabinet capacity so trophies can be left at the club for safe keeping. The Competition Secretary should maintain a record of whom received trophies.

**Written and Submitted by Mick Collins and approved by the
Committee
06th January 2023**