

EAST PRESTON & KINGSTON BOWLS CLUB **SINGLES & PAIRS OUTDOOR COMPETITION RULES** **SUMMER 2026**

Sections

General Matters

Rules for organising matches and playing **SINGLES EVENTS**

Rules for organising matches and playing **PAIRS EVENTS**

General Matters

1. Laws

Games will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls where appropriate as adopted by BOWLS ENGLAND, save as amended herein.

2. Competition Secretaries.

The Competition Secretaries will be acting on behalf of the Bowls Committee and are responsible for the running of the competitions.

The Competition Secretaries for Summer 2025 are:

Julie Brooks	contact details in the Members' List on your BowIR account
John Brooks	contact details in the Members' List on your BowIR account

These are your first points of contact for any matters concerning competitions. In the event the Competitions Secretaries are unable to resolve matters they will refer the matter to the Bowls Committee.

3 Qualification for entry.

- a) Competition entry is open to all full playing members only (see additional restriction applicable to the Bentall Cup (men), Rosebowl Trophy (ladies) and the Veteran's Trophy (men);
- b) Entry is by completion of the entry form which must be submitted to the Club Treasurer no later than 22nd March 2026
- c) Members entering competitions must be able to attend the **Finals Days** in September. If you have commitments that will not allow for this or which cannot be changed you should not enter; and
- d) The Finals Days for 2026 are Friday 5th, Saturday 6th, & Sunday 7th September.

4 Draw for Competitions.

- a) If any competition has less than 8 entrants, that competition will not take place and the relevant fees refunded.
- b) Competition entrants will be drawn by random selection using Bowlr and displayed on Bowlr including completion dates for each round.
- c) A printed copy of each draw and timely updates will be posted on the club competition boards as well as shown on Bowlr.in the clubhouse.

5. Drawn Pairs.

Both the Men's and Ladies Drawn Pairs will be drawn once. The order of draw will form the pairings and matches. I.e. the 1st drawn name is paired with 2nd drawn name, the 3rd drawn name is paired with 4th drawn name and so on. The first pairing then plays the second pairing and so on. Should there be an odd number of entrants and it is not possible to even them up, the player left out in either competition will be put on a reserve list.

6. Bentall Cup

Members (men) are eligible provided they have not won any SINGLES Club Competition at EP&KBC, an Affiliated Club Knock-Out Competition or an Open Tournament.

7. Rosebowl

Members (ladies) are eligible provided they have not won any SINGLES Club Competition at EP&KBC, an Affiliated Club Knockout Competition or an Open Tournament.

8. Veterans Trophy.

Open to all Members (Men) aged 75 or over prior to 31st March 2026

9. Handicaps.

Handicaps will be decided each year by the Bowls Committee before competition draws are made and will be displayed on the notice board.

10. Disputes.

Any dispute must be referred to the Club Bowls Committee through the Competition Secretaries in the first instance. This applies to all Competitions. Any dispute, complaint or grievance can only be from a member directly involved in the incident and must be notified to the Competition Secretaries within 7 days of the incident occurring. Any third-party referrals will be rejected.

Rules for organising matches and playing SINGLES EVENTS

11. Singles Events shall comprise:

a)	Championship Singles – Men	21 shots
b)	Championship Singles – Ladies	21 shots
c)	Handicap Singles – Men	21 shots
d)	Two wood singles – Men	21 ends
e)	Two wood singles Yardstick– Ladies	21 ends
f)	Bentall Cup – Men	21 shots
g)	Rosebowl Trophy – Ladies	21 shots
h)	3-2-1 – Ladies (see separate rules)	64 shots
i)	Sets – Mixed (see separate rules)	2 x 9 ends
j)	Veterans Trophy – Men	21 shots

Two trial ends can be requested by any player.

12. Challenger

Players must be considerate and make the effort to arrange to play games early within the timescale of the round, rather than wait towards the closing date, when weather could be a factor preventing play, leaving insufficient time to arrange another date. Players arranging a match should be aware that some members normally work during the day and offer appropriate dates and times accordingly.

****NB PLEASE NOTE b), AND h) BELOW****

- a) **The First Named Player** in each pairing in each round, as recorded on the competition sheets is the **Challenger**;
- b) Within 7 days of the date of the opening round the Challenger is responsible to offer their Opponent at Least **THREE** dates for playing the match;
- c) In all following rounds, the **THREE** dates must be offered within 7days of the closing date of the previous round;
- d) The offering of two different start times on a single date does not count as two dates;
- e) A minimum of 48 hours notices is required for any dates offered to be eligible;
- f) The time of day for commencing the match shall be mutually agreed.
- g) The dates being offered must be at any time between the opening and closing dates of the round;
- h) If within the specified period of 7 days a challenge has not been made, the Opponent shall take on the Challenger's responsibilities and make all such match arrangements by offering **THREE** dates within the remaining time allotted to the round; and
- i) If players cannot agree a date for match, they can decide the winner by the toss of a coin.

13. Times of Play & Start Time

Play may take place at the following times, on each day during the playing season starting at 10.00am until dusk, subject to the decision of the Green Liaison Officer.

Mornings: - 10.00am to 12.00 noon.

No competition play is allowed between 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm unless extended from the morning session.

Afternoon: - 2.00pm to 5.30pm.

Evening: - 5.30pm to dusk. All sessions may be extended to allow competitions to finish.

If a player fails to appear and be **ready** for play within 30 minutes after the agreed start time for the tie, the opponent may claim a walkover.

14. Markers

- a) All Singles matches should be played with a Marker officiating, whose name is included on the score card;
- b) It is the responsibility of the Challenger to organise a Marker; and
- c) Failure to have a Marker will lead to disqualification of both players.
- d) Markers should adhere to the Competitions dress code (see 20 below).

15. Score Cards

- a) Every match should be recorded on a score card
- b) In the case of Handicap Singles the difference in handicaps will be recorded on both scoreboard and scorecard before the game starts and will be played first to score 21 shots.
- c) The score card must be signed by both players and the Marker.
- d) The completed score card must be placed in the "completed score card box". Failure to do so will result in disqualification of both players.
- e) In the event of a match not being played it is the responsibility of the player progressing to the next round to comply with d) above, otherwise this will result in disqualification of both players.

16. Substitution.

There are **No** substitutes allowed in any Singles Competitions.

There are **No** substitutes allowed in any Finals match unless the substitute played in the semi-final.

17. Availability of Rinks.

Rinks will be available for competitions subject to Club Rule 13, as follows:

Mornings: 3 Rinks

Afternoons: 3 Rinks

Evenings: 4 Rinks.

Provided that not more than 16 players are present for morning and/or afternoon roll up sessions, an extra rink(s) may be used for competitions. These extra rinks may only be booked in advance if the entry is clearly marked 'IF RINK AVAILABLE 'alongside the competition entry.

Order of priority for Rink Bookings (OTHER THAN CLUB FIXTURES)

1st Bowls England and County Competitions

2nd Club League Matches (Ladies and Men)

3rd Friendly Matches

4th Club Competitions

5th Others. Members may book a rink for Competitions such as British Legion etc. In such cases the visitors green fee must be paid for each non-club member.

18. Booking of Rinks & Rink allocation.

- a) All matches are to be booked using Bowlr procedures.
- b) The actual Rink to be used for each match to be played will be added on Bowlr the day before by one of the Competition Secretaries. This may not be the same Rink number as that used to book. Please check Bowlr the evening before play.
- c) Games cancelled before the arranged date must be deleted at the earliest opportunity using Bowlr

19. Completion of Round & Extensions

- a) No extension of the closing date for any round will be granted for any reason whatsoever.
- b) Failure to play a match in any round in any competition by the closing date, both the challenger and opponent will be disqualified.
- c) Any match played after the closing date of any round will be ignored.
- d) If a score card is not submitted by the closing date of any round both the challenger and opponent will be disqualified.
- e) In the event of any match not being played in any round owing to exceptional weather conditions, and where this makes it impossible to re-arrange a match before the closing date, matches not started and matches in which less than 11 ends have been completed will be decided by a toss of a coin.
- f) The score will count if 11 or more ends have been played.
- g) In the situations arising in e) & f) above a score card is still required to be submitted by the closing date.

20. Dress Codes for all rounds up to the Finals

All players and Markers participating in Club Competitions rounds must adhere to the clubs rule on Dress codes and wear the appropriate clothing. For Men, it is club shirt and grey trousers or shorts. For Ladies, it is the standard uniform (grey trousers/shorts and club shirt). The same dress code applies to markers.

21. Dress Codes for Finals Weekend

All players participating in the Club Competition Finals must adhere to the clubs rule on Dress code and wear the appropriate clothing. For men, it is club shirts with white trousers or tailored white shorts. For ladies, it is the standard uniform (white trousers/shorts and club shirt). All officials of the day, i.e. scorers, markers etc. will also follow this dress code. All players who participated in the finals and attend the presentation of cups and prizes on Sunday afternoon will be required to keep to the same dress code as a minimum.

22. **SETS** 2 SETS each of 9 ends.

First round will not commence before 1 June and all games, except the final, will commence at 6pm.

FIRST SET

Players will toss a coin for choice of mat for the first end. In all ends subsequent to the first, the winner of the preceding scoring end places the mat and have the jack and the first bowl, i.e. the mat cannot be given away.

SECOND SET

Winner of the first set places mat. If the first set is a draw the winner of the last scoring end in that set places the mat.

TIE BREAKER

In the event of a tie after 2 sets, an additional 3 ends will be played.

First, fourth and any further ends a coin is tossed and the winner has the choice of placing the mat or giving it away.

RESULT OF TIE BREAKER.

Tie breaker is decided on number of SHOTS scored and not the number of ends won. If scores are equal after the first 3 ends a fourth end must be played.

23. **3-2-1**

The scoring is 3 points for the wood closest to the jack, two points for the wood second closest to the jack and one point for the wood third closest to the jack each end.

There are special score boards for this competition.

Rules for organising matches and playing PAIRS EVENTS

24. Pairs Events shall comprise:

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|---------|
| a) | Drawn Pairs (handicapped) – Men | 18 ends |
| b) | Nominated Pairs – Men | 18 ends |
| c) | Drawn Pairs (handicapped) – Ladies | 18 ends |
| d) | Nominated Pairs – Ladies | 18 ends |
| e) | Drawn Pairs (handicapped) – Mixed | 18 ends |
| f) | Nominated Pairs – Mixed | 18 ends |

Two trial ends can be requested by any pair.

25. Challenger.

Players must be considerate and make the effort to arrange to play games early within the timescale of the round, rather than wait towards the closing date, when weather could be a factor preventing play, leaving insufficient time to arrange another date. Players arranging a match should be aware that some members normally work during the day and offer appropriate dates and times accordingly.

**** NB PLEASE NOTE b) AND h) BELOW****

- The First Named Pair** in each pairing in each round, as recorded on the competition sheets is the **Challenger**.
- Within 7 days of the date of the opening round the Challenger is responsible to offer their Opponent at Least **THREE** dates for playing the match.
- In all following rounds, the **THREE** dates must be offered within 7days of the closing date of the previous round.
- The offering of two different start times on a single date does not count as two dates.
- A minimum of 48 hours notices is required for any dates offered to be eligible.
- The time of day for commencing the match shall be mutually agreed.
- The dates being offered must be at any time between the opening and closing dates of the round.
- If within 7 days a challenge has not been made, the Opponent shall take on the Challenger's responsibilities and make all such match arrangements by offering **THREE** dates within the remaining time allotted to the round.
- If players cannot agree a date for match, they can decide the winner by the toss of a coin.

26. Times of Play & Start Time

Play may take place at the following times, on each day during the playing season starting at 10.00am until dusk, subject to the decision of the Green Liaison Officer.

Mornings: - 10.00am to 12.00 noon.

No competition play is allowed between 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm unless extended from the morning session.

Afternoon: - 2.00pm to 5.30pm

Evening: - 5.30pm to dusk. All sessions may be extended to allow competitions to finish.

If a player fails to appear and be **ready** for play within 30 minutes after the agreed start time for the tie, the opponent may claim a walkover.

27. Ties

If after 21 ends the scores are level a further one scoring end shall be played to determine the winner.

28. Score Cards

- a) Every match should be recorded on a score card
- b) In the case of Handicap Pairs the difference in handicaps will be recorded on both scoreboard and scorecard before the game starts.
- c) The score card must be signed by both pairs.
- d) The Marker's name should be inserted on the score card
- e) The completed score card must be placed in the completed score card box. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of both players.
- f) In the event of a match not being played it is the responsibility of the pair progressing to the next round to comply with d) above, or both pairs will be disqualified.

29. Handicap Pairs.

Partner's handicaps will be added together and opponents aggregate deducted. The resultant figure to be recorded on both scoreboard and scorecard.

30. Substitution.

- a) If any player in any pairs competition is unable to play within the specified time, due to ill health or any serious, genuine reason, the player or his other partner, must contact and inform the Competitions Secretaries immediately.
- b) In pair's competitions, the Competitions Secretaries must be told whether the use of a substitute is being proposed to play the round or whether the pair intend giving their opponents a walk over into the next round.
- c) Under no circumstances should any player make alterations to the competition sheets. Any required alterations to the sheets will be done by the Competition Secretaries.
- d) Drawn and Nominated Pairs Competitions substitutes are permitted. The two players taking part in the first match constitutes the original team and shall normally play together throughout the Competition. One and the same male and /or one and the same female may be used as a substitute at any time, providing that they have not already played and lost or playing in another pair entered in the same

Competition. They may skip. At least one of the original pair must play in every round.

- e) In the Men's, Ladies and mixed Drawn Pairs Competition the first substitute (in each competition) will be the reserve player (if any) listed if there was an imbalance of entries. This list will be as recorded by the Competitions Secretaries at the time of the draw. They may skip.
- f) Where a substitute is used in more than one round, that substitute is deemed to be the allocated partner (i.e. the substituted player is no longer able to participate).

Should no listed reserves be available in any of the Drawn Pairs Competitions, substitutes can be any full member providing that they have not already played and lost or have already entered in the same Competition. They may skip.

If any player in any pairs team is unable to play in any round, other than the final, that player can be replaced by a substitute. The remaining original partner in the pair's team can arrange this substitute but MUST notify the substitutes name to the Competition Secretaries either by telephone, text or email, before the match can be played. Any pair playing a match using a substitute without this prior notice being given, will result in both players being disqualified.

All matters relating to substitutes MUST be referred to the Competition Secretaries. The Competition Secretaries will refer as necessary to the Club Bowls Committee who will use their discretion in any difficult, unusual or extenuating circumstances.

31. Availability of Rinks.

Rinks will be available for competitions subject to Club Rule 13, as follows:

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EP&KBC

Master – 11/02/26