

# **MERSEA ISLAND BOWLS CLUB**

## **BOWLING SECTION**

### **COMPETITION RULES 2021**

**Please note:**

**Members should not enter any competition knowing that their holiday arrangements may jeopardise their ability to participate in any of the rounds by the due date, in particular Finals weekend. If they cannot re-arrange their holiday they should consult the Competition Secretary to see whether any alternative arrangements can be made. Please remember that all club competitions are arranged for the purpose of enjoyment and club members should play and spectate in a spirit of friendship, sportsmanship and respect.**

#### **GENERAL**

1. Club competitions are open to full members.
2. The Bowling Committee shall appoint a Competitions Secretary (CS) whose name and contact details will be posted on the notice board.
3. If there are insufficient entries in a competition, that competition will not be run during that season.
4. All Men's club competitions operate under the jurisdiction of the CS. Any unresolved problems should be put in writing, including email, immediately to the CS, who may seek guidance from the Bowling Committee. The CS's decision is final and not subject to appeal.
5. All games must be played by the due date, unless the CS has agreed an extension. Players are urged to play matches as early as possible during each round, in case adverse weather or other unforeseen circumstances prevent play later. If any competitor has holiday arrangements or periods when they are not available during a competition round, he is to notify their opponent at the start of that round. Extensions may be agreed by the CS but only in exceptional circumstances.
6. It is the responsibility of the Challenger i.e. the first named, to contact their opponent, arrange a suitable date, book the rink in the club rink book, and, in the case of singles competitions, to provide a marker who must be thoroughly conversant with the rules and acceptable to both players.
7. The challenger shall, as soon as possible, offer the non-challenger 2 dates on which to play the match. If the non-challenger cannot agree any of the dates offered following negotiations he will forfeit the game. The challenger should take account of the non-

challenger's work commitments and any fixed date matches in national, county, group or borough competitions.

8. If the non-challenger has not been contacted one week before the end of the round, he should make contact with the challenger to remind him of the completion date. If the challenger cannot provide play dates within that week, the match will be awarded to the non-challenger. If both parties fail to complete the above, both will forfeit the game, unless the CS has granted an extension.
9. The winner should record the result on the draw sheet as soon as possible.
10. National, County and Borough matches (in that order) take precedence over Club Competitions and Club roll-ups with regard to the booking of rinks. On Monday and Friday evenings club roll-ups take precedence over club competitions. Players in a club competition may be asked to re-arrange their booking should their rink be required for a National, County or Borough game, providing that a minimum of 48 hours notice is given. Extensions may be granted for any Club Competition due to the above circumstances.
11. In all club competitions, the appropriate dress shall be worn by players and markers, i.e. greys below the waist, whites or club shirts above. In the Finals, whites are to be worn, with approved Club shirts.
12. Where a match is played to a predefined number of ends, should the game be tied at that time an extra end(s) shall be played to decide the winner. Possession of the jack at the commencement of the extra end is to be decided by the toss of a coin.
13. If a match in play is stopped due to bad weather or other unavoidable circumstances, then:
  - a. If 15 or more ends have been completed, the score counts as the result of the match.
  - b. If 8 to 14 ends have been completed, that match may be continued from the point reached at a rearranged date. If this is not possible, the score reached will count as the result.
  - c. If less than 8 ends have been played, the match may be restarted at a rearranged date. If this is not possible, both teams/players will be eliminated from the competition.
14. If any competitor fails to appear within 30 minutes after the fixed/agreed time, their opponent may claim the match.
15. Club competitions must NOT be decided by the "toss of a coin". Matches must be played or conceded.

## **THESE RULES APPLY TO THE FOLLOWING COMPETITIONS**

### **16. CHAMPIONSHIP (SINGLES)**

Competitors will play with four bowls, the winner to be the first player to reach 21 shots. The winner may represent the Club in the following year as the Mersea Island Champion in "Champion of Champions" competitions. All other rules apply for a singles match.

### **17. TWO WOOD SINGLES (VICTORY CUP)**

Each player will play with two bowls and the match will be played to 21 ends. All other rules apply for a singles match. The matches will be played on a single day to determine the finalists.

### **18. OPEN SINGLES (WAREING CUP)**

The Open Singles is open to all members. Competitors will play with four bowls, the winner to be the first player to reach 21 shots. Men entrants will be given a 0 handicap and lady entrants a 4 handicap. Before the first end is played the marker will adjust the scoreboard to reflect the difference in handicap. Scoring then follows on the normal basis. All other rules apply for a singles match.

### **19. BLYTHE CUP**

The Blythe is open to members who have not won the Championship, Victory 2-wood, Handicap, Open, Blythe or any singles competition at another club. Each competitor will play with four bowls and the winner is the player to first reach 21 shots. All other rules apply as for a singles match.

### **20. HANDICAP**

The Handicap Criteria is agreed by the Bowling Committee and is displayed on the Notice Board. Before the competition is drawn the Bowling Committee will apply a handicap to each entrant to this competition. Before the first end is played the marker will adjust the scoreboard to reflect the difference in handicap. Scoring then follows on the normal basis. Each player will play with four bowls and all other rules apply for a singles match. The winner shall be the first player to reach 21 shots including the handicap adjustment.

### **21. MEN'S & MIXED DRAWN PAIRS (CAPTAIN'S CUP)**

Each player will play with four bowls and the match will be decided over 21 ends, unless there is a tied game, when Rule 12 will apply. All other rules apply as for a pairs match.

## **22. SUBSTITUTES**

In pairs competitions a substitute is allowed before the competition begins. That substitute will then play in all subsequent rounds. After the first round a substitute is allowed only in the case of illness and the substitute shall not have played in a previous round. It is the duty of the remaining player to find a substitute or forfeit the match.