

NORTH HAMPSHIRE WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION

RULES AND CONSTITUTION

1. TITLE

The Association shall be called the “North Hampshire Women’s Bowling Association.”

2. OBJECT

The object of the Association is to promote bowling and to sustain interest in the game throughout North Hampshire. To play friendly matches against other Bowling Associations and indoor clubs during the closed season.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association shall be open to all Clubs within the Northern Division of Hampshire. Application for membership shall be made in writing to the Hon. Secretary at least 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

4. ADMINISTRATION

- a. The business of the Association shall be managed by a Council elected annually, consisting of the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Competition and Match Secretaries together with one Representative appointed by each affiliated Club. Any Club shall nominate for election in the normal manner one of its members for the office of Vice President.
- b. Seven members present at a meeting of the Council shall form a quorum.

VICE PRESIDENT

- c. The Vice President shall be selected from nominated members of Clubs affiliated to the Association. If any new Clubs join the Association, they have to serve a minimum of five years before being able to nominate a member for this position.

COMMITTEE

- d. To be the seven Officers as on Council plus four members elected at the Annual General Meeting. No Club to have more than two ladies on the Committee at any one time. If any position is not filled at the Annual General Meeting or a vacancy is created after the Annual General Meeting, a temporary officer may be co-opted until such time as a person can be duly elected for the post at an Extraordinary or Annual General Meeting.
- e. Five members present at a meeting of the Committee shall form a quorum.

SELECTION

- f. Selection Committee shall consist of Match Secretary and two other members of the Committee plus the President who will attend all Selection Meetings, or the Vice President to attend in her place.

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

- g. An Emergency Committee shall consist of two Officers and two Committee Members plus the Officer concerned with the urgent business. This Emergency Committee to report their actions to the full Committee at the earliest possible time.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Each affiliated Club shall pay an annual subscription as shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting. The whole of this sum to be placed in the Association Funds. It is to be paid at or before the Spring Council Meeting each year.

6. DISAFFILIATION

Any affiliated Club that has failed to send a delegate to a Council Meeting for a period of two years shall no longer be eligible for affiliation.

7. DISPUTES

The Committee shall be empowered to adjudicate upon any dispute referred to it, arising between or among Clubs and members thereof, as to the meaning or interpretation of the laws of the game or any matter of practice, policy or complaint which it shall hold to within its jurisdiction. The subject of reference or appeal by either party must be stated in writing within three days of the point in dispute arising, to the Secretary who shall call an Emergency Committee Meeting to deal with the matter. Parties may be heard on both sides. The decision of the Emergency Committee shall be final.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in November.
- b. Each Affiliated Club shall be entitled to have two members duly entitled to vote and act on their Club's behalf.
- c. Officers and Committee Members shall not be entitled to vote - the President to have a casting vote only.
- d. Seven members or representatives at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting, shall form a quorum.

- e. Propositions for the Annual General Meeting shall be received by the Secretary from the Affiliated Clubs by 1 August and any amendments submitted to the Secretary two weeks before the Autumn Council Meeting.
- f. Nominations for Officers shall be received by the Secretary from the Affiliated Clubs by 1st August. If all Committee Offices are filled by nominations so received, no nominations will be accepted after 1st August or at the Annual General Meeting. If more nominations than offices are received by 1st August these nominations shall be subject to the vote of delegates at the Annual General Meeting. However, if all Committee Offices are not filled by nominations received by 1st August, nominations may be received by the Secretary after 1st August and at the Annual General Meeting. If more nominations than offices are so received, only those nominations received after 1st August and at the Annual General Meeting will, if necessary, be subject to the vote of delegates at the Annual General Meeting.

9. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Extraordinary General Meetings of the Association will be called by the Committee.

10. SPRING AND AUTUMN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Spring and Autumn Council Meetings to be held in the afternoon.

11. FINANCES OF THE ASSOCIATION

- a. All Cheques and orders must be signed by any two of the following Officers of the Association: - Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, Hon Competition Secretary or the Hon Match Secretary. The Treasurer to present at the Annual General Meeting a statement of the finances of the Association.
- b. The Financial Year of the Association shall be from 1 Oct to 30 Sep each year.
- c. A donation decided at the discretion of the Association Committee and agreed at each Annual General Meeting will be given to the incoming Association President to help with her finances.
- d. Monies held in various accounts in the name of the NHWBA are not transferable to any other Association/Organisation or Group whether it is Bowls orientated or not. In the event of this Association being dissolved, all the debts of the Association shall be paid and the residue of the Association's funds shall be distributed equally between all currently affiliated clubs who have been continuously affiliated to the Association for a minimum of ten years.

12. DRESS

- a. At all Association outdoor and indoor matches regulation dress shall be worn: Association shirt or white polo shirt, regulation white skirt, two pleats at front and two at back, length just below the knee, regulation white tailored trousers or regulation tailored cropped trousers or regulation tailored shorts of opaque material. No jeans or leggings.
- b. Cherry red or white cardigans or waistcoats may be worn.
- c. For all competitions see Competition Bye-Law No. 1.

13. ASSOCIATION CLOTH BADGES

An Association badge will be awarded to a player who has played 5 Association Games, indoors or outdoors to count.

14. SMOKING

- a. Smoking, including Electronic Cigarettes, by a player is not permitted on the green or while the game is in progress.
- b. Smoking, including Electronic Cigarettes, should not be permitted before or during the N. H. Annual General Meeting and Council Meetings inside the selected venues, for the comfort and health of those club secretaries and delegates required to attend.

15. HOST CLUBS

Any Club hosting a North Hampshire Women's Bowling Association game must have representatives selected to play from same Club.

16. INDEMNITY CLAUSE

Each member of North Hampshire Women's Bowling Association shall (to the extent that such person is not entitled to recover under any policy of insurance) be entitled to be indemnified out of any and all funds available to North Hampshire Women's Bowling Association, which may lawfully be so applied, against all costs, expenses and liabilities whatsoever incurred by such person in the proper execution and discharge of duties undertaken on behalf of North Hampshire Women's Bowling Association or arising there-from, or incurred in good faith in the purported discharge of such duties.

17. ALTERATIONS OF RULES

No motion to add to or amend the foregoing rules shall be made without first giving notice in writing to the Association Secretary in accordance with Section 8(e). Upon receipt of any such notice of motion the Secretary shall send a copy to all Club Secretaries for consideration. Any such notice shall not be effective until confirmed at the Annual General Meeting. Points of procedure not provided for in these rules shall be decided by Council, but any such point so decided, must be submitted to the next Annual General Meeting for confirmation or amendment.

18. LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life membership may be granted by majority vote by the Committee to recognise an individual's service and commitment to the Association. Eligible Ladies will be those who have given long service in a role on the Committee and/or played in a significant number of Friendly matches for the Association. Life membership is NOT an entitlement using any set criteria, but at the discretion of the incumbent Committee. It should be considered a valued award and not granted without due care and consideration.

Life members will be able to continue to play in Friendlies and attend events to which they are invited, even though they may NOT be a member of an associated club or even playing bowls. Life members not affiliated via a Bowling Club may NOT become Committee members, or attend Association Council or AGM meetings.

(Rules and Constitution 2025 include amendment/addition made at the Annual General Meeting on 21st November 2025, (8d) and (18).