

2. COMPETITION Byelaws

2.1. Introduction

The Association shall organise and run, under current Laws of the Game and S & D B A Rules/ Regulations/Byelaws, competitions in singles, pairs, triples and fours as set out below, or as agreed at a General meeting or by the Management Committee from time to time.

2.1.2. Single Handed Championship - Knock-out competition, Singles 4 bowls each player, 21 shots up.

2.1.3. Pairs Championship - Knock-out competition, 4 bowls each player, 21 ends.

2.1.4. Triples Championship - Knock-out competition, 3 bowls each player, 18 ends.

2.1.5. Fours Championship - Knock-out competition, 2 bowls each player, 21 ends.

2.1.6. Veteran Singles Championship - Knock-out competition. 4 bowls each player, 21 shots up. Open to any player aged 65 or over on 1st May in the current season.

2.1.7. U/25 Singles Championship - Knock-out competition, 4 bowls each player, Singles, '21 Shots up'. Open to a player under 25 years of age on 30th September in the current season.

2.1.8. Benevolent Pairs Competition (Handicap) In aid of the Association Members Benevolent fund) Knock-out competition, 4 bowls each player, 21 ends. Entries will be handicapped by the Competitions Liaison Group before the publication of the first (or preliminary) round. The handicap will be between 0 and 7 and clubs will be asked to give their assessment of their players on the entry form. Any handicap received will be retained throughout the Competition, except in the event of substitution of a player when the team will revert to scratch until the original entry resumes.

2.1.9. Champion of Champions Competition Knock-out competition, 4 bowls each player. Singles, '21 Shots up'. Open to one representative, the club singles champion of the previous season, from each affiliated club. Rounds up to and including the quarter final will be played on neutral greens nominated by the challenger, before a published date.

2.2. Entry Fees

Entry fees for all competitions shall be as agreed at a previous General Meeting and will be indicated on the entry forms.

2.3. Trophies

In addition to any trophies, prizes in vouchers, cash or kind shall be given to;

2.3.1. All winners

2.3.2. Losing finalists

2.3.3. Losing semi-finalists in the Single Handed Championship

2.4. Entries

2.4.1. Mixed club entries are not permitted.

2.4.2. Entry forms, with all players being individually named thereon, must be received by the Competition Secretary on or before the published closing date for each competition. All entry fees must accompany the entry. The players taking part in the first game shall constitute the team and should normally play together throughout the competition.

2.4.3. Should none of the original entry be available then the entry is void.

2.4.4. No player may withdraw from an original entry to join another team after the draw has been made.

2.5. Times, Dates and Venues

2.5.1. All fixed date competitions, except the semi-finals and finals should normally start by 6.00pm unless mutually agreed otherwise by the competitors.

2.5.2. The failure of players to arrive not later than 15 minutes of the agreed or stipulated starting time and their failure to notify their opponents of the reason for their nonappearance within this time, shall result in their elimination.

2.5.3. All competitions shall be played on or before the date stipulated, except the semi-finals and finals which will be played on the second full weekend in September each year. In exceptional circumstances any requests for alterations to playing dates will be considered and determined by the Competition Secretary. The Competition Secretary shall have the power to alter any times, dates or venues as published.

2.6 Challenges

2.6.1. The first named in the draws, are the challengers and shall have the choice of greens and be responsible for booking the rink and in singles providing a marker. Challengers shall, by the challenge date, offer their opponents two dates observing the following exceptions which may be waived if mutually agreed;

- (A) S&DBA League fixtures
- (b) S&DBA Fixed date competitions
- (c) HCBA Fixed date competitions
- (d) Sundays or Bank Holidays

2.6.2. If a challenge has not been received by the stipulated date, the non-challenger shall become the challenger and must act immediately, assuming the responsibilities and privileges of the challenger. Failure to agree shall result in the game being awarded to the then challenger provided the facts are reported to the Competitions Secretary.

2.6.3. No singles games shall be played without a marker.

2.7. Incomplete Teams

If one player of a pair or triple, or two or more in a four are absent, the incomplete team shall forfeit the game. In the event of a four being one player short, the game shall be played as arranged, the incomplete team forfeiting 25% of the total shots scored (except in the case of illness or injury to a player after the

game has started, when no replacement is available, the defaulting four shall lose one quarter of the shots from that period only until the completion of the match). Fractions shall be taken into account. Once such a game has commenced it must be completed with the same players unless only the trial ends have been played prior to the arrival of the missing player.

2.8. Substitutes

2.8.1. No substitute is allowed in singles

2.8.2. One additional and the same player may be used as a substitute in pairs, triples and fours, provided he has not already entered or played in that competition.

2.8.3. In the event of death, long term disability, or departure from the District area on a semi-permanent or permanent basis of a player after the draw has been made, and where substitution has already taken place, the Competitions Secretary may permit one additional substitute, upon receipt of full written details.

2.9. Trial Ends

Before the start of play in any game, or on the resumption of an unfinished game on another day, not more than one trial end each way may be played by each player.

2.10. Green Closures (fixed date competitions)

When a green is officially closed the teams shall arrange to play the game within six days and the home skip must notify the Competition Secretary immediately of the re-arranged date. Failure to agree will result in the Competition Secretary making the necessary arrangements which shall be binding on both sides. The winners must advise the Competition Secretary as soon as the result is known.

2.11. Game Stoppages

If a game is stopped for any reason it shall be resumed (within six days) as laid down in "Laws of the Sport of Bowls" with the scores as they were when the game stopped. Failure to agree a date will result in the Competition Secretary making the necessary arrangements. These arrangements will be binding on both sides. If in a resumed game any one of the original team is not available one substitute shall be permitted as laid down in byelaw 2.8. Above.

2.12. Results and Score Cards

2.12.1. If the winner of a game fails to advise the Competition Secretary of the result by telephone, text message or email by the time published on the competition draw-sheet both teams may be eliminated. All results must be able to be confirmed, in the event of a dispute, by the production by the winner of the completed scorecard as published on the draw-sheet. Where a handicap applies those players receiving shots shall add them to the first score on their card with the handicap clearly indicated.

2.12.2. When a game is being claimed an email, text or completed card shall be submitted by the player making the claim the reason for the claim and advising if his opponent has been notified of his action.

2.12.3. Scorecards must show clearly the competition round, date, substitutes and any handicap where applicable. The cards must be signed by both skips and both singles opponents.

2.13. Appeal

Any urgent business concerning the running of competitions during the season, shall in the first instance be dealt with by the Competitions Liaison Group set up in accordance with byelaw 1.2.6. Appeals will conform to the Association Constitution.

