



**Championship/Competition
Rules & Regulations 50-70**

APPROVED: OCTOBER 2019

2020 Revisions in Yellow

PLEASE NOTE:

National Championships

Details of competitors in the Women's National Championships shall be submitted by the County Association to Bowls England not later than the Monday of Week 30.

Details of competitors in the Men's National Championships shall be submitted by the County Association to Bowls England not later than the Monday of Week 31.

The first Monday of the Bowls England National Championships shall be in Week 32 of each year.

National Competitions

For details on individual National Competition submission dates, please refer to appropriate regulation.

GLOSSARY:

Challenger

In Bowls England National Competitions, the Challenger ~~is as shown on the published draw by an arrow and~~ will be identified on the draw card circulated to the named contact of both teams/sides. The duties of the Challenger in National Championships and National Competitions are included within the Bowls England Regulations.

Draw for Rinks

The draw for rink/s to be played on shall be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport (Law 3.1). For a match requiring one rink, a minimum of two rinks shall be offered to the opponent. For a match requiring more than one rink, the minimum number of rinks offered shall be at least equal to the number of rinks required.

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Bowls England Regulation: No. 50
Approved October 2019

1. Bowls England National Championships

- 1.1 County Championships leading to National Championships shall be administered by the County Association under the Rules and Regulations of Bowls England and in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.
- 1.2 All County Championships leading to National Championships shall be played either on weekdays in the evenings with a start time no earlier than 6pm or at weekends. For weekday games an earlier start may be arranged by mutual agreement between competitors, but in the absence of mutual agreement the start time of no earlier than 6pm shall be adhered to.
- 1.3 Should a player, who has been expelled or suspended from a Club, be drawn to play at that Club in any Championship game, other than a side game, run under the auspices of or on behalf of Bowls England, the Club shall either allow the player access to the changing room and green in order to play the game or alternatively advise the challenger(s) to make arrangements for the game to be played on a neutral green of a Club affiliated to Bowls England. Under no circumstances shall the opponent(s) be expected to concede the game. Should the expelled or suspended player be a member of a 'side team' the Club fielding the player shall ask the Club from whom he/she was banned for permission for that player to access the Club. If permission is refused the player shall be withdrawn from the side. In all other cases the Club may refuse access.
- 1.4 The National Championships shall comprise:
- Singles
 - Two-Wood Singles
 - Pairs
 - Triples
 - Fours
 - Junior Singles
 - Junior Pairs
 - Senior Fours

All others are National Competitions.

- 1.5 Players selected for approved International duties, together with Officers and Officials on duty with the England teams, shall be allowed to play in all stages of County Championships leading to National Championships should dates clash.
- 1.6 Should a club cease to exist after the entry date, the members may be permitted, for one season only, to compete under the name of that club irrespective of which club or clubs they have joined.
- 1.7 All Competitors in National Championships shall have paid affiliation fees, through their Club, for the current year.
- 1.8 The Administrator of each County Association shall forward to Bowls England, the number of entrants in each of the Championships, together with the relevant entry fees as determined by Bowls England, by the Monday of Week 5.
- 1.9 Each entry shall be made by one named player only, and that player shall be excluded from being a substitute in the same discipline. Should the named entrant in a County Championship event be unable to participate from the outset in the Championship due to exceptional circumstances, the team may request the use of an additional player if required (in addition to the original players that formed the team in the first match). Such a request shall be made in writing to Bowls England via the County Association for consideration.

- 1.10 A competitor shall not enter any Bowls England Championship under an assumed name, nor shall they represent or allow their name to be submitted by more than one Club or County, in any one year. All players in team games shall be affiliated members of the same club (with the exception of the Junior Pairs Championship – refer to Regulation 50.2.7) and they may only represent that club in all championship events.
- 1.11 Any entry in a National Championship shall be declared invalid if the competitor enters in another United Kingdom country's Championship in the same year.
- 1.12 There is nothing in the Laws of the Sport or in the rules of the National Competitions, as at present constituted, which stipulates that matches may not be played on a surface other than grass. It is a condition that National Competitions are played outdoors and that the green has been approved by the relevant County Association.
- 1.13 The draw for rink/s to be played on shall be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport (refer to Glossary on Page 2 for definition).
- 1.14 Suitable flood lighting may be used during these matches.
- 1.15 Fixed groundsheets are acceptable for National Championships, however portable/moveable groundsheets are prohibited.
- 1.16 If a player/team fails to appear and be ready to play within 30 minutes after the agreed start time for the tie, the opponent/team may claim a 'walk over'.
- 1.17 The winners of the following events shall be entered by Bowls England to represent England in their respective British Isles Championship in the following season and shall adhere to the Bowls England Code of Conduct for International Players (Appendix K) including the requirements with regard to travel and accommodation:
- National Singles Championship
 - National Pairs Championship
 - National Triples Championship
 - National Fours Championship
 - National Senior Fours Championship
 - National Junior Singles Championship
 - National Junior Pairs Championship (Women Only)

2. Championship Format

- 2.1 Singles
Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player.
- 2.2 Pairs (Two players from the same club)
Each game shall consist of 21 ends – four bowls each player. The Leads to play their four bowls before the skips. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached.
- 2.3 Triples (Three players from the same club)
Each game shall consist of 18 ends – three bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached.
- 2.4 Fours (Four players from the same club)
Each game shall consist of 21 ends – two bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached.
- 2.5 Two-Wood Singles
Each game shall consist of 21 ends – two bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached.

- 2.6 Junior Singles
Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player. The Championships shall be open to all Members of Clubs affiliated to Bowls England who have not attained their 25th birthday on the 1st April in the year of the Championship.
- 2.7 Junior Pairs (Two players from the same County)
Each game shall consist of 18 ends – four bowls each player. The Leads to play their four bowls before the skips. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached. The Championships shall be open to all Members of Clubs affiliated to Bowls England who have not attained their 25th birthday on the 1st April in the year of the Championship. The two players may belong to different clubs within the same county, so long as both clubs are affiliated to Bowls England.
- 2.8 Senior Fours (Four players from the same club)
Each game shall consist of 18 ends – two bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached. The Championships shall be open to all Members of Clubs affiliated to Bowls England who have attained their 55th birthday by the 1st April in the year of the Championship.

3. Qualifiers for National Championships

- 3.1 Every County Association shall be entitled to two representatives in each discipline at the National Championships, who shall be the County Finalists, with the following exceptions:
- Junior Singles - The six counties with the lowest number of entries shall only have one representative.
 - Junior Pairs – Winning Pair only from County
 - Senior Fours – Winning Four only from County
 - Singles, Two-Wood Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours – All counties with 5% or more of the total number of entries in that Championship from the previous year shall be entitled to three representatives.
- 3.2 The name, phone number/s, e-mail address and club of each player qualifying to compete in the final stages shall be forwarded to Bowls England via the notified method by the Monday of Week 30 for Women, and Monday of Week 31 for Men.

4. Substitution

- 4.1 In Pairs, Triples and Fours, the players taking part in the first game shall constitute the team and shall normally play together throughout the Championship.
- 4.2 One additional, and the same player, may be used as a substitute at any time provided they have not already played **or entered** in the same Championship. They may play in any position.
- 4.3 The named entrant conceding a walkover before their first game in any Championship cannot act as a substitute in the same Championship, as this is considered a game played and lost.
- 4.4 The named entrant of a team cannot be a member or substitute of any other team in the same Championship.
- 4.5 If a substitute is required during a game then the rules in the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls apply.

5. Dress

- 5.1 Please refer to Appendix A (Dress Code – Men) or Appendix B (Dress Code – Women) as relevant.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 51
Approved October 2019

1. National Championships – Final Stages

- 1.1 The name, phone number/s, e-mail address and club of each player qualifying to compete in the final stages shall be forwarded to Bowls England via the notified method by the Monday of Week 30 for Women, and Monday of Week 31 for Men.
- 1.2 The first Monday of the Women’s National Championships shall be in Week 32 of each year. The first Monday of the Men’s National Championships shall be in Week 34 of each year
- 1.3 In order to avoid a duplication at the National Championships through competitors qualifying in more than one National Championship event, the designated County Official shall allocate A or B (+C if appropriate) representatives accordingly. Bowls England reserves the right to change representatives if they are incorrectly allocated.
- 1.4 The Championships shall be played under the current Laws of the Sport and in accordance with the regulations currently laid down by Bowls England. Competitors shall adhere to the Code of Conduct (Appendix C) and also posted on the Bowls England website. This shall be under the management and control of the Tournament Committee who shall determine all questions and disputes that may arise and that do not come within the scope of the Umpire’s duties, as hereinafter defined. The decision of the Tournament Committee shall be final and binding. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to alter starting times and rinks if it is considered necessary or desirable.
- 1.5 A travel subsidy may be paid to players qualifying for the National Championships in the final stages at such a rate as the Bowls England Board may from time to time determine.
- 1.6 At the final stages of all National Championships all bowls shall bear a stamp in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

2. Badge Presentation and Player Registration

- 2.1 All players shall assemble in playing kit near the Badge Presentation Area (A Green) 30 minutes before the start of their first match in any National Championship event to be presented with their National Championship qualifier badge.
- 2.2 Every team (or player in Singles) shall complete an Emergency Contact Card and hand this in to the Tournament Office when reporting for their first match. An Emergency Contact Card shall be completed for all events.
- 2.3 Skips/singles players shall collect their scorecards and/or stickers from the Tournament Office before each round.
- 2.4 After the end of each match the winning skip (or player in Singles) shall take the signed scorecard/s to the Tournament Office immediately. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification.
- 2.5 Competitors not on the green ready to play within 15 minutes of the times stated on the draw sheets shall be subject to disqualification.

3. Substitution

- 3.1 All substitutes shall be registered with the Tournament Office.

4. Slow Play

- 4.1 Competitors shall adhere to the Bowls England Slow Play Guidance (Appendix D) and also posted on the Bowls England website.

5. Parental Consent

5.1 Parental consent forms (where applicable) shall be completed and submitted.

6. Conclusion of Matches

6.1 Matches shall be conceded where it is not possible for the losing team/individual to win to assist with the National Championship Finals schedule.

7. Green Fit for Play

7.1 The Greenkeeper and/or Tournament Director shall be the adjudicators as to whether or not the green is fit for play and shall have the power to postpone play at any point. Should play be postponed the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls shall apply.

8. Trophy Presentation

8.1 At the conclusion of all Finals, a presentation shall take place on the green. If the award of prize money or gifts is applicable then at least one member from each of the losing Semi-Finalists shall attend in playing uniform, otherwise their prize money shall be withheld and donated to the Charity Trust. The exception to this rule is for any event that holds the Semi-Finals and Final on separate days. The Winners of the Singles (Four-Wood), Junior Singles, Junior Pairs (Women Only), Pairs, Triples, Fours and Senior Fours shall represent England in the British Isles Championships the following year.

8.2 The Winners shall be presented with the trophy, medal/s and fleece/s at the Annual Dinner. The Runners-Up and Semi-Finalists shall also receive medals at the Annual Dinner.

9. Dress

9.1 Please refer to Appendix A (Dress Code – Men) or Appendix B (Dress Code – Women) as relevant.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 52
Approved October 2019

1. Bowls England National Competitions

- 1.1 The National Competitions shall be played under the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls and in accordance with the Regulations currently laid down by Bowls England.
- 1.2 All National Competitions shall be controlled by Bowls England. An Emergency Committee shall consist of any three members nominated by the Director of Competitive Events. The decision of the Emergency Committee in each and every circumstance shall be final and binding.
- 1.3 Should a player, who has been expelled or suspended from a Club, be drawn to play at that Club in any National Competition game, other than a side game, run under the auspices of or on behalf of Bowls England, the Club shall either allow the player access to the changing room and green in order to play the game or alternatively advise the challenger(s) to make arrangements for the game to be played on a neutral green of a Club affiliated to Bowls England. Under no circumstances shall the opponent(s) be expected to concede the game. Should the expelled, or suspended player be a member of a 'side team' the Club fielding the player shall ask the Club from whom he/she was banned for permission for that player to access the Club. If permission is refused the player shall be withdrawn from the side. In all other cases the Club may refuse access.
- 1.4 National Competitions consist of the following;

INTER-COUNTY COMPETITIONS

- Johns Trophy – Inter-County Competition (Women)
- Walker Cup – Inter-County Top Two Fours Competition (Women)
- Amy Rose Bowl – Inter-County Junior Competition (Women)
- Middleton Cup – Inter-County Competition (Men)
- Balcomb Trophy – Inter-County Top Two Fours Competition (Men)
- White Rose – Inter-County Junior Competition (Men)

In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-County Competitions (as listed above) may only represent the county from which they have entered National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate.

INTER-CLUB COMPETITIONS

- National Top Club Competition (Men's & Women's)
- National Club Two Fours Competition (Men)
- Tony Allcock Trophy – National Club Over 60s Double Rink Competition (Mixed)

In Inter-Club Competitions (as listed above), players are required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-Club Competitions may only represent one club should they belong to more than one club.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

- National Family Pairs Competition
- National Champion of Champions Singles Competition (Men's & Women's)
- National Senior Singles and Pairs Competition (Men's & Women's)
- National Mixed Pairs Competition
- National Mixed Fours Competition

Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate in the above National Competitions (as listed above) only.

All other events not listed in 1.4 above are National Championships.

- 1.5 Should a club cease to exist after the entry date, the members may be permitted, for one season only, to compete under the name of that club irrespective of which club or clubs they have joined.
- 1.6 Should a club cease to exist prior to the entry date, the Singles Champion shall be eligible for one season only to enter the Champion of Champions under the name of their previous club.
- 1.7 All Competitors in National Competitions shall have paid affiliation fees, through their Club, for the current year.
- 1.8 The Administrator of each County Association shall forward to Bowls England, the entries in each of the Walker Cup, Johns Trophy, Middleton Cup, Balcomb Trophy and White Rose together with the relevant entry fees as determined by Bowls England, by the Monday of Week 5. Entries for the Amy Rose Bowl shall be received by the Monday of Week 14. The remaining competitions are directly administered by Bowls England.
- 1.9 Competitors shall not enter any Bowls England Competition under an assumed name.
- 1.10 There is nothing in the Laws of the Sport or in the rules of the National Competitions, as at present constituted, which stipulates that matches may not be played on a surface other than grass. It is a condition that National Competitions are played outdoors and that the green has been approved by the relevant County Association.
- 1.11 Suitable flood lighting may be used during these matches.
- 1.12 The format of Rules for the individual National Competitions shall be found under the Regulations applicable to each National Competition.
- 1.13 The draw and completion dates for all National Competitions shall be made by Bowls England. Each County shall decide if the National Competition area shall be played on a County, Regional or Open basis as deemed applicable. Area draws shall be based upon the entry figures from the previous year.
- 1.14 In all qualification rounds, the Challenger shall be responsible for the match arrangements.
- 1.15 The Challenger shall be responsible for the payment of rink fees (where applicable), except when matches take place at a neutral venue when all costs shall be shared by both participants/teams/sides.
- 1.16 Matches shall be played on a green approved by the County Association and chosen by the Challenger. Where the mileage exceeds 160 miles round trip (measured club to club for club-based events and County Centre to host venue for county-based events) matches shall be played on a neutral green approximately midway between the two clubs/counties unless mutually agreed. The use of the same neutral green in future rounds is not prohibited.
- 1.17 All final qualification rounds shall be played on a neutral green midway between the two clubs (unless mutually agreed).
- 1.18 The Challenger shall offer their opponent, within 48 hours of the closing date of the previous round, at least three dates for play – one of which shall be a Saturday or Sunday. The three dates offered must fall within the window of the round. Matches may be played prior to the closing date of the previous round by mutual agreement. A minimum of 48 hours' notice is required for any dates offered to be eligible. The start time for any match shall be set by the Challenger when the dates are offered, but no player/team/side shall be compelled to accept a time earlier than 6.00pm Monday to Friday or 9.30am on a Saturday or Sunday, nor later than 6.30pm on any day. The date and start time in any round may be agreed by mutual agreement, but failing that the dates and start times offered by the Challenger will stand. The offering of two different start times on a single date does not count as two dates.
- 1.19 The Opponent or Opposing teams/sides shall, within 24 hours of receipt of the challenge, reply and accept one of the dates offered.

- 1.20 When a draw and result card is issued in advance of the start of the Competition, the Challenger does not need to offer dates until 21 days before the closing date of the first match, nor does the opponent need to accept a date until 19 days before the closing date of that round.
- 1.21 If a challenge has not been made in accordance with Regulation 52.1.10 the opponent will become the challenger and make all match arrangements (including the offering of dates and choice of venue). They must contact their opponent within 48 hours after becoming the challenger.
- 1.22 No extension of the closing date for any round shall be granted for any reason whatsoever.
- 1.23 Should the date and venue not be agreed within the agreed timescale both sides shall be disqualified.
- 1.24 The draw for rink/s to be played on shall be made in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport (refer to Glossary on Page 2 for definition).
- 1.25 If a player/team/side fails to appear and be ready to play within 30 minutes after the agreed time for the tie, the opponent may claim a 'walk over'.
- 1.26 In the event of no decision being reached IN ANY ROUND owing to inclement weather, and where this makes it impossible to re-arrange a fixture before the completion date, the aggregate score, in uncompleted matches in which five ends or more have been played, shall stand as the result unless otherwise specified. If the score is a tie then the result shall be decided by the toss of a coin. Matches not started and matches in which less than five ends have been completed shall be decided by the toss of a coin, or by mutual agreement. This Regulation does not apply to Top Club (Men's and Women's)/Club Two Fours/Tony Allcock Trophy/Johns Trophy/Middleton Cup/Walker Cup/Balcomb Trophy/Amy Rose Bowl/White Rose Trophy – see Appendix J for these events.
- 1.27 Fixed groundsheets are acceptable for National Competitions; however portable/moveable groundsheets are prohibited.
- 1.28 The result shall be submitted by the winning player or team/side to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.
- 1.29 Regional Finals, where required, shall be played at venues selected by Bowls England. Players shall be informed of the venues and details by Bowls England.

2. Substitution

- 2.1 The named entrant conceding a walk-over before their first match in any National Competition cannot act as a substitute in the same competition, as this is considered a match played and lost.
- 2.2 The named entrant of a team cannot be a member or substitute of any other team in the same National Competition.
- 2.3 If a substitute is required during a match then the rules in the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls apply.
- 2.4 See individual National Competition Regulation for substitution rules.

3. Dress

- 3.1 Please refer to Appendix A (Dress Code – Men) or Appendix B (Dress Code – Women) as relevant.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 53
Approved October 2019

Johns Trophy – Inter-County Competition (Women)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. This competition shall be open to all County Associations who are Members of Bowls England.
2. All Counties shall be assumed to have entered unless they otherwise notify Bowls England before the completion of the previous year's competition.
3. Any team withdrawing from the Johns Trophy after 1st April of that year shall be ineligible to participate in the Walker Cup in the following year.
4. The entrants shall be placed in geographical groups, which shall remain the same, but the composition of the sections shall be determined by a draw made every second year.
5. The competition shall be divided into two stages – the Group Stages and the Final Stages. In the Group Stages each county shall play one match each year against each other County in their section, home and away alternate years or at a neutral venue for both years. Matches shall start at 1.30pm unless mutually agreed. The last round of group games within the same group, (excluding dead rubbers), shall start at the same time (1.30pm unless mutually agreed between all competing counties).
6. Every County shall be represented by a side consisting of six rinks of four players, all of whom shall be members of an affiliated club to their County Association. No player shall play for more than one County in any one year. **Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate.**
7. Failure to field 24 players shall result in a walkover and 22 points shall be awarded to the opposing team. Where a county refused to fulfil the fixture the following penalty shall apply; 22 points shall be awarded to the non-defaulting team and the defaulting team shall be excluded from entering the Johns Trophy and the Walker Cup the following year.
8. **Group Stages**
 - 8.1 The match shall consist of 21 ends. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then a further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be needed. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. In each match a win for an individual rink shall be awarded two points and a tie one point. The county that wins by total number of shots of all six rinks shall, in addition, be awarded 10 points. In the event of a tie on shots, each county shall be awarded five points each.
 - 8.2 The county gaining the greatest number of points in each section shall be declared the winner of that section. Should two counties be equal in points and also in shot difference then the winner shall be ascertained on the result of the match already played between the two counties.
 - 8.3 In the group stages, should a match end as a tie (both shots and points) after 21 ends then an extra end or ends shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots on all six rinks shall count on the extra end and the winning team reported to Bowls England. The extra end shall not form part of the score within the group stages, but shall ONLY be used to separate the two counties if they are level at the conclusion of the group stages after points and shots difference have been taken into account.
 - 8.4 When it is not mathematically possible to win by playing a scheduled tie and subject to this being ratified by Bowls England, such a tie may be cancelled. The Counties concerned shall be in mutual agreement and would each be responsible for the reimbursement of expenses incurred by the venue booked.
9. **Result of Match**

The result shall be submitted to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.

10. Bowls Stickers
Counties shall provide bowls stickers for the Group Stages and Quarter-Finals unless provided by the sponsor.
11. Inclement weather
See Appendix J
12. **Final Stages**
 - 12.1 The Quarter-Finals shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. These shall be played between the winners of the two sections in each geographical group. The two counties concerned shall be responsible for arranging an Umpire (via the Regional Officer of the English Bowls Umpires Association) and a neutral venue midway between the two counties. If green fees are payable these shall be shared by both counties. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then a further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be needed. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. The winner shall be decided on the total number of shots of all rinks. There are no points for individual rink wins. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end or ends shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots on all six rinks shall count on the extra end.

The Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draws for the Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England on greens appointed by them. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then a further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be needed. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. The winner shall be decided on the total number of shots of all rinks. There are no points for individual rink wins. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end or ends shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots of all six rinks shall count on the extra end.
 - 12.2 Each County qualifying for the Semi-Final stage shall supply to Bowls England the names of six rinks and four reserves no later than the Monday of Week 30. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships.
 - 12.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.
 - 12.4 The Winner and Runner-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 28 Winners/Runners-Up medals presented at the Annual Dinner.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 54
Approved October 2019

Walker Cup – Inter-County Top Two Fours Competition (Women)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. This competition shall be open to all County Associations who are Members of Bowls England.
2. All Counties shall be assumed to have entered unless they otherwise notify Bowls England before the completion of the previous year's competition.
3. Every County shall be represented by a side consisting of two rinks of four players, all of whom shall be members of an affiliated club to their County Association. No player shall play for more than one County in any one year. **Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate.**
4. Bowls England shall set dates for all rounds. The draw for the competition including the Regional Final and Semi-Final shall be made by Bowls England.
5. Failure to field eight players shall result in a walk-over.
6. The preliminary round and first round shall be played by mutual arrangement on the designated dates. The competition shall be played on a knockout basis, with the early rounds in geographical areas. Each rink of a side shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player. The County Secretary or Challenging side shall make all match arrangements. Matches shall start at 1.30pm unless mutually agreed. Arrangements for cost of refreshments and other incidental expenses shall be a domestic matter.
7. The match shall consist of 21 ends. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink shall play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end should one be required. This shall be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. The number of shots on both rinks shall determine the result. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end shall be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
8. Inclement weather
See Appendix J
9. Counties shall inform the Regional Selector of time and venue of preliminary/first round matches. Counties shall provide bowls stickers for the preliminary round and first round unless provided by the sponsor.
10. Result of Match
The result shall be submitted to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.
- 11. Final Stages**
 - 11.1 The final stages consisting of the Regional Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time, date and venue set by Bowls England. Bowls England shall make the draw for the Regional Finals, Semi-Finals and Final.
 - 11.2 Each County qualifying for the Semi-Final stage shall supply to Bowls England the names of two rinks and two reserves no later than the Monday of Week 30. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships. A maximum of 10 National Competition badges shall be presented to players involved at the National Championships.
 - 11.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final of this event.
 - 11.4 The Winner and Runner-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals presented at the Annual Dinner.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 55
Approved October 2019

Amy Rose Bowl - Inter-County Junior Competition (Women)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all County Associations who are members of Bowls England.
2. Every County may enter more than one side and shall be represented by a side/sides consisting of two rinks of four players. All players shall be members of clubs affiliated to their County Association and 31 years of age or under by 1st April in the year of the competition. **Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate.**
3. The Competition shall be played on a knockout basis during the National Championships.
4. All Counties **SHALL** notify Bowls England by Week 14 of their intention to enter. If entering more than one team, each team shall be allocated a team name (no team should be classified as A/B or similar).
5. Failure to field eight players (in any single team) shall result in a walkover.
6. A player under the age of 12 years on the 1st April in the year of the competition may be substituted after eight ends have been played.
7. Junior/Cub bowls may be used.
8. The match shall consist of 15 ends. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink shall play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This shall be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 15th end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks shall determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 15 ends then an extra end shall be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
9. Inclement weather
See Appendix J
10. Each team reaching the Semi-Finals shall receive 10 National Competition Badges.
11. Each County Secretary shall supply to Bowls England the names of up to 10 squad members per team no later than the Monday of Week 29.
12. Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for this event.
13. The Winners shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals presented after the Final.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 56
Approved October 2019

National Senior Singles and Senior Pairs Competition (Women)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. Each player shall have reached their 55th birthday by 1st April in the year of the competition.
3. The two players in the Senior Pairs shall be members of an affiliated club within the same County.
4. Players shall play from the same county in which they play their National Championships and shall represent the same county in the Senior Singles and Senior Pairs. **Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.**
5. Senior Singles matches shall be 21 shots (four bowls each player). The Senior Pairs shall be 18 ends (four bowls each player). In the Senior Pairs, in the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached.
6. In the event of a substitute being required in the Senior Pairs, one and the same player may come from any club, in the same county, providing they have not already played in the same competition, however, one of the original players shall play in all rounds. The substitute may play in any position.
7. **The final game before the final stages must be played on a neutral green as near half way between the two clubs as possible unless otherwise mutually agreed.**

8. Final Stages

- 8.1 The final stages consisting of the 35 County Winners for both the Senior Singles and Senior Pairs shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships. The draws for these shall be made by Bowls England.
- 8.2 Each Team qualifying for the final stage shall supply to Bowls England the name of their partner (Senior Pairs only) no later than the Monday of Week 30. The players involved at the National Championships shall receive a National Competition Badge.
- 8.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event
- 8.4 The Winners shall be presented with a medal and fleece for the singles or two medals and two fleeces for the pairs at the Annual Dinner with one or two medals respectively for the Runners-Up.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 57
Approved October 2019

National Top Club Competition (Women)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to Bowls England. Clubs may enter more than one side. No player shall play in more than one of those sides entered.
2. Players are required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. **In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-Club Competitions may only represent one club should they belong to more than one club.**
3. Fixed dates may be set for this competition by County Associations subject to the following:
 - Both clubs participating in the round are affiliated to the same County Association
 - The dates for each round set by the County Association shall fall within the round closing dates for that particular round set by Bowls England
 - The set date meets the requirement of the playing times/days specified in Regulation 52.1.18
4. A club side shall consist of 10 players. The disciplines are Four-Wood Singles (21 shots), Four-Wood Pairs (21 ends), Three-Wood Triples (18 ends) and Two-Wood Fours (21 ends). The challenger shall have the choice of green and shall make all match arrangements up to the Inter-County stage.
5. Failure to field 10 players shall result in a walk-over.
6. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away, and make the draw for rinks for each discipline. The format for the competition shall be as follows:
 - 1pt for every discipline won, total of four points available. In the event of a drawn discipline the point shall be shared, i.e. ½ point each. After completion of the four disciplines the winning side shall be decided by the highest number of points.
 - In the case of a tie, the winner shall be decided from the total number of shots scored from the four disciplines. Should these be equal as well as the match score, extra ends in the pairs, triples and fours, shall be played to determine the result. A further toss of the coin shall take place, the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away on the extra ends.
 - Shots do not count on the extra end – only the result of the three disciplines, ie. 2-1, 3-0. All disciplines shall be played simultaneously.
7. Between rounds, substitutes/changes are allowed in the side and between disciplines provided the players are members of the same club and have not played for another side during the current competition. For this competition only, substitution during play is allowed for the singles player in case of illness or injury. The score being resumed after interruption. Substitutes are allowed during play in the Pairs, Triples and Fours of this event in line with the current Laws of the Sport.

8. Final Stages

- 8.1 The final stages shall take place on dates and venue specified by Bowls England and consist of the eight qualifying sides (80 players). This shall be a knockout basis with the Quarter-Final on the Saturday and the Semi-Final and Final on Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon respectively.
- 8.2 Each Club qualifying for the final stages shall supply Bowls England the names of 10 players and two reserves not later than the Monday of Week 36. A maximum of 12 National Competition badges shall be presented to players involved at the finals.
- 8.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 8.4 The Winners shall be presented with a maximum of 12 medals, fleeces and a Club Pennant at the Annual Dinner along with 12 medals for the Runners-Up.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 58
Approved October 2019

National Family Pairs Competition

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all playing members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. A team shall be comprised of two players. Either player may skip.
3. Players need not necessarily be members of the same Club or County. **Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.**
4. Eligible players should be from one of the following pairings:
 - Grandmother and granddaughter/grandson
 - Grandfather and granddaughter/grandson
 - Mother and daughter/son
 - Father and daughter/son
 - Sister and sister/brother
 - Brother and brother/sister
 - Step relatives of the above are also eligible to play
5. Relatives by marriage/civil partnership are not permitted. The following pairings are therefore not eligible:
 - Husband/partner/wife
 - In-laws
6. Relationship between players shall be declared on the entry form.
7. Substitution
The two players taking part in the first match constitutes the original team and shall normally play together throughout the competition. At least one of the original pair shall play in every round. Substitutes shall come from one of the eligible listings and shall not have already played or entered the same competition.
8. Each match shall be 21 ends, four bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a result is reached.
- 9. Final Stages**
- 9.1 The Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals and Final consisting of the last eight teams shall be played on a date set by Bowls England during the National Championships.
- 9.2 Each team qualifying for the final stages shall supply to Bowls England the name of their partner no later than the Monday of Week 31. The players involved shall receive a National Competition Badge.
- 9.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 9.4 The Winners shall be presented with two medals and fleeces at the Annual Dinner with two medals for the Runners-Up.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 59

Approved October 2019

National Champion of Champions Singles Competition (Women)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. **Players must have qualified through one of the Bowls England qualifying events (listed below). Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.**

Players eligible to enter are as follows:

- Club Four-Wood Singles Champion
- County Four-Wood Singles Champion
- County Junior Four-Wood Singles Champion
- Area National Senior Singles Qualifier from the previous year

All the above shall be nominated by their Club or County.

In addition the Champions of the following events from the previous year have automatic entry from Bowls England:

- National Champion of Champions
- National Four-Wood Singles Champion
- National Junior Four-Wood Singles Champion
- National Senior Singles Champion

In the event of any one person qualifying in more than one of the aforementioned, only one entry shall be accepted.

3. Entries shall be made on the official entry form duly signed by the Club or County Secretary, who shall certify that the nominated player is qualified to enter.
4. Players who have moved clubs during the close season shall still be eligible to enter the Champion of Champions providing that Bowls England receives written approval from the Club or County Secretary where they secured qualification no later than 1st February in the year of the event.
5. Each match shall be 21 shots, four bowls each player.
- 6. Final Stages**
 - 6.1 The final stages consisting of the last 16 Competitors shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships. The draws for these shall be made by Bowls England.
 - 6.2 Each player involved in the final stages at the National Championships shall receive a National Competition Badge.
 - 6.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
 - 6.4 The Winner shall be presented with a medal and a fleece at the Annual Dinner with a medal for the Runner-Up.

Middleton Cup – Inter County Competition (Men)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. This competition shall be open to all County Associations who are Members of Bowls England.
2. All Counties shall be assumed to have entered unless they otherwise notify Bowls England before the completion of the previous year's competition.
3. Any team withdrawing from the Middleton Cup after 1st April of that year shall be ineligible to participate in the Balcomb Trophy in the following year.
4. The entrants shall be placed in geographical groups, which shall remain the same, but the composition of the sections shall be determined by a draw made every second year.
5. The competition shall be divided into two stages – the Group Stages and the Final Stages. In the Group Stages each county shall play one match each year against each other County in their section, home and away alternate years or at a neutral venue for both years. Matches to start at 2pm unless mutually agreed. The last round of group games within the same group, (excluding dead rubbers), shall start at the same time (2pm unless mutually agreed between all competing counties).
6. Every County shall be represented by a side consisting of six rinks of four players, all of whom shall be members of an affiliated club to their County Association. No player shall play for more than one County in any one year. **Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate.**
7. Failure to field 24 players shall result in a walkover. 22 points shall be awarded to the opposing team. Where a county refuses to fulfil the fixture the following penalty shall apply; 22 points shall be awarded to the non-defaulting team and the defaulting team shall be excluded from entering the Middleton Cup and the Balcomb Trophy the following year.
- 8. Group Stages**
 - 8.1 The match shall consist of 21 ends. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then a further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be needed. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. In each match a win for an individual rink shall be awarded two points and a tie one point. The county that wins by total number of shots of all six rinks shall, in addition, be awarded 10 points. In the event of a tie on shots, each county shall be awarded five points each.
 - 8.2 The county gaining the greatest number of points in each section shall be declared the winner of that section. Should two counties be equal in points and also in shot difference then the winner shall be ascertained on the result of the match already played between the two counties.
 - 8.3 In the group stages, should a match end as a tie (both shots and points) after 21 ends then an extra end or ends shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots on all six rinks shall count on the extra end and the winning team reported to Bowls England. The extra end shall not form part of the score within the group stages, but shall ONLY be used to separate the two counties if they are level at the conclusion of the group stages after points and shots have been taken into account.
 - 8.4 When it is not mathematically possible to win by playing a scheduled tie and subject to this being ratified by Bowls England, such a tie may be cancelled. The Counties concerned shall be in mutual agreement and would each be responsible for the reimbursement of expenses incurred by the venue.
9. **Result of Match**
The result shall be submitted to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.
10. Counties shall provide bowls stickers for the Group Stages and Quarter-Finals unless provided by the sponsor.

11. Inclement weather
See Appendix J

12. Final Stages

- 12.1 The Quarter-Finals shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. These shall be played between the winners of the two sections in each geographical group. The two counties concerned shall be responsible for arranging an Umpire (via the Regional Officer of the English Bowls Umpires Association) and a neutral venue midway between the two counties. If green fees are payable these shall be shared by both counties. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then a further toss of a coin for the choice of jack (extra end) should one be needed. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. The winner shall be decided on the total number of shots of all rinks. There are no points for individual rink wins. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end or ends shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots of all six rinks shall count on the extra end.

The Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draws for the Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England on greens appointed by them. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then a further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be needed. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. The winner shall be decided on the total number of shots of all rinks. There are no points for individual rink wins. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end or ends shall be played by all six rinks simultaneously until there is a winner. The total number of shots of all six rinks shall count on the extra end.

- 12.2 Each County qualifying for the Semi-Final stage shall supply to Bowls England the names of six rinks and four reserves no later than the Monday of Week 30. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships.
- 12.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.
- 12.4 The Winner and Runner-Up respectively shall receive a maximum of 28 Winner/Runner-Up medals presented at the Annual Dinner.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 61
Approved October 2019

National Club Two Fours Competition (Men)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to Bowls England. Clubs may enter more than one side. No player shall play in more than one of those sides entered.
2. Players are required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. **In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-Club Competitions may only represent one club should they belong to more than one club.**
3. Fixed dates may be set for this competition by County Associations subject to the following:
 - Both clubs participating in the round are affiliated to the same County Association
 - The dates for each round set by the County Association shall fall within the round closing dates for that particular round set by Bowls England
 - The set date meets the requirement of the playing times/days specified in Regulation 52.1.18
4. A club side shall consist of two rinks of four players and they shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player. The challenger shall have the choice of green and shall make all match arrangements up to the inter-area stage.
5. Failure to field eight players shall result in a walk-over.
6. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink shall play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This shall be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks shall determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end shall be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
- 7. Final Stages**
 - 7.1 The final stages consisting of the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draws for the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England.
 - 7.2 The Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships. A maximum of 10 National Competition badges shall be presented to players involved at the National Championships.
 - 7.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the Semi-Finals and Final.
 - 7.4 The Winners shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals, fleeces and a Club Pennant with the Runners-Up receiving a maximum of 10 medals that shall be presented at the Annual Dinner.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 62
Approved October 2019

National Top Club Competition (Men)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to Bowls England. Clubs may enter more than one side. No player shall play in more than one of those sides entered.
2. Players are required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-Club Competitions may only represent one club should they belong to more than one club.
3. Fixed dates may be set for this competition by County Associations subject to the following:
 - Both clubs participating in the round are affiliated to the same County Association
 - The dates for each round set by the County Association shall fall within the round closing dates for that particular round set by Bowls England
 - The set date meets the requirement of the playing times/days specified in Regulation 52.1.18
4. A club side shall consist of 11 players. The disciplines are Two-Wood Singles (21 ends), Four-Wood Singles (21 shots), Four-Wood Pairs (21 ends), Three-Wood Triples (18 ends) and Two-Wood Fours (21 ends). The challenger shall have the choice of green and shall make all match arrangements up to the inter-area stage.
5. Failure to field 11 players shall result in a walk-over.
6. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for the choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away, a further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required and make the draw for rinks for each discipline. All disciplines shall start at the same time unless, when arranging the fixture, it is agreed that the singles matches shall be played on the same rink one after the other. An extra end shall be played in any discipline should it be a tie – no drawn matches. The winning side shall be the one winning the most disciplines.
7. If, in any round of this competition, a singles player is unable to continue due to ill health or any other reason, then that discipline shall be conceded. The remaining disciplines should continue to their natural conclusion. Substitutes are allowed during play in the Pairs, Triples and Fours of this event in line with the current Laws of the Sport.
8. Between rounds, substitutes/changes are allowed in the side and between disciplines provided the players are members of the same club and have not played for another side during the current competition.
9. **Final Stages**
 - 9.1 The final stages shall take place on dates and at a venue specified by Bowls England and consist of the eight qualifying sides (88) players. This shall be a knockout basis with the Quarter-Final on Saturday and the Semi-Final and Final on Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon respectively.
 - 9.2 Each Club qualifying for the final stages shall supply to Bowls England the names of 11 players and two reserves no later than the Monday of Week 36. A maximum of 13 National Competition badges shall be presented to players involved at the finals.
 - 9.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
 - 9.4 The Winners shall be presented with a maximum of 13 medals, fleeces and a Club Pennant at the Annual Dinner with 13 medals for the Runners-Up.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 63
Approved October 2019

National Senior Singles and Senior Pairs Competition (Men)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. Each player shall have reached their 55th birthday by 1st April in the year of the competition.
3. The two players in the Senior Pairs shall be members of an affiliated club within the same County.
4. Players shall play from the same county in which they play their National Championships and shall represent the same county in the Senior Singles and Senior Pairs. **Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.**
5. Senior Singles matches shall be 21 shots (four bowls each player). The Senior Pairs shall be 18 ends (four bowls each player). In the Senior Pairs, in the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached.
6. In the event of a substitute being required in the Senior Pairs, one and the same player may come from any club, in the same county, providing they have not already played in the same competition, however, one of the original players shall play in all rounds. The substitute may play in any position.
7. **The final game before the final stages must be played on a neutral green as near half way between the two clubs as possible unless otherwise mutually agreed.**

8. Final Stages

- 8.1 The final stages consisting of the 35 County Winners for both the Senior Singles and Senior Pairs shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships. The draws for these shall be made by Bowls England.
- 8.2 Each Team qualifying for the final stage shall supply to Bowls England the name of their partner (Senior Pairs only) no later than the Monday of Week 30. The players involved at the National Championships shall receive a National Competition Badge.
- 8.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event
- 8.4 The Winners shall be presented with a medal and fleece for the singles or two medals and two fleeces for the pairs at the Annual Dinner with one or two medals respectively for the Runners-Up.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 64
Approved October 2019

National Champion of Champions Singles Competition (Men)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. **Players must have qualified through one of the Bowls England qualifying events (listed below). Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.**

Players eligible to enter are as follows:

- Club Four-Wood Singles Champion
- County Four-Wood Singles Champion
- County Junior Four-Wood Singles Champion
- Area National Senior Singles Qualifier from previous year.

All the above shall be nominated by their Club or County.

In addition the Champions of the following events from the previous year have automatic entry from Bowls England:

- National Champion of Champions
- National Four-Wood Singles Champion
- National Junior Four-Wood Singles Champion
- National Senior Singles Champion

In the event of any one person qualifying in more than one of the aforementioned, only one entry shall be accepted.

3. Entries shall be made on the official entry form duly signed by the Club or County Secretary, who shall certify that the nominated player is qualified to enter.
4. Players who have moved clubs during the close season shall still be eligible to enter the Champion of Champions providing that Bowls England receives written approval from the Club or County Secretary where they secured qualification no later than 1st February in the year of the event.
5. Each match shall be 21 shots, four bowls each player.

6. Final Stages

- 6.1 The final stages consisting of the last 16 Competitors shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships. The draws for these shall be made by Bowls England.
- 6.2 Each player involved in the final stages at the National Championships shall receive a National Competition Badge.
- 6.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 6.4 The Winner shall be presented with a medal and a fleece at the Annual Dinner with a medal for the Runner-Up.

Balcomb Trophy - National County Top Two Fours Competition (Men)

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all County Associations who are members of Bowls England.
2. All Counties shall be assumed to have entered unless they otherwise notify Bowls England before the completion of the previous year's competition.
3. Every County shall be represented by a side consisting of two rinks of four players, all of whom shall be members of an affiliated club to their County Association. No player shall play for more than one County in any one year. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate.
4. Bowls England shall set dates for all rounds. The draw for the competition including the Regional Final and Semi-Final shall be made by Bowls England.
5. Failure to field eight players shall result in a walk-over.
6. The preliminary round and first round shall be played by mutual arrangement on the designated dates. The competition shall be played on a knockout basis, with the early rounds in geographical areas. Each rink of a side shall play 21 ends, two bowls each player. The County Secretary or Challenging side shall make all match arrangements. Matches shall start at 1.30pm unless mutually agreed. Arrangements for cost of refreshments and other incidental expenses shall be a domestic matter.
7. The match shall consist of 21 ends. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink shall play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end should one be required. This shall be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 21st end has been played. The number of shots on both rinks shall determine the result. In the event of a tie after 21 ends then an extra end shall be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.
8. Inclement weather
See Appendix J
9. Counties shall inform the Regional Selector of time and venue of preliminary/first round matches. Counties shall provide bowls stickers for the preliminary round and first round unless provided by the sponsor.
10. Result of Match
The result shall be submitted to Bowls England immediately using one of the approved notification methods.
11. **Final Stages**
 - 11.1 The final stages consisting of the Regional Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw for the Regional Final, Semi-Finals and Final shall be made by Bowls England.
 - 11.2 Each county qualifying for the Semi-Final stage shall supply to Bowls England the names of two rinks and two reserves no later than the Monday of Week 29. The Semi-Final and Final shall be played during the National Championships. A maximum of 10 National Competition badges shall be presented to players involved at the National Championships.
 - 11.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
 - 11.4 The Winner and Runner-Up shall receive a maximum of 10 Winner/Runner-Up medals respectively presented at the Annual Dinner.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 66
Approved October 2019

White Rose Trophy – Inter County Junior Competition (Men)

A review of this National Competitions is being undertaken ahead of the 2020 season – further details will be released in due course.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 67

Approved October 2019

National Mixed Pairs Competition

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. A team shall comprise of one man and one woman. Either player may skip.
3. Players shall play from the same county in which they play their National Championships, with the exception of those clubs affiliated to two counties due to historic geographic circumstances. **Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.**
4. Each match shall be 21 ends, four bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a result is reached.
5. **Substitution**
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 player may be used as a substitute at any time, providing that they have not already played or entered the same competition. However, at least one of the original pair shall play in every round.
6. **Final Stages**
 - 6.1 The Final stages consisting of the last 16 teams shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships.
 - 6.2 Each Team qualifying for the final stages shall supply to Bowls England the name of each player no later than the Monday of Week 30. The players involved in the final stages shall receive a National Competition Badge.
 - 6.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
 - 6.4 The Winners shall be presented with two medals and two fleeces at the Men's Annual Dinner along with two medals for the Runners-Up.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 68

Approved October 2019

National Mixed Fours Competition

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all members of clubs affiliated to Bowls England.
2. A team shall comprise of two men and two women. Any player may skip.
3. Players shall play from the same county in which they play their National Championships, with the exception of those clubs affiliated to two counties due to historic geographic circumstances. **Players entering National Championships in another country are eligible to participate.**
4. Each match shall be 21 ends, two bowls each player. In the event of the scores being equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends shall be played until a result is reached.
5. **Substitution**
The four 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 player may be used as a substitute at any time, providing that they have not already played or entered the same competition. However, at least one of the original men and one of the original women shall play in every round.
6. **Final Stages**
 - 6.1 The final stages consisting of the last 16 teams shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England during the National Championships.
 - 6.2 Each Team qualifying for the final stages shall supply to Bowls England the names of their team players no later than the Monday of Week 30. The players involved in the final stages shall receive a National Competition Badge.
 - 6.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
 - 6.4 The Winners shall be presented with four medals and four fleeces at the Men's Annual Dinner along with four medals for the Runners-Up.

Bowls England Regulation: No. 69
Approved October 2019

Tony Allcock Trophy – National Club Mixed Over 60s Double Rink Competition

This regulation should be read in conjunction with Regulation 52 – National Competitions.

1. The competition shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to Bowls England. Clubs may enter more than one side. No player shall play in more than one of those sides entered.
2. All players shall be aged 60 years or over on April 1st in the year of the competition.
3. Players are required to play from the club in which they play their National Championships. Players entering National Championships in another country are not eligible to participate. **In any year a competitor selected to play in Inter-Club Competitions may only represent one club should they belong to more than one club.**
4. A club side shall consist of two rinks of four players from its membership in accordance with the National Competition regulations (two men and two women per rink) and they shall play 18 ends, two bowls each player. The challenger shall have the choice of green and shall make all match arrangements.
5. Failure to field eight players shall result in a walk-over.
6. Before the start of the match, the nominated managers shall toss a coin for choice of jack (first end), the winner having the choice of keeping or giving the jack away. Then toss a coin to nominate which rink shall play the extra end. The winner to nominate the name of the skip to play the extra end. This shall be declared prior to the match commencing. A further toss of a coin for choice of jack (extra end) should one be required. The winner has the option to make the choice immediately after the 18th end has been played. The total number of shots on both rinks shall determine the winner. In the event of a tie after 18 ends then an extra end shall be played by the nominated rink to determine the overall winner.

8. Final Stages

- 8.1 The final stages consisting of the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final shall be played on a knockout basis at a time set by Bowls England. The draw for the final stages shall be made by Bowls England.
- 8.2 The Final Stages shall be played during the National Championships. A maximum of 10 National Competition badges shall be presented to players involved at the National Championships.
- 8.3 Bowls England shall provide bowls stickers for the final stages of this event.
- 8.4 The Winners shall receive a maximum of 10 Winners medals, fleeces and a Club Pennant with the Runners-Up receiving a maximum of 10 medals that shall be presented at the Men's Annual Dinner.

Appendix A: Dress Code Men

A review of the dress code for National Championships and National Competitions is being undertaken ahead of the 2020 season – further details will be released in due course.

Appendix B: Dress Code Women

A review of the dress code for National Championships and National Competitions is being undertaken ahead of the 2020 season – further details will be released in due course.

Appendix C: Code of Conduct

Competitors in Bowls England National Championship/Competition Finals

This code of conduct applies to all players who participate in the Bowls England National Championship and National Competition Finals, and is to be read in conjunction with the Bowls England Regulations for National Championships and National Competitions.

All players who participate in the National Championship and Competition Finals, at whichever prescribed venue, shall at all times conduct themselves in such a manner that reflects favourably upon themselves, Bowls England and the County or Club that he/she is representing at national level.

In particular he/she should:

1. Report punctually at the prescribed time and place.
2. Be conversant with and comply with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and all Bowls England domestic rules and by-laws relating to National Championships and National Competitions.
3. Adhere to Bowls England's Betting Integrity Guidance (Bowls England Regulation No.10.7)
4. Adhere to Bowls England's Disciplinary Regulations (Bowls England Regulation No.9, No.9A or No.9B apply as applicable)
5. Adhere to Bowls England's Anti-Doping Guidance (Please refer to Bowls England website)
6. Adhere to Bowls England Equality Policy (Please refer to Bowls England website)
7. Matches may be conceded at any time, but shall be conceded where it is not mathematically possible for the losing participant/team/side to win
8. Not cheat in order to gain unfair advantage, or cheat in order to deliberately lose a game.
9. Not use any form of gamesmanship in an attempt to gain unfair advantage.
10. Comply strictly with the guidance relating to 'slow play' (Appendix D).
11. Not render himself/herself unfit through alcohol or drugs on or off the bowling green.
12. Show respect to colleagues, opponents and officials and not subject them to any physical or verbal abuse at any time.
13. Smoking on the green is prohibited during all games (see Appendix G).
14. The use of **electronic devices (including mobile phones)** on the green is prohibited during all games.

Failure to adhere to the above shall result in an initial warning that shall be issued by a nominated Umpire. Should the player continue to not adhere they shall be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy), whose decision shall be final.

Appendix D: Slow Play

The following shall be enforced in the final stages of all Bowls England National Championships and Competitions. Only the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) can disqualify players.

- 1 Four-Wood Singles – Neither player may visit the head until both have delivered three bowls each. Should a player wish to visit the head prior to this point being reached the permission of the marker shall be obtained. The maximum time that a player may deliberate before playing a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached they shall be warned by the marker. Any further non-compliance shall be reported by the Marker to an Umpire in charge of the green. The Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) may disqualify the offending player from taking any further part in the competition.
- 2 Two-Wood Singles – Neither player may visit the head until both have delivered one bowl each. Should a player wish to visit the head prior to this point being reached the permission of the marker shall be obtained. The maximum time that a player may deliberate before playing a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached they shall be warned by the marker. Any further non-compliance shall be reported by the Marker to an Umpire in charge of the green. The Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) may disqualify the offending player from taking any further part in the competition.
- 3 Pairs – Neither Lead may visit the head until both players have delivered three bowls each. There is no restriction on Skips revisiting the head should they wish to do so. The maximum time that a player may confer before delivering a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached and not picked up by an Umpire in charge of the green, the aggrieved opposing Skip should bring the notice of the infringement to the Umpire. The Skip of the offending Pair be warned by the Umpire and should there be further non compliance the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) may disqualify the offending Pair from taking any further part in the competition.
- 4 Triples – Neither Lead may visit the head. The Second players, having left the head after the Leads have delivered their bowls may not return to the head until both players have delivered two bowls each. There is no restriction on Skips revisiting the head should they wish to do so. The maximum time that a player may confer before delivering a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached and not picked up by an Umpire in charge of the green, the aggrieved opposing Skip should bring the notice of the infringement to the Umpire. The Skip of the offending Triple shall be warned by the Umpire and should there be further non compliance the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) may disqualify the offending Triple from taking any further part in the competition.
- 5 Fours – The Lead and Second players may not visit the head. There is no restriction on the Third players or the Skips revisiting the head should they wish to do so. The maximum time that a player may confer before delivering a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached and not picked up by an Umpire in charge of the green, the aggrieved opposing Skip should bring the notice of the infringement to the Umpire. The Skip of the offending Four shall be warned by the Umpire and should there be further non compliance the Tournament Director (or Nominated Deputy) may disqualify the offending Four from taking any further part in the competition.

Appendix E: Bowls

- 1.1. All bowls shall bear a clearly legible stamp which has an expiry date of 1985 or later. These bowls can be used for the rounds leading to the final stages of the National Championships and National Competitions. All bowls shall be from the same set as stated in the laws of the Sport 52.1.9.
- 1.2. Bowls that do not meet the requirements of 1.1 shall not be used.
- 1.3. In the rounds leading to the final stages of the National Championships and National Competitions when no Umpire is present, the opposing player or players shall check the legality of the date stamp on each other's bowls.
- 1.4. The stamp on bowls, used by competitors who have reached the final stages of National Championships or National Competitions, shall comply with The Laws of the Sport 53. Domestic Regulations for Bowls England also apply.
- 1.5. Should a player wish to challenge the suitability of their opponent's bowls, as regards the bias, they should refer to The Laws of the Sport 52.4 and 52.5. Bowls England Domestic Regulations also apply. The fee to be lodged shall be £50.

Appendix F: Umpires

Umpires shall be appointed to officiate by the County Association or Bowls England in conjunction with the English Bowls Umpires Association.

Appendix G: Smoking and Anti-Doping

Smoking on the green is prohibited during all matches played under the jurisdiction of Bowls England. For the purpose of clarification the 'green' in this instance is deemed to include a minimum of 1 metre of the bank surrounding the playing area. Should the Club where the game is being played have a total ban on smoking on its premises, the Club prohibition shall apply. Failure to adhere to this shall result in disqualification. This prohibition includes all electronic cigarettes.

The Anti-Doping rules of Bowls England are the UK Anti-Doping Rules published by UK Anti-Doping (or its successor), as amended from time to time. Such Rules shall take effect from 1st July 2010. The UK Anti-Doping Rules can be viewed at: www.ukad.org.uk/documents/uk-anti-doping-rules

Appendix H: Safeguarding of Junior Bowlers and Adults at Risk

Bowls England has a Safeguarding Policy and Adults at Risk Policy, which recognises and acknowledges its responsibilities to safeguard the welfare of young persons and adults at risk participating in its activities. More information can be found at: www.safeguardingbowls.org

Appendix I: Players with Disabilities

Wheelchairs shall be of a type approved by Bowls England following consultation with relevant disability bowls organisations. The four types currently recognised for use in England are the 'Bradshaw Buggy', 'Chariot', 'Clippy' and the 'Para-Handy'.

The wheelchair shall be recognised as being an integral part of the wheelchair player in all instances when a jack or bowl is displaced or interfered with by the wheelchair as per the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

At the point of delivery of the jack or bowl, refer to the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

Walking frames shall be of a type approved by Bowls England following consultation with relevant disability bowls organisations. The types currently recognised for use in England are the 'Rollator', 'Bowls Buddy' and the 'Bowls Walker'.

Artificial devices may be used by players with disabilities for delivering the jack or bowl provided they are approved by Bowls England following consultation with relevant disability bowls organisations.

The individual shall decide before a game starts if they are going to use an aid. If they decide to then they shall use it for the duration of that game.

Visually impaired bowlers can use any form of assistance necessary (including having an assistant with them) to allow them to take part as long as the assistance is approved by Bowls England. The assistant shall not be deemed to be in contravention of the Laws of the Sport if that assistant relays to the player the instruction of the skip, assists in directing the player or keeps the player informed as to where the jack or bowl finished after delivery.

Players with a hearing disability may use aids (i.e. walkie-talkies) in line with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

Appendix J: Inclement Weather

Inclement weather shall mean the existence of rain or abnormal climatic conditions (whether they be those of hail, snow, cold, high wind, extreme high temperature or any combination thereof) by virtue of which it is either not reasonable or possible to play.

Unusual situations not covered within the above can often arise. If a situation arises that is not covered by the above, Players, Markers, Umpires and Officials shall use their common sense and a spirit of fair play to decide on the appropriate course of action.

In the event of inclement weather and no play/no further play being possible as determined by Tournament Director, Umpire and/or Greenkeeper (or players if no officials are in attendance) the following shall apply as relevant:

Middleton Cup/Johns Trophy

1. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Greenkeeper play shall cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared 'dead'.
2. When it is not possible to resume the match on the day:
 - a. *If the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 42 the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score shall stand.*
 - b. *If the total number of ends played is less than 42, the remainder of the match shall be played at a later date (please refer to 'Law 32: Game Stoppages' for guidance).*
3. The participating counties shall agree a date for any postponed/abandoned match/es to be played.
4. Bowls England shall make the final decision on the date/venue of a postponed/abandoned match/es should participating counties be unable to agree amicably.
5. At National Finals, the decision of the Tournament Director on postponed/abandoned matches shall be final.

Balcomb Trophy/Walker Cup

1. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Greenkeeper play shall cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared 'dead'.
2. When it is not possible to resume the match on the day:
 - a. *If the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 14 the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score shall stand.*
 - b. *If the total number of ends played is less than 14, the remainder of the match shall be played at a later date (please refer to 'Law 32: Game Stoppages' for guidance).*
3. The participating counties shall agree a date for any postponed/abandoned match/es to be played.
4. Bowls England shall make the final decision on the date/venue of a postponed/abandoned match/es should participating counties be unable to agree amicably.
5. At National Finals, the decision of the Tournament Director on postponed/abandoned matches shall be final.

Amy Rose Bowl/White Rose Trophy

1. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Greenkeeper play shall cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared 'dead'.
2. When it is not possible to resume the match on the day:
 - a. *If the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 10 the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score shall stand.*
 - b. *If the total number of ends played is less than 10, the remainder of the match shall be played at a later date (please refer to 'Law 32: Game Stoppages' for guidance).*
3. The participating counties shall agree a date for any postponed/abandoned match/es to be played (White Rose Trophy only).
4. Bowls England shall make the final decision on the date/venue of a postponed/abandoned match/es should participating counties be unable to agree amicably (White Rose Trophy only).
5. At National Finals, the decision of the Tournament Director on postponed/abandoned matches shall be final.

Tony Allcock Trophy/Club Two Fours

1. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Greenkeeper (or players if no officials are in attendance) play shall cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared null and void.
2. When it is not possible to resume the match on the day:
 - a. *If the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 10 the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score shall stand.*
 - b. *If the total number of ends played is less than 10, the remainder of the match shall, wherever possible, be played at a later date (please refer to 'Law 32: Game Stoppages' for guidance).*
3. Should it not be possible to play the match to its conclusion by the closing date of the round, the winner shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
4. At National Finals, the decision of the Tournament Director on postponed/abandoned matches shall be final.

Top Club

1. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Greenkeeper (or players if no officials are in attendance) play shall cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared null and void.
2. When it is not possible to resume the match on the day:
 - a. *If the total number of ends played in each discipline equals or exceeds five the match shall be deemed to have been completed and the score shall stand.*
 - b. *If the total number of ends played in each discipline is less than five, the remainder of the match shall, wherever possible, be played at a later date (please refer to 'Law 32: Game Stoppages' for guidance).*
3. Should it not be possible to play the match to its conclusion by the closing date of the round, the winner shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
4. At National Finals, the decision of the Tournament Director on postponed/abandoned matches shall be final.

Appendix K: International Code of Conduct

This code of conduct shall apply to all Bowls England International Players.

An International Player is defined as any person chosen as a Player or Reserve for Senior or Junior International duty or in any Trial Team or Squad selected by Bowls England.

A bowler shall, at all times, conduct himself/herself in a manner that reflects favourably upon fellow bowlers and Bowls England both on and off the Bowling Green.

He/she shall have the following obligations:

1. Shall attend any squad get-together, training day, practice match or event appertaining to his/her selection.
2. Observe at all times the relevant Rules and Regulations of Bowls England, World Bowls and any other body responsible for the organisation of the event.
3. Accept control by the appropriate Team Manager in all matters as follows:
 - a) Dress – both on and off the green
 - b) Squad get-together, training and practice
 - c) Report punctually at prescribed times
 - d) Adhere to any curfew which may be imposed by the Team Manager
 - e) Comply with any requirements of the Team Manager, the Chief Executive (or nominated representative) or any other Bowls England official
4. Make the Team Manager or other relevant person representing Bowls England aware of any medication being taken prior to or when participating in Trials/Squad days and International Events.
5. Inform the Team Manager of any personal circumstances that may affect his/her performance in the team.
6. Adhere to Bowls England's Betting Integrity Guidance (*Bowls England Regulation No. 4*).
7. Adhere to Bowls England's Disciplinary Regulations (*Bowls England Regulation No. 9*).
8. Adhere to Bowls England's Anti-Doping Guidance (*Please refer to Bowls England website*).
9. Adhere to Bowls England's Equality Policy (*Please refer to Bowls England website*).
10. Not render himself/herself unfit through alcohol or drugs on or off the bowling green.
11. Adhere to a No Smoking Policy (including electronic devices) during all international events.
12. Show respect to colleagues, opponents and officials and not subject them to any physical or verbal abuse at any time.
13. Not to give an interview to the press or media without the permission of the Team Manager whilst on International duty and, if given permission, to conduct himself/herself in a manner befitting a person representing their country.
14. Adhere to Bowls England Social Media Policy (Please refer to Bowls England website – *the following key points are shown for your information below*):
 - a) You shall not post information or make comments that could bring Bowls England into disrepute or which are derogatory or disrespectful in any way to Bowls England or anyone associated with it
 - b) Comments should not be speculative or have an actual or likely negative impact on Bowls England's reputation or cause embarrassment to Bowls England, its partners, employees, clients and players or be intended to do the same or be posted without proper regard to the potential for harm
 - c) You shall not post any pictures or statements that may embarrass another member of Bowls England or the National Governing Body itself
15. Players shall leave the confines of the green with their bowls once their own game is finished and shall not return to the green until all matches are completed.
16. Any players representing Bowls England in the British Isles Championships should adhere to the following:
 - a) Hotel Accommodation (including meals) for all players shall be arranged by Bowls England for the duration of the event and booked as a group
 - b) All British Isles players should remain together for the duration of the event and while representing England should remain as a team, including travel and meals under the direction of the British Isles Championship Team Manager
 - c) Spectators, spouses and guests shall make their own arrangements