



Norfolk Bowls Association

# Men's Annual General Meeting 11th December 2016

## Agenda item no. 8

Proposed changes to Norfolk Bowls Association  
Men's Competition byelaws & regulations

*This document shows the existing byelaws & regulations in **BLACK** type  
with the proposed changes in **RED** type*

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# Men's Competitions Byelaws

1. All competitions shall be confined to those clubs which are affiliated to the Norfolk Bowls Association and Bowls England in accordance with rule 4 of the general rules. No competitor shall allow his name to be submitted for entry in the **Junior Singles, Junior Pairs, 2 Bowl Singles, Four Bowls Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours or Senior Fours** competitions by more than one club in any one year **but subject to the Competition Regulation for the Junior Pairs.**

The County to which his one club is affiliated is the only County for which a competitor may compete in the National Championships or Inter-County Championships **but subject to the Competition Regulation for the Junior Pairs.**

2. No Club affiliated to the Norfolk Bowls Association shall play a person in a National Competition who has already played in a National Competition in any other County affiliated to Bowls England in the same season.
3. a) All Competitions shall be played in accordance with the laws of **World Bowls including the domestic regulations for Bowls England** and in accordance with the Competition byelaws and regulations determined by the Norfolk Bowls Association.

**b) For the two wood singles, four wood singles, pairs, triples, fours, junior singles, junior pairs & senior fours** the dress code **will** be:-

(i) for all rounds up to but not including the quarter final:-  
grey trousers **or Bowls England licensed & approved grey shorts**

white collared shirt with Club tie or Club registered shirt  
black, brown, grey or white regulation bowling shoes

(ii) for the quarter final, semi final & final:-

white trousers **or Bowls England licensed & approved white shorts**

white collared shirt with Club tie or Club registered shirt  
white regulation bowling shoes

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- c) for the Club Championship (Bales Cup) the dress code will be**
- (i) for rounds up and including the quarter final:-
    - grey trousers **or Bowls England licensed & approved grey shorts**
    - white collared shirt with Club tie or Club registered shirt
    - black, brown, grey or white regulation bowling shoes
  - (ii) for semi final & final:-
    - white trousers **or Bowls England licensed & approved white shorts**
    - white collared shirt with Club tie or Club registered shirt
    - black, brown, grey or white regulation bowling shoes
- d) for the Lord Fermoy Cup the dress code for all rounds will be:-**
- grey trousers **or Bowls England licensed & approved grey shorts**
  - white collared shirt with Club tie or Club registered shirt
  - black, brown, grey or white regulation bowling shoes
- e) for the Jermy Cup the dress code will be:-**
- (i) for all rounds up to & including the quarter final
    - grey trousers **or Bowls England licensed & approved grey shorts**
    - white collared shirt with Club tie or Club registered shirt
    - black, brown, grey or white regulation bowling shoes
  - (ii) for the semi final & final
    - white trousers **or Bowls England licensed & approved white shorts**
    - white collared shirt with Club tie or Club registered shirt
    - black, brown, grey or white regulation bowling shoes
4. All competitions must be played on greens that are properly banked and ditched as laid down in the laws of the game ~~under law 2, 3 and 4~~ **in accordance with byelaw 3(a)**
5. The draw for all Competitions shall be made by a sub-committee consisting of the Hon. Secretary, **Hon. Competition Secretary** ~~and~~
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~~the Four Group Secretaries and one member of the Management Committee~~

- ~~6. A number or number and letter shall be allotted to each entry in all competitions. The Triples/Fours and Pairs/Singles competitions will be run concurrently.~~

*(NOTE – the subsequent byelaws will be re-numbered)*

7. All Rounds of the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours Competitions together with the Bales Cup and Lord Fermoy Cup shall be played on fixed dates notified by the Hon. Competition Secretary or Competition Group Secretary and games shall commence at 6:30pm on the date fixed unless otherwise notified. Games may, however, be played at an earlier date by mutual agreement with the exception of the fixed date for other competitions unless the participants are not in any other competition. One trial end each way may be played at the start of the game with the appropriate number of bowls. In the event of a club having more competitions to play at home than rinks available, they shall allocate those rinks in descending order from the first named player. The lower competitors who cannot be allocated a rink shall play on their opponents green other than if an alternative date has been determined by the Competition Secretary.
8. If the Green of the first drawn competitor or one of the contestants in the Lord Fermoy Cup competition should be unfit for play due to inclement weather or other circumstances, the game shall be played, if practicable, on the green of the opponent if that green is fit for play. If both greens are unfit, the game may be played by mutual agreement on a neutral green, subject to rule 15. The Play Offs for the Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and Finals of the Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours, **Junior Singles, Junior Pairs, Senior Fours** and Bales Cup shall be played on greens selected by the Competition Secretary. The Final of the Lord Fermoy Cup shall be played as in previous rounds. No competition shall be played on an indoor green. There is nothing, at present constituted, which stipulates that games may not be played on a surface other than grass. It is, however a condition that ties are played outdoors.
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9. If any Competitor(s) fail to appear or not be ready to play within 30 minutes of the commencement time the opponent(s) may claim a 'walkover'. Each Competitor in the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours must telephone **or email** the result immediately to the Competition Group Secretary **and retain the scorecard for future reference if so required** ~~send the scorecard, by 1st class post to the Competition Group Secretary~~. For the **Junior Singles, Junior Pairs, Senior Fours, Bales Cup, Jermy Cup** and Lord Fermoy Cup, competitor(s) must telephone **or email** the result ~~and send the scorecard, by 1st class post, immediately~~ to the Competition Secretary **and retain the scorecard for future reference if so required**.
  10. Scorecards will be forwarded to the Secretary of the club, by the Competition Group Secretary, for the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours up to ~~the Play Offs~~ for Quarter Finals. The Competition Secretary will forward scorecards for the aforementioned from the ~~Play Offs quarter finals~~ onwards and all rounds of the Bales Cup, Lord Fermoy Cup, Jermy Cup, **Junior Pairs, Junior Singles & Senior Fours**
  11. For the purposes of the Competitions the County may be divided into Groups, Zones or Sections to be decided upon from time to time according to entries received during the current year.
  12. At the Annual General Meeting, a Competition Group Secretary shall be appointed from amongst the members thereof for each group or section who shall run the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours Competitions up to but not including the Quarter Finals. The Competition Group Secretary's ~~to~~ **will** forward after each round all scorecards to the Competition Secretary. The Hon. Competition Secretary shall arrange all rounds of the Bales Cup, Lord Fermoy Cup, **Junior Singles, Junior Pairs & Senior Fours** and the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Finals of the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours competitions.
  13. The two skips shall be the judges of all disputed points and when they agree their decision shall be final. If they fail to agree the point, it shall be decided by an umpire if appointed, otherwise by a neutral person mutually chosen. In all competitions in which no official umpire has been appointed the respective skips shall have
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the right to inspect their opponent's bowls before commencement of the first end to ensure that they comply with the requirements of 'the laws of the game'

14. The rounds in all competitions shall be played on or before the dates set out in the Supplement (subject to **rule byelaw 7**) **NB**. No extension will be allowed under any circumstances except when players are representing their Country, participating in the County Tour, or in the event of a game not starting due to exceptional weather conditions. No Semi-Finals or Finals shall be played on the date arranged for the **Quarter Finals**, Semi-Finals or Final of the Middleton Cup.
  15. In the event of a game not starting or starting but no decision being reached owing to exceptional weather conditions in a Competition game, excluding Bales Cup and Lord Fermoy Cup games, it shall be resumed within three days of the fixed date and allowed to take precedence over any other game. Under no circumstances must a fixed date of another Competition be used. The Competition Group Secretary should be notified immediately in respect of Competition games and the Competition Secretary should be notified immediately in respect of Bales Cup and Lord Fermoy Cup games. Bales Cup and Lord Fermoy Cup must be completed within 7 days. The first named side must contact their opponents within 24 hours to arrange a new date and the Competition Secretary notified of the result immediately by telephone. Where games have started, they shall be resumed with the scores, as they were when the game was stopped.
  16. In the event of the scores being equal at the completion of a Pairs, Triples or Fours game, an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision has been reached. The leads shall toss a coin and the winner shall have the right to decide who shall play first.
  17. For the purpose of considering and determining all disputes and protests there shall be established a special sub-committee consisting of the Hon. Competition Secretary and two members of the Executive Committee as delegated. All protests appertaining to the green etc. must be intimated before the commencement of the sixth end and all protests against a player within three days after
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the game. Notwithstanding the intention to lodge a protest, appertaining to the green the game must be completed. Protests appertaining to the green shall be notified on completion of the game and confirmed in writing to the Competition Secretary within one day of the game. The Secretary of the club concerned will be notified of an inspection by the greens inspection committee who will report to the sub-committee whose decision will be conveyed to the competitors and to the Club Secretary. Protests appertaining to a player shall be notified in writing to the Hon. Competition Secretary within three days of the game, referred to the sub-committee and a decision conveyed to the protester.

18. Entries in the Junior Singles, 2 bowl Singles, 4 bowl Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours Competitions are accepted on the understanding that all the Winners and Runners-up in these competitions shall be entered for and compete in the Bowls England National Championship.

**Entries in the Junior Pairs & Senior Fours Competitions are accepted on the understanding that the winners of these competitions shall be entered for and compete in the Bowls England National Championship.**

In the Singles and Junior Singles Competition, those Competitors who do not represent the County in the National Championships shall be banned from entering the National Championships under the jurisdiction of the Norfolk Bowls Association for up to three years.

Where there is no representation at the National Championships by a Pairs, Triple, or Fours and who are unable to satisfy the Executive Committee they had good reason for not competing will also be banned for up to three years.

Any competitor becoming aware that he is unable to represent his County in the National Championships must withdraw from the Competition immediately.

19. All trophies shall be presented to the winners at the Annual Luncheon.
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The winners shall hold the trophies for one year and shall return them to the Competition Secretary by 1st September.

The holder will be responsible for their safe custody other than insurance.

The winning clubs in the 2 bowl Singles, 4 bowl Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours, Junior Singles, **Junior Pairs & Senior Fours**, Club Championship (Bales Cup), **Jermy Cup** and Double Fours Competition (**Lord** Fermoy Cup) shall be presented with a County Pennant showing the year and name of the event.

20. Entries for all competitions shall be made on the forms provided. Club Secretaries must return the summary form to the Hon. Competition Secretary by the 31<sup>st</sup> October. Entrance and Supplement Fees will be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee and approved by the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
  21. Mobile phones shall not be used on the green during any matches.
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## Competition Regulations

In the 2 bowl Singles, 4 bowl Singles, Junior Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours Championship no player may play for more than one club. A player may only play for one club in the Bales Cup or for one side in the Lord Fermoy Cup and the Jermy Cup. This need not be the same club or the club from which he entered the individual County Championships.

### Junior Singles

1. This Competition shall be open to male full members of clubs affiliated to the Norfolk Bowls Association who have not attained the age of 25 on the 1st of April in the year of the competition.
2. Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player. The first drawn player must provide a marker.
3. The early rounds of the competitions may be played on an area basis, which may not conform to the groups and sections of other competitions.
4. The player whose name appears first in a draw is designated the 'Challenger' & similarly the player whose name appears second is designated the 'Opponent'.

For ties prior to the quarter finals:-

The challenger shall offer his opponent the choice of 2 dates

Ties at weekends shall not commence before 10.00am and ties on weekdays shall be arranged to commence at 6.30pm. Other times may be offered if agreed by both players/teams. These dates must be offered not less than 14 days before the closing date of the opening round of the Championship or within 5 days, after the closing date of the previous round

If the challenger does not offer dates within the required time period the opponent becomes the challenger and shall offer dates as above at their own club. When dates are offered, the arrangement must be

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confirmed within 72 hours and any arrangements made must be adhered to.

If the opponent has previously arranged to play another County Championship on one or both of the two dates offered or is on outdoor International duty or on Bowls England business, the Challenger is required to offer alternative dates

5. All ties from the Quarter Finals onwards will be played on fixed dates on greens selected by the Competition Secretary.

### **Two Bowl Singles Championship**

1. Each game shall consist of 21 ends. In the event of a tie an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision has been reached. The first drawn player must provide a marker.
2. The early rounds of the competitions may be played on an area basis, which may not conform to the groups and sections of other competitions.

### **Four Bowl Singles Championship**

1. The winner shall be the first player to score 21 shots. The first drawn player must provide a marker.
2. Each round shall be played on the date stipulated, or in accordance with byelaw 7, 14 & 15.

### **Pairs Championship**

1. Each game shall consist of 21 ends. In the event of a tie an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision has been reached.
  2. Each pair shall consist of two men who must be bona fide playing members of the same club.
  3. The two players taking part in the first game shall constitute the pair who should normally play together throughout the competition. One
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additional player, and the same player may, however, be used as a substitute at any time provided he has not already played in the competition, and may play in any position.

4. Each round shall be played on the date stipulated or in accordance with byelaw 7, 14 & 15.

### **Triples Championship**

1. Each game shall consist of 18 ends. In the event of a tie an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision has been reached.
2. Each triple shall consist of three men who must be bona fide playing members of the same club.
3. The three players taking part in the first game shall constitute the triple and should normally play together throughout the competition. One additional player, and the same player may, however, be used as a substitute at any time provided he has not already played in the competition, and may play in any position.
4. Each round shall be played on the date stipulated, or in accordance with byelaw 7, 14 & 15.

### **Fours Championship.**

1. Each game shall consist of 21 ends. In the event of a tie an extra end or ends shall be played until a decision has been reached
  2. Each four shall consist of four men who must be bona fide playing members of the same club.
  3. The four players taking part in the first game shall constitute the four and should normally play together throughout the competition. One additional player, and the same player may, however, be used as a substitute at any time provided he has not already played in the competition, and may play in any position.
  4. Each round shall be played on the dates stipulated or in accordance with byelaw 7, 14 & 15.
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## Junior Pairs Championship

1. This Competition shall be open to male full members of clubs affiliated to the Norfolk Bowls Association who have not attained the age of 25 on the 1st of April in the year of the competition. The two players may be from different clubs, but they must both be members of Clubs affiliated to Norfolk Bowls Association and have entered all other National Championship events from the same county.
2. Each game shall consist of 18 ends – four bowls each player with the Leads to playing their four bowls before the skips.
3. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a decision is reached.
4. The early rounds of the competitions may be played on an area basis, which may not conform to the groups and sections of other competitions.
5. The player whose name appears first in a draw is designated the 'Challenger' on behalf of themselves and, where appropriate their team, similarly the player whose name appears second is designated the 'Opponent'.

For ties prior to the quarter finals:-

The challenger shall offer his opponent the choice of 2 dates

Ties at weekends shall not commence before 10.00am and ties on weekdays shall be arranged to commence at 7.00pm. Other times may be offered if agreed by both players/teams. These dates must be offered not less than 14 days before the closing date of the opening round of the Championship or within 5 days after the closing date of the previous round

If the challenger does not offer dates within the required time period the opponent becomes the challenger and shall offer dates as above at

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their own club. When dates are offered, the arrangement must be confirmed within 72 hours and any arrangements made must be adhered to.

If the opponent has previously arranged to play another County Championship on one or both of the two dates offered or is on outdoor International duty or on Bowls England business, the Challenger is required to offer alternative dates

6. All ties from the Quarter Finals onwards will be played on fixed dates on greens selected by the Competition Secretary.

### **Senior Fours Championship**

1. This Competition shall be open to male full members of clubs affiliated to the Norfolk Bowls Association who have not attained the age of 55 on the 1st of April in the year of the competition. All four players must come from the same club and must represent that same club from which all other National Championship events have been entered.
2. Each game shall consist of 21 ends
3. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a decision is reached.
4. The early rounds of the competitions may be played on an area basis, which may not conform to the groups and sections of other competitions.
5. The player whose name appears first in a draw is designated the 'Challenger' on behalf of themselves and, where appropriate their team, similarly the player whose name appears second is designated the 'Opponent'.

For ties prior to the quarter finals:

The challenger shall offer his opponent the choice of 2 dates

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Ties at weekends shall not commence before 10.00am and ties on weekdays shall be arranged to commence at 6.30pm. Other times may be offered if agreed by both players/teams.

These dates must be offered not less than 14 days before the closing date of the opening round of the Championship or within 5 days after the closing date of the previous round.

If the challenger does not offer dates within the required time period the opponent becomes the challenger and shall offer dates as above at their own club. When dates are offered, the arrangement must be confirmed within 72 hours and any arrangements made must be adhered to.

If the opponent has previously arranged to play another County Championship on one or both of the two dates offered or is on outdoor International duty or on Bowls England business, the Challenger is required to offer alternative dates

6. All games from the Quarter Finals onwards will be played on fixed dates on greens selected by the Competition Secretary.

### **~~3 Fours~~ Club Championship (Bales Cup)**

1. The competition is open to all clubs affiliated to the Norfolk Bowls Association.
  2. Each club shall be represented by 12 male players (constituted by 3 fours) who must be bona fide playing members of the club. The game shall consist of 21 ends.  
Prior to the Game the challenger will declare the 3 rinks on which the match will be played, of which one rink shall be drawn to play the extra end. The cards will then be placed face down, where a visiting club person will attach a rink number. Total number of shots over all rinks will decide the result. In the event of a draw an extra end will be played by the nominated rink immediately after all fours have completed 21 ends, should this happen the result of the extra end will determine the result.
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3. Each round must be played on the date stipulated, or in accordance with byelaw 7, 14 & 15. Quarter Finals, Semi-finals and the Final to be played on neutral greens selected by the Competition Secretary.

### **Double Fours Championship (Lord Fermoy Cup)**

1. In the Double Fours Competition (8 male players who must be bona fide playing members of the club) the game shall consist of 21 ends, except as provided for in byelaw 8. One four to play at home and the other four away on the same day in all rounds including the final.
2. An extra scoring end shall be played on the green of the club shown first in the draw.
3. A club is allowed to make any number of entries in this competition. Clubs shall have the option of substituting players and of altering the position of players for the second or succeeding rounds, but a player may only play for one team in his club.
4. Each round must be played on the dates stipulated, or in accordance with byelaw 7, 14 & 15.

### **Jermy Cup**

1. The competition shall be controlled by the Competition Secretary of The Norfolk Bowls Association.
  2. The competition shall be open to male and female members of clubs affiliated to the Norfolk Bowls Association on 1st January of the year of the and who must be bona fide playing members of that club. Clubs shall have the option of substituting players and of altering the position of players for the second or succeeding rounds. All players must be members of the same club.
  3. The competition shall be played under the laws of the game adopted by the World Bowls Board and in accordance with the byelaws and regulations laid down by the Norfolk Bowls Association.
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4. A club side shall consist of three Rinks of four players, each team comprising of two female and two male players, either gender may play as skip.
  5. Each club shall be represented by 12 players (constituted by 3 fours) who must be bona fide playing members of the club. The game shall consist of 21 ends.
  6. Prior to the Game the challenger will declare the 3 rinks on which the match will be played, of which one rink shall be drawn to play the extra end. The cards will then be placed face down, where a visiting club person will attach a rink number.
  7. Total number of shots over all rinks will decide the result. In the event of a draw an extra end will be played by the nominated rink immediately after all fours have completed 21 ends, should this happen the result of the extra end will determine the result.
  8. ~~The draw will be made by a sub-committee consisting of the Competition Secretary and the four Group Competition Secretaries. A number or a letter and a number shall be allocated to each team.~~  
For the purpose of the competition the County shall be divided into Groups, Zones or Sections to be decided upon from time to time according to entries received.
  9. The Competition Secretary shall arrange all rounds of the Competition. The Semi-Finals and Final shall be played on a green selected by the Competition Secretary. There is nothing in the laws of the game, or in the rules of the competition, which stipulates that games may not be played on a surface other than grass. It is however a condition that the ties are played outdoors.
  10. The Competition Secretary will forward result cards to the Secretary of the club. The result must be telephoned immediately on completion of the game to the Competition Secretary. The result card properly completed clearly showing both teams and signed by both skips must be posted by first class post to the Competition Secretary.
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11. All rounds shall be played on fixed dates notified by the Competition Secretary and games shall commence at 10am on the date fixed unless an alternative time is mutually agreed between competing clubs. Games may however be played at an earlier date by mutual agreement with the exception of the fixed date for other competitions unless the participants are not in any other competition. One trial end each way may be played at the start of the game with the appropriate number of bowls. No extensions will be allowed under any circumstances except for exceptional weather conditions as in competition byelaws no. 15.
  12. In the event of no decision being reached owing to exceptional weather conditions the game shall be resumed within 7 days with the scores, as they were when the game was stopped. The first named side must contact their opponents within 24 hours to arrange a new date and notify the Competition Secretary. Under no circumstances, must a fixed date of another competition be used.
  13. If a side fails to appear or not ready to play within 30 minutes after the agreed time for the tie the opponents may claim a walkover.
  14. For the purpose of considering and determining all disputes and protests there shall be a sub-committee comprising the Competition Secretary and two members of the Executive Committee as delegated. All protests appertaining to the green etc. must be intimated before the commencement of the sixth end and all protests against a player within 3 days of the game. The procedure is as explained in the Norfolk Bowls Association competition byelaws no. 17.
  15. The Jermy Cup and a Pennant showing the year and name of the event will be presented to the winner at the Annual Luncheon. The winner shall hold the trophy for one year and shall return it to the Competition Secretary by September 1st. The winner will be responsible for its safe custody other than insurance.
  16. Entries for the Jermy Cup competition shall be made by Club Secretaries on the Summary Form and should reach the Competition Secretary by the ~~November 1<sup>st</sup>~~ 31<sup>st</sup> October. Entrance
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and Supplement Fees will be determined by the Executive Committee and approved at the AGM.

***(ends)***

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