



**ALDERBURY BOWLS CLUB  
BYE-LAWS AND RULES**

REVISED APRIL 2025

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## **1. BYE-LAWS AND RULES OF THE CLUB**

These bye-laws and rules may only be amended at an AGM or an EGM called for that purpose. Notice of any proposed rule change amendments must be sent to the Secretary and shall be displayed in the Clubhouse at least 14 days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be submitted. Any amendment to these bye-laws and rules shall require the approval of at least two thirds of the members present at such a General Meeting.

## **2. THE GREEN**

The Green will normally be open for play for the season from April through to the end of September. Specific dates will be confirmed by the Committee.

The use of the Green will be at the discretion of the Greenkeeper or in their absence a member of the Committee.

All play shall be subject to Bowls England rules.

## **3. CLUB OPENING TIMES**

The Club will be open throughout the year at times which will be subject to the discretion of the Committee.

## **4. BAR**

4.1 Hours of Opening - The permitted opening hours during which intoxicating liquors may be supplied to members for consumption on or off the premises shall be in accordance with the licensing laws prevailing at the time.

4.2 Juniors served at the bar - Accordingly, junior members between the ages of 8 and 17 may be served non-alcoholic drinks from the bar without being accompanied by an adult.

## **5. PERSONAL POSSESSIONS**

Limitation of Club Liability

Members are bound by the following Rule which shall also be exhibited in a prominent place within the Club premises:

5.1 Members of the Club may use the Club premises, and any other facilities of the Club, entirely at their own risk.

5.2 The Club will not accept any liability for any damage to, or loss of property belonging to members on Club premises or its surrounds, including the adjacent car park.

5.3 The Club will not accept any liability for personal injury arising from the use of the Club premises or any other facilities of the Club whether sustained by members or caused by the said members whether or not such damage or injury could have been attributed to, or was occasioned by the neglect, default or negligence of any of them, the Officers, Committee, Trustees or Servants of the Club.

5.4 Membership of the Club and acceptance of these Rules by members will be deemed to constitute consent to the holding of relevant personal data for the purposes of the Data Protection Act.

## **6. CLUB COACH**

The Committee shall identify suitable members who are able to educate members and introduce new bowlers to the game in a non-formal capacity internally. Those identified will be able to advise on the interpretation of the rules of the game and relevant skills and Bowling Etiquette. The committee may also identify other suitable members to become a qualified bowls coach through the Bowls England coaching programme.

## **7. DRESS ON THE GREEN**

### **General**

Club Shirts should be worn when representing the club, together with grey or white below the waist, which will be specified on the team sheet.

Fleeces, jumpers, gilets or cardigans if worn should normally be white and Jackets and rainwear if worn should also be in line with current regulation, predominantly white.

Hats if worn, should be white.

Shoes with smooth, flat soles MUST be worn when on the Green. Sandals or any open-toed shoes are not an accepted form of footwear whilst playing bowls.

Appropriate casual dress may be worn for roll-ups and club nights unless otherwise specified.

For those members playing in National & County competitions and matches please adhere to the published dress code.

### **Appropriate dress for men**

Grey or white regulation or tailored trousers or Bowls England approved knee length shorts (no jeans, denims, cord, or cargo trousers) Refer to Bowls England and Bowls Wiltshire guidance for wearing of shorts.

### **Appropriate dress for Ladies**

Grey or white regulation trousers, or crops (no jeans, denims, cord, or cargo). Skirts if worn must be regulation.

Grey or white smart knee length regulation or tailored shorts. Refer to Bowls England & Bowls Wiltshire guidance for the wearing of shorts.

### **8. BOOKING OF RINKS**

To allow for maintenance and preparation of the Green the opening times for bowling will be advised by the Greenkeeper and displayed on the noticeboard.

#### **Priority Dates:**

National and County Competitions will take priority (These dates will be avoided by the Club Match Secretary)

The Green may be made available, with the consent of the Committee, to other Associations e.g. Bowls Wiltshire and Salisbury & District.

All rinks should be played on a first come first served basis for roll-ups, or by reserving a specific rink at an appropriate date and time in the Booking book held in the Clubhouse.

### **9. NEW BOWLERS**

The coaching of new bowlers will be on an individual basis either by arrangement, or during Tuesday club night.

### **10. USE OF CLUB BOWLS**

Any member who uses club bowls shall undertake to return the bowls to the place from which they were borrowed and in a clean condition.

### **11. VISITORS**

Visitors who are competent bowlers may roll up on the Green up to four times per year on payment of a green fee. They will be deemed to be a temporary member upon signing the Visitors book in the Clubhouse. The green fee will be determined by the Committee, displayed on the Club noticeboard and reviewed annually.

A person attending the club to try the game of bowls will be deemed to be a temporary member upon signing the visitors' book.

## **Guests (Non-Playing)**

Members of the club shall be allowed to introduce non-playing guests to the club at any time subject to the following:

- a. Introduction of guests shall be limited to a maximum of four individuals on any one occasion
- b. A member accompanying a guest to the club shall immediately upon admission of such guest, enter the date, name and address of each guest in the book provided for that purpose,
- c. A spouse or partner may accompany a member to the club on any occasion. If they wish to attend the club unaccompanied, they will be required to apply for Social membership and pay an annual fee as determined by the Committee

## **12. SELECTION FOR TEAMS AND MATCHES**

Members selected as players or reserves shall confirm their availability by ticking the list on the noticeboard or by sending an email to the relevant person once the list is published. Players should alert the respective Captain at the earliest opportunity if they are unable to play due to unforeseen circumstances.

Reserves should ensure their availability until the day of the match.

### **12.1 Club friendlies.**

Club friendlies will be open to all Full members or, in exceptional circumstances when the complement of Full members is not available, to Social members with bowling experience. Friendlies shall be made up as a balanced team, giving as many people as possible match opportunities.

## **13. REPORTING FOR MATCHES**

### **Members selected to play.**

Members selected for matches are required to report their presence to the team Captain at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.

## **14. CLUB COMPETITIONS – (See appendix A)**

Members entering club competitions must ensure that they are available to play on Finals weekend should they progress that far. Members who find that their situation has changed since entering must withdraw from competitions immediately. Extenuating circumstances must be presented to the relevant Bowls Committee for their decision.

## **15. SMOKING AND VAPING**

Smoking and vaping are banned within all areas of the Clubhouse and on the Green and its surrounds.

## **16. MOBILE PHONES**

Mobile phones are not permitted to be used on the Green.

## **17. MISCONDUCT OF MEMBERS**

Any disciplinary matters will be dealt with in accordance with Bowls England, Regulation No.9, Disciplinary Rules.

A member may be reprimanded, suspended or expelled from the Club if at any Special Committee Meeting called for that express purpose, a majority of those present hold him / her accountable to have contravened rules, or conducted themselves in an unacceptable manner.

All members are obligated to follow the Rules as detailed herein.

## **18. SECURITY**

It is important that the building is properly locked when vacated. This responsibility rests with every member. When the building is open, make sure that you have a key if you are likely to be the last person out. Make sure that all heaters are turned off, the external clubhouse doors are locked, the external key safe and gate are closed and locked.

If you find the building unlocked and believe it should be secured, contact a committee member so that the situation can be clarified and rectified. If you are in the clubhouse by yourself, it is sensible to lock the door from the inside. A key for the greenside door is available in the key safe mounted on the wall to the side of the door. The code is available from the Secretary.

## **19. NOTICES**

Members should read the noticeboards regularly. Notices can be either of an immediate or longstanding nature, but all should always be relevant. Particular attention should be paid to Health and Safety notices relating to the Green or the kitchen.

## **20. CLUB EQUIPMENT**

Club equipment should be returned after play. Currently 2m sticks, scoreboards, jacks, red and white bowl and jack indicators, mats and pushers are kept in the lock-up shed. Please ensure the shed is locked and the key returned to the clubhouse.

## **21. GENERAL**

Notwithstanding any of the provisions in the Rules (above) the Club follows the Bowls England Regulations for the following items of legislation:

Anti doping

Safeguarding – Protection of children, adults and the vulnerable

Discrimination, equal Opportunities and human rights

Trans and gender diverse policy

Health and safety

Data protection

Insurance and identification

Misconduct, suspension and exclusion of members

## **22. SAFEGUARDING**

The club shall adhere to the Safeguarding Policy of Bowls England and will ensure that all the contents are communicated to members and clearly displayed within the club premises for Members and Visitors.

The club has a Health & Safety, Welfare and Safeguarding Officer whose details are displayed on the noticeboard in the club house.

## **23. PET POLICY**

Pets or animals of any nature are not allowed on the Green or inside the clubhouse. However, service or therapy animals (such as guide dogs) are welcome, except within the kitchen when food is being prepared and served, as required by the Food Standards Agency 2014 regulations.

Club members and visitors are permitted to bring their pets into the grounds of Alderbury Bowls Club providing that:

- a. any animal is under the constant control of its owner and is at no time left unattended and
- b. the owner of the animal accepts all liability and consequences for the behaviours of the animal. The Club will not accept responsibility for any animals brought into the premises.



## **24. VOLUNTEERING**

Throughout the year, there is varied work conducted to ensure the Green and its surrounds is fit for purpose. A contractor and a team of club member volunteers do this.

The flower borders and tubs are maintained by members, and working parties attend to the numerous tasks which arise throughout the year. This includes the hedge cutting, preparing green for opening and closing, painting etc.

The clubhouse benefits from everyday care from all members keeping it clean and tidy.

All help is gratefully appreciated.

## APPENDIX A COMPETITIONS

### COMPETITIONS

#### **S&D, Wilts 4 rink, S&D(L), Westbrook Mixed Triples, Friendlies and Tours**

The Men's Captain and Vice-Captain shall be responsible for selecting all men's outdoor and indoor matches. The Ladies' Captain and Vice-Captain shall be responsible for the selection of all ladies' outdoor matches.

Both the Men and Ladies Captain along with one other member, usually the President, will be responsible for selecting mixed teams for friendlies and tours.

Both Captains shall also be responsible for the administration of the club competitions.

The selectors shall meet as required during the outdoor season at an agreed time.

Members and Junior Members will be invited to enter their names on the availability lists displayed for all league and friendly matches from which teams will then be selected.

- (i) Wilts 4 Rink League – To be selected for the strongest available team and shall have priority over any other game.
- (ii) Salisbury and District Triples League – Alderbury 1, Alderbury 2 and Ladies Triple League Team to be selected for the strongest available team.
- (iii) Mixed Triples League – To be selected within the guidelines of the competition rules to include as many non-league players as possible.
- (iv) Friendlies – To attempt to select a balanced team and give as many players as possible match opportunities.

**Note:** Teams should be selected and emailed and posted on the match notice board at least 7 days prior to the fixture. If at this time the availability list does not have sufficient names, the selectors shall either:

- (i) cancel the fixture if the task seems hopeless or publish the available names as playing.
- (ii) If two days before the match a full side is still not available the match secretary should be asked to contact the opposition to make other

arrangements if possible, or to cancel the match. If the match is cancelled, the captain should ensure that all players whose names were published are contacted and advised of the cancellation.

## **CLUB COMPETITION RULES**

Club Competitions are open to Members and Junior Playing Members

The Selection Committee shall adjudicate on any disputed points and shall make a draw for each competition not later than 31st May. It shall set ample dates for completion of each round of competitions.

The first named person(s) on the draw sheet shall be deemed to be the challenger(s) and make all arrangements for the game. Within **Seven Days** of the commencement of any round a mutually agreed date and time for the game shall be made. Should neither party agree a date and time, the matter must be referred in writing to the Club selection Committee, whose decision shall be final.

Rounds must be completed by the dates stated. Defaulters will be eliminated.

All finals matches are to be played on the designated finals weekend, Saturday or Sunday. If for unforeseen circumstances – (e.g. due to illness, work commitment or County Matches) a player/team is unable to play on finals weekend a mutually agreed date should be arranged either **Seven Days** preceding or seven days following Finals weekend. If a date within this time span cannot be agreed the defaulting player/team (i.e. the player/team who was unable to play on the Finals weekend) will forfeit the game. The time span of **Fourteen Days** is to be strictly adhered to and no leeway permitted. It was agreed that the Match Secretary will publish the Finals Weekend date at the AGM

**Singles (Championship) Men and Ladies** – games shall consist of **21 shots 4 bowls** per player.

**Singles (Handicap)** – games shall be **21 shots** for the lower handicapped player and **21 +** the difference in handicap for the higher handicapped player, **4 bowls** per player. The handicap will be set, for each player, by the Selection Committee each year.

**Singles (Novices)** – games shall consist **21 shots 4 bowls per player**. No player may enter who has ever won a singles bowling competition Alderbury.

**Two Woods – (Mens & Ladies)**

These games shall consist of **21 ends, 2 bowls per player**

### **Triples (Mens and Ladies)**

These games shall consist of **18 ends, 3 bowls per player**

**Pairs** – games shall consist of **18 ends, 4 bowls per player**. The Selectors shall determine the pairs for the competition on an ability basis together with the draw for partners and opponents. Pairs will play in the position they are selected, Skips as indicated will make the required arrangements as per **Rule 3c**.

**100 Up** – games are a singles only competition and played with **4 bowls**. The game is scored with shot bowl being awarded 4 points, the 2nd closest to the jack being awarded 3 points, the 3rd closest being awarded 2 points and the 4th closest awarded 1 point. The player with the shot bowl after each end will have the mat for the next end. The winner is the player that reaches 100 points first.

### **Club drawn Triples –**

- (a) The whole competition will be played to an end, including the final, on one day.
- (b) The Selection Committee shall determine the teams for the competition by a draw based on ability

All games shall consist of 10 ends (except the final which shall be 12 ends) **3 bowls per player**. There will be no time limits on any of the rounds.

Skips **will not be allowed** to visit the head on any end up to the final end when the skips **will be allowed** to visit the head before their last bowl. There will be no trial ends and all shots will count on the first end.

In the event of a dead end it will be played again. Players will play in the position selected unless permission to change is given by the selectors/organisers

**Singles (Over Sixties)** – games shall consist **21 shots, 4 bowls per player**. Each player shall be sixty or over on 1st April in the year of entry.

**Invitation Pairs** – games shall consist of **18 ends, 4 bowls per player**. Each team will comprise a Lady Skip and an invited man as lead.

### **Dress**

All rounds in every competition up to the final will be played in greys with white or club shirt. Finals will be played in whites and club shirt.

## **APPENDIX B BOWLS ETIQUETTE**

### **BOWLS ETIQUETTE**

The etiquette of bowls is a combination of good manners, sportsmanship and sociability. These courtesies are best described as unwritten laws of the game. They are extra and are designed to promote and enhance the excellent reputation for friendliness and sportsmanship that the game has rightly earned.

Be familiar with the Laws of the Game and any variation that might specifically apply to a club or a Tournament in which you may be playing

### **GENERAL**

- 1) Ensure you are correctly attired as dress for matches and competitions can vary. If in doubt consult your Captain, Secretary or our Website.
- 2) Make sure you know the correct starting time of the game and arrive in sufficient time to change and be on the green to start at the appointed time.
- 3) Make sure you have the right stickers on your bowls (Club/District/County).
- 4) Do support your club and put your name down on availability lists. (if unsure how to go about this, seek advice from your Captain or Secretary).
- 5) If for a good reason you have to withdraw, please notify your Captain at the earliest moment.
- 6) Do your part in assisting with the smooth running of your Club and supporting your Club and its officers; check to see if you are expected to help with catering and/or any other duties such as helping to get equipment ready. If your name appears on a rota and you are unable to attend, notify the Captain or Secretary without delay (it may be your responsibility to find an alternative).

### **DUTIES OF EACH PLAYER**

- 1) The 'skip' shall have sole charge of the team and will pick up the mat if their opponent bowls the last bowl.
- 2) The 'lead' shall place the mat and deliver the jack ensuring the jack is properly centred before playing the first bowl.

- 3) The 'second' shall keep a record of all shots scored for and against his/her team.
- 4) The 'third' may have deputised to him/her the duty of measuring all disputed shots.

## **DURING THE GAME**

- 1) Enter and leave the green by the footpaths, do not cross the green
- 2) Respect the green's surface at all times.
- 3) Do not drop your bowls on the green.
- 4) Do not stand on the edge of the green or walk in the ditches.
- 5) Do not drop litter on greens or ditches; use the receptacles provided.
- 6) 'Possession of the rink' must always be respected. Be still and quiet whether at the 'mat' end or the 'head' whilst others are delivering their bowls.
- 7) Never deliver your bowl before the previous bowl has come to rest.
- 8) Keep track of play, be ready to bowl when it is your turn.
- 9) Follow the directions given by the skip, whether or not you agree.
- 10) You may only ask the skip a question when you are on the mat and ready to bowl, likewise the 'skip' should not give you information when you are off the mat and possession has been transferred to the next person to bowl.
- 11) Remember that directions for the skip are only given by the player number 3 in rinks of 4 players or the number 2 player in triples. Other players must not intervene unless asked. (Remember it is a Team game).
- 12) The result of each end is determined between the player number 3 in fours or player number two in triples. Other players should not interfere unless asked.
- 13) Do not disturb the head until the result of the end has been decided.
- 14) Encourage rather than criticise, no one intentionally bowls a bad bowl.

- 15) In a rinks, triples or pairs game, play as a team member not as an individual.
- 16) Remember that it is unsporting to verbally encourage failure by the opposition, e.g. encouraging a bowl to miss/go through etc. It is also unsporting to verbally 'celebrate' a shot by your opponents which has 'gone wrong' and given your team an advantage. These 'strokes of fortune' usually even themselves out over a season.
- 17) If you lose, be a good loser, don't blame your loss on other people, the green, weather conditions etc.
- 18) Win or lose, always shake hands with your opponents and team players and thank them for the game. (Remember to thank the Marker in a singles game)
- 19) Bowls is a sociable game, and it is good manners after a game to offer your opponent a drink and/or refreshments,

**ABOVE ALL, FOLLOW THE CLUB RULES,  
KEEP UP THE TRADITIONS OF THE GAME  
AND ENJOY IT ON AND OFF THE GREEN**

## APPENDIX C DUTIES OF THE MARKER

### DUTIES OF THE MARKER

- 1) The Marker shall control the game in accordance with the World Bowling Basic Laws and shall ascertain by measurement the width of the rink of play
- 2) The marker ensures that players names are entered on the score card, he/she makes sure that he/she knows which bowls belong to which player.
- 3) The Marker shall ensure that the mat is in the correct place and ensure that the jack is not less than 23 Metres from the front edge of the mat, after it has been centred.
- 4) The Marker will centre the jack and shall place a full-length jack 2 Metres from the ditch.
- 5) On trial ends the Marker indicates the position of the bowl in relation to the jack and then removes it from the head.
- 6) If the jack is less than the minimum distance the Marker will return the jack to be re-delivered by the other player.
- 7) A Marker shall stand at one side of the rink, and to the rear of the jack. The marker will not move while the bowl is being delivered. All touchers are to be marked with chalk immediately they come to stop.
- 8) After each end the Marker enters the score when the players have agreed the number of shots. The Marker will also put the score on the score board.
- 9) If the players cannot agree to the nearest bowl, the Marker will be requested to measure by one or both players. If they still do not agree an Umpire will be called who will decide.
- 10) During the game the player in possession of the rink may ask questions, the Marker may only answer what has been asked, no extra information will be provided.



- 11) At the end of a match both skips should be asked to sign the card, and the Marker will dispose of the card in accordance with the rules of the competition
- 12) The Marker must wear the appropriate dress (i.e. Grey or white with a club shirt)