



League and Competition Administration 2024

League

L1

Divisions will be formed based on the number of competing teams, with a maximum of 12 teams **per division** unless adjustment is required to meet the needs of the Association.

A nominal promotion/relegation system of 2 up – 2 down will apply **unless circumstances require an alternative to be used.**

Teams will consist of 8 players per side. Match points will be scored as follows – Individual game win 1 point, team aggregate home win 3 points, away win 4 points, home draw 1 point, away draw 2 points.

Total points accrued during the season will determine Final League positions, with ties resolved by aggregate shot difference.

The above shall be reviewed every **3** years at the R.R.M.

L2

WCPBA will run when required, adjoining Leagues on Saturdays as directed on the fixture list.

- One League for teams wishing to play with fixtures scheduled to start at 15:00 pm only.
- One League for teams wishing to play with fixtures scheduled to start at 11.00 am only.

Clubs shall indicate their team/s preference on their annual application form.

L3

All home teams must provide a tape measuring 19m, measures, 4 Jacks and 4 footers conforming to BCGBA Laws of the Game. Visiting teams shall be allowed 15 minutes exclusive practice from 25 minutes before start of the match For Afternoon League games this will be 2:35pm to 2:50pm for Morning League games this will be 10:35am to 10:50am with the match equipment. Away captains shall be given the opportunity to inspect the Match jacks prior to the start of practice. Dress code for all league matches must comply with General Rule G1B.

L4

Clubs with more than one green must, at the AGM and on their Annual Registration sheet, declare details of which green they intend to use for their league matches for the season. The Association will not sanction the use by any one team of two different greens/venues for 'Home' matches unless approved by the Management Committee in response to exceptional circumstances. All clubs must advise at point of registration of any special local conditions/restrictions that may apply to their venue. All visiting players and officials will have a duty to abide by notified conditions/restrictions.

L5

Each Club must submit an Annual Player Registration list to the Competition Secretary, no later than 14 days before the opening Association fixture of the season. Lists must contain the first name, surname and BCGBA number (including prefix letters) for each player. Only registered players will be able to take part in Association fixtures and events. The list must also show contact numbers for captains (or a responsible alternative) for emergencies on match days etc.

Additional player registration requests may be made up to 3 hours before the start of any League fixture, but players are not eligible to play until confirmed by the Competition Secretary.

Players may request a transfer of registration at any time between the start of the season and July 31st, using Association transfer request form and submitting with £5 administration fee. Confirmation will only be given providing all dues have been paid to the former club.

L6

Playing order and opponents for all fixtures will be determined by the turning of cards. All games will be singles, first player to 21, with the away players casting the first jack. The green should remain fully occupied throughout. A reserve may be nominated should a player not be present when required, with the defaulting player not eligible to play. If a Club cannot field a full team they forfeit the game point(s) and 21-0 shots to their opponent for each absent player.

L7

In the absence of an official referee, the captains shall be authorised to decide on any point which arises during the match or where a delay may be required. Unless agreed by the Captains, a delay shall be no longer than one hour after the match start time, or start of the delay, before postponing the fixture. Any draw made or scores obtained will stand at the restart.

Where possible, postponed fixture should be re arranged before leaving the venue or no later than two days after the fixture (see L10).

L8

Match results must be entered onto the website at [www. bowlingresults.co.uk/wcparks/](http://www.bowlingresults.co.uk/wcparks/) and confirmed by **both sides**, within four days of the fixture.

A copy of the Match card must be completed, signed by both captains and retained by the home side until the end of the season in case of disagreement. If preferred, match cards may be sent to the Competition Secretary by hand or by first class post, to arrive no later than two postal days from the conclusion of the match.

Entry of inaccurate information or failure to meet timescales for entry/confirmation of results online will be treated as follows –

1st & 2nd occurrences – reminders of responsibilities will be issued to the Club(s).

3rd Occurrence onward will result in 1 game point to be deducted from the Club total after each following occurrence.

Continuing failure to enter/verify results may incur standard level fines (as per Rule F5) at the discretion of the Committee

L9

Players may only be registered to play for one Club at any time in any WCPBA League and Cup Matches, subject to normal transfer procedures see rule L5. For Clubs with more than one team, no player may play for more than one of their clubs' teams on the same day, or in a rearranged fixture relating to that date. Any player in breach of this rule will have game point and 21 shots awarded to their opponent, and their scores deleted from both fixtures. The offending player and captains may be liable for disciplinary action and/or further penalties at the discretion of the Management Committee.

L10

All fixtures are to be completed as per the published list. Any team wishing to alter a fixture must notify their opponents & Competition Secretary no later than 48 hours prior to the fixture date. On agreeing to a rearrangement, the opponents will offer three alternative dates, one of which must be accepted by the team seeking the rearrangement.

An altered fixture can be brought forward, delayed, or in the event of agreement not being reached, played as directed by the Competitions Secretary.

Arrangements for the new date must be agreed - and notified to the Competition Secretary by both Clubs - within 14 days of the original date, and at least 48 hours prior to the fixture taking place. Failure to do so may result in standard level fines being levied (as per Rule F5) at the discretion of the Committee.

Under all circumstances, rearranged fixtures must be completed by the date scheduled for the County Cup Finals.

Should the fixture remain uncompleted, the club deemed to be at primary fault shall be penalised 3 points, a minus 50 shots and may be liable to further disciplinary action. The club deemed to be in compliance shall receive 8 points and 30 shots.

K.O. Cups and Merits

C1

All rounds of Cup & Merit competitions will be played on neutral greens whenever possible. In the event of any player playing on a green where they hold a playing membership they shall carry a handicap of +2 throughout any competition.

C2

All draws will be made by the Competition Secretary and at least one other member of the Management Committee.

C3

Other than in scheduled League or Cup fixtures, no practise will be allowed on any neutral green within 24 hours of the fixture/competition date. Contravention will disqualify the player/s from taking part.

C4

Cancellation of any cup match can only be through inclement weather, with immediate notice to the Competition Secretary. The match **must** then be played as directed by the Competition Secretary. Any Club failing to agree to the rearrangement will forfeit the match to their opponent.

C5

All clubs & players shall abide by the appropriate dress code (as G1) or may be withdrawn from the competition and may be liable to further disciplinary action.

C6

All competitions will be arranged to suit the needs of the Association.

Association K.O. Cups

The Association will organise K.O. Cups, to take place only on scheduled dates as per the fixture list.

Morning start time 11am, Afternoon start time 3pm will apply to all fixtures prior to the Finals (unless otherwise agreed with the Competition Secretary).

C7

A draw will be made for each round to determine the 'home' side which will be responsible for supplying the equipment as in rule L3.

C8

Captains shall toss for jack on odd or even ends prior to the draw made in accordance with rule L5.

C9

All rounds will be decided by the best aggregate score.

In the event of an aggregate tie, the Captains will each select THREE bowlers from their original 8 to play again in three games of 7 shots up. The order of play/opponent shall be decided by draw. The Captains shall toss a coin, the winner to have first cast of the jack in games 1 and 3. Each of the three extra games will be worth one point. The winners will be the team which gains two or more points. The extra games shall be played immediately following the drawn match, on the date allocated in the league programme.

C10

Players may only play Cup fixtures for one team during a season. Playing any ineligible player, will result in their score will be deleted and 21 shots awarded to the opponent.

C11

To be eligible to play for a team in a Cup Semi-final or Final players must have played in a previous round or in 3 league matches for that team and have been registered longer than 35 days.

C12

Both team captains will be responsible for completing the match card and on line with rule L8, and the winning team to keep the match card.

C13

Dress code for rounds shall be as rule G1B and Semi-Final & Final as rule G1A.

C14

All other matters not covered in these Cup rules shall be the same as League rules, or as otherwise decided by the Association Committee.

Merit Competitions

The Merits shall be open to registered players of member clubs and affiliates. All prospective entrants to the County Merit Competitions must have played in the WCPBA League during the relevant season, or have an independently verifiable record of playing (for the club from which they are entering) in another local League or Association.

C15

The Association shall organise the following competitions, subject to a sufficient entry level:

*Mens Individual Merit – open to all male registered bowlers

*Ladies Individual Merit – open to all lady registered bowlers

*Veterans Merit – open to all registered bowlers aged 60 years or over on the day of the Competition

*Junior Merit – open to all registered bowlers aged 18 years or under on the day of the Competition

Doubles Merit – open to all registered bowlers

Champion of Champions – listed separately, entry by invitation only

Where applicable (*) the County Merit competition will act as a qualifier for the corresponding British Parks National Merit Championship and only those who have entered will be eligible to progress.

C16

Competition dates, start time, anticipated format and dress code (Rule G1A unless specified) will be listed on Association entry forms. Venues will be decided after entries close, to ensure that neutral greens are used whenever possible.

C17

Payment of entry fees must to be made to the organiser at the greenside on the day of the competition. If payment is not made, the player will not be allowed to take part.

All players should be present when called to the green, although discretion may be used by the organiser in the event of unforeseen circumstances (e.g. travel disruption) providing the organiser has been advised of the problem and approximate delay.

Champion of Champions

C18

Individual Team Champion Bowlers – as determined by League averages decided on players Match Aggregate for fixtures played up to and including 14 days in advance of the competition date – shall be invited to represent their Club Team in the Champion of Champions Tournament at the end of the season. Qualifying players must have played a minimum of 50% of League fixtures during the current season. Should the invited representative for a team be unavailable and a minimum of 7 days' notice given to the Competitions Secretary the 2nd placed player in the Club listings may be nominated as a replacement. If this player is also unavailable the 3rd placed player may take the nomination.

If the defending Champion from the previous season does not qualify through the Club Champion process, he or she will receive a 'committee invitation' to defend their title.

This invitation will be in addition to the host club representative(s) who qualify through the Club Champion process.

C19

Club Secretaries/Delegates will receive confirmation of the name of their qualifier and eligible alternatives as soon as possible after the completion of the League Programme, along with the closing date for acceptance of invitations.

C20

Unless notification is given in advance of the Competition, all rounds will be 21-up straight K.O. format.

C21

The Club represented by the winning player (at the time of the Competition) will be invited to host the following years' competition.

Centenary Cup

The Centenary Cup is a discretionary one-day competition that will be run by the Association if the format of League Fixtures leaves sufficient space in the programme. The competition format will be confirmed – if applicable - at the A.G.M. for the appropriate season. Clubs will be invited to enter teams to meet the format of the event.

Association dress code will apply (as rule G1).