

# NORTH WEST KENT BOWLS LEAGUE RULES

*(Incorporating agreed proposals at AGM October 2023)*

1. The League shall be called the NORTH WEST KENT BOWLS LEAGUE.
2. It will be made up of teams of two Triples, either of men or of women, entered by Bowls Clubs within NORTH WEST KENT and all matches will be played on outdoor greens.
3. The management of the League shall be vested in a committee of not more than six members. One member shall be nominated as the General Secretary, and another as the Treasurer. One member will be nominated as Men's Competition Secretary and another as the Women's Competition Secretary. The committee has the power to co-opt additional members.
4. All Committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
5. The quorum for all committee meetings shall be four committee members.
6. The Annual General meeting shall be held in October in accordance with an agenda and any proposals, to be circulated at least THREE weeks before the date of the meeting to all participating clubs via their Representatives.
7. At all meetings of the League, only one male and one female vote from each club will be allowed.
8. The Committee may call an Extraordinary General Meeting by giving not less than SEVEN days' notice to all participating clubs via their Representatives. Likewise, not less than SIX members may call for a similar meeting by a written request to the General Secretary or one of the League Secretaries, but must define the reason for such a request. No other business may be discussed at such a meeting. Voting as at the AGM.
9. Subscriptions (the fee paid by each competing team) shall be paid by their parent Club and shall be determined from time to time at an AGM.
10. The League may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a majority of not less than three-quarters of the League Clubs present at a General Meeting.
11. On dissolution, any excess of liabilities over assets shall be borne equally by all competing clubs. Any excess of assets over liabilities shall be disposed of as may be decided at a General Meeting called for that purpose.
12. Any proposal for an amendment of or addition to these rules, and any other resolution must be given to the General Secretary or one of the League secretaries in writing by 30<sup>th</sup> September so that same can be included on the agenda for the AGM of the year. Any matter not provided for in these rules shall be dealt with by the Committee whose decision is final.
13. Each club will advise the Men's and Women's Competition secretaries the name, postal address, telephone number and email address of the club's representative for their teams, as soon as possible, so that the list of representatives may be kept up to date.
14. The correct dress for League matches is Whites above and Greys below the waist OR club colours, and correct bowls shoes.

15. Play will be according to World Bowls (Crystal Mark Edition, including domestic regulations for Bowls England) and K.C.B.A. Two trial ends shall be played in all League & KO Tournament games, unless mutually agreed otherwise.
16. League teams can only be made up of playing members selected from their club. When a club has more than one team in the League members can only play in one team. However at the discretion of the Committee, small clubs (who have no reserve players) may use bowlers from another small club (within or without the NWK area) which DO NOT play in the NWKL. Home clubs should have exhausted their own pool of players first. External players cannot play as skips.
17. No green fees will be paid by visiting teams.
18. In each match 6 points will be available of which 2 points will be awarded to each winning triple or, in the case of a tie, 1 point to each tied triple, and 2 points will be awarded to the team with the higher overall score or if the overall score of each team is equal, 1 point to each team.
19. If any Men's League match is conceded without having been played, 6 points shall be awarded to the team to which the match is conceded and 6 points shall be deducted from the team which makes the concession. If any Women's League match is conceded without having been played, 3 points shall be awarded to the team to which the match is conceded and 3 points shall be deducted from the team which makes the concession, unless no notice had been given in which case, 6 points shall be awarded to the team to whom the match has been conceded.
20. All League matches must be played at 6pm (5.30pm in August) on the Thursday evening shown on the fixture list, subject to amendment by the Committee in the early part of the season in respect of County competition dates. With the agreement of both teams involved, a fixture may be played at a different time/date from that in the fixture list, provided it is played before the last scheduled match.
21. If a player selected by a team fails to appear and play after a maximum waiting period of 30 minutes after 6pm (5.30pm in August) on the day fixed for the match, then the member may not play in that match. If an eligible substitute is available, then that person may be used.
22. If upon receipt of the fixture list, a club knows that some fixtures need to be rearranged (e.g. four weeks etc) that club must contact the opposition with 3 alternative dates, which should be finalised by the 14<sup>th</sup> February.
23. In the event of bad weather, including rain or excessive heat, the Team Captains can agree before the match commences to play 12 ends only.
24. In the event of adverse weather conditions stopping play and preventing completion of the match that day, the game is to be resumed within 14 days. If there is no agreement between the clubs (or Captains) the General or Competition Secretary will set a new date when the match must be resumed. If 12 ends have been played, the match can be deemed to be complete.
25. If a game is postponed because of bad weather or any other valid reason, the teams involved (or their representatives) must within 4 days of the original match agree a new time/date, which should be before the last scheduled match AND notify the rearranged time/date to the Competition Secretary. If the Competition secretary has not been

- notified of the rearranged date within 4 days, the match will be deemed to be cancelled and neither team involved will be awarded any points for the fixture.
26. If agreement to postpone a match because of rain / excessive heat, cannot be reached then the final decision to play or postpone will be made by the home team on the grounds of Health and Safety.
  27. If a player is taken ill or is injured after the start of play, and if an eligible player is available they can join the team in any position other than skip. The other players can move positions. If no eligible player is available, the match can be postponed and resumed at a later date (See Rule 24). If the match continues, then Rule 28 will be adopted for the remaining ends.
  28. For Men's matches: One player short: one triple plays normally, while the other plays a 6 wood triple – one side to play three members with two bowls each and the opponents to play two members with three bowls each, the latter to lose a third of their score calculated to a fraction. For Women's matches: One player short: one triple plays normally, while the other plays a 6 wood triple – one side to play three members with two bowls each and the opponents to play two members with three bowls each, the latter to lose a quarter of their score calculated to a fraction.
  29. For Men's matches: In the event of one team being two players short, they should play two against three on each rink on a 6 wood triple, the offending team to lose a third of their score calculated to a fraction. For Women's matches: the event of one team being two players short, they should play two against three on each rink on a 6 wood triple, the offending team to lose a quarter of their score calculated to a fraction.
  30. Except when rule 28 or 29 is applied, a league match must be contested by two triples from each team involved. A concession of a contest in respect of one of these triples is a concession by the team of the whole match.
  31. Penalty for including an ineligible player in a match: if the offending team have won, the match the shots and points of that team shall be reversed.
  32. The **home** team is responsible for sending the results on the NIGHT PLAYED to the appropriate person by email. The mail should have attached copies of all four score cards. The home team must retain the original score cards in case of query. Alternatively, the cards can be posted by 1<sup>st</sup> class post and allow two days from the date of play. Scorecards must clearly show the names of both clubs, the names of each player in block capital letters, the division number and the date.
  33. Clubs are to check the results and League tables that are sent to them by email. If clubs have any queries about, or objections to the results and/or points they must be notified to the Competition secretary no later than FOURTEEN days after the issue of the results and tables by email from the League to the clubs.
  34. At the conclusion of each season: For the Men's league, two teams shall be promoted from each division and two teams shall be relegated from each division except that in order to bring the number of teams in any division up to eight, three teams may be promoted. For the Women's league, one team shall be promoted from each division and one team shall be relegated from each division except that in order to equalise the number of teams in any division, two teams may be promoted.

35. There will be a two week gap in the schedule to avoid clashes with the first & second round of the Kent triples.
36. NWK Charity Cup: For the Men and Ladies to each play a game between their respective winners of the Div 1 League and the Fred Tyler / Gladys Tyler Trophy winners. In the event that the same team wins both, the runner up will play. The winners would be presented with the NWK Charity Shield and £125 each, to be donated to a charity of their choice. The timing will be at the beginning of the following season.

***Please note that the above Rules relate to the NW Kent Bowls League only. However, all Bowls Teams participating in the NW Kent Bowls League are eligible to compete in the Tyler Knockout Competitions. Men's Teams compete for the 'Fred Tyler Cup' and the Women's Bowls Teams compete for the 'Gladys Tyler Cup'.***

***Therefore, since they are Knockout Competitions, additional specific Rules will apply:***

## **THE FRED AND GLADYS TYLER KNOCKOUT TOURNAMENT** **COMPETITION RULES**

1. The entry fee is included in the NW Kent Bowls League subscription.
2. The 'Draw' will be arranged by the 'Knockout Competition Secretary'.
3. The 'Draw' will be published showing the date of each round. The rounds until the Semi-Final will be played on a Monday for the women and Tuesday for the men. The Semi-Final and Final will be played on a Thursday.  
However, in any round prior to the Semi-Final, any team may request their opponent to play on a date, to be mutually agreed, before the nominated date. In the event of an alternative date not being mutually agreed, the team requesting the change must either play on the nominated date or concede the match. The challengers to check with opposition to confirm date and time of the match.
4. The home team is required to email or phone the result of the match to the Competition Secretary on the evening of the match. The home team is also required to forward all four signed scorecards by 1<sup>st</sup> class post, or scan and send via email, on the day following play, to the Competition Secretary. The Competition Secretary will advise the winning teams of their opponents in the next round.
5. The correct dress is as for League matches, i.e. Whites above and Greys below the waist OR club colours, and correct bowls shoes.
6. Agreement should be made before the start of the match as to which 'triple' will play the extra end in the event of an overall draw/tie after eighteen ends.
7. A Penalty will be given for including an ineligible player – if the offending team have won, then the match result will be reversed.
8. No green fees should be paid by visiting teams.
9. If play is impossible on the Monday/Tuesday because the green is unplayable, or there is inclement weather, the match must be played within seven days or before the next round.
10. In so far as they are relevant, the NW Kent Bowls League Rules shall apply in addition to these Fred and Gladys Tyler Knockout Tournament Competition Rules.
11. Any matter not provided for in these Rules will be dealt by the General Secretary and the Competition Secretary, whose decision is final.