

DEARNE AND DON VALLEY BOWLING LEAGUE RULES FOR 2024 SEASON

- 1 The League holds a list of registrations from the 2023 season which acts as the current eligible list for the start of the 2024 season. Any additional registrations after the start of the season shall be submitted in writing to the League & Competition Secretary (hereafter referred to as the Secretary) who will confirm acceptance or otherwise. All new players must be registered before playing. Anyone found playing without being registered will forfeit the game 21-0.
- 2 At the moment there is no official transfer procedure in place with players able to move Clubs without notice to the Secretary. This still does not release a Club from it's obligation to ensure they keep the Secretary informed of any changes.
- 3 The last date for registering new players is **7th August**, after which no further registrations will be allowed.
- 4 Once a player has played one match for a Club during the season they are tied to that Club.
- 5 The league shall be 'open age' and thus does not have a stipulated age limit.
- 6 Flat shoes only shall be worn on all bowling greens. Hard block-heeled or open-toed footwear is not allowed in any matches.
- 7 Each team shall comprise of eight MALE bowlers.
- 8 All matches shall commence at 7:00pm unless stipulated otherwise on the fixture list (4 jacks on the green at the commencement of the match).
- 9 No player can play for both of their Club's two teams on the same date.
- 10 Following on from rule 9, if either game scheduled on a particular date is played at a later date, once a player has played in one of these fixtures, they shall not be allowed to play in the other revised fixture.
- 11 No practice is allowed for the away team.
- 12 The home team may practice until the starting time.
- 13 The away team shall bowl the first jack.
- 14 In matches where floodlights are to be used, they shall be switched on before the fifth pair of bowlers go onto the green.
- 15 Standard jacks shall be used in all matches and competitions. These shall be provided by the home club (does not supersede John Barlow and Ernest Daniel rule 6).
- 16 Based on the 2023 averages, the **best three remaining** players shall be regarded as A team bowlers for this season and shall not be permitted to play in the B team.
- 17 Following on from rule 16, any player who plays more than **EIGHT games** in the first team in a season shall be classed as a first team bowler for that season.
- 18 No more than two first team bowlers shall be allowed to bowl in a second team match.
- 19 Scoring system. **1 point for a home win** and **1.5 points for an away win**. 2 points for the side with the winning aggregate or in the event of a tie, 1 point each.
- 20 No game must be postponed unless the green is unplayable, i.e. the match is to be played on the scheduled date.

- 21 The home team shall inform the Secretary within 24 hours if a match is not played on the scheduled date. The match is to be played within **ONE** calendar month. Fixtures falling less than 1 month from the last round of fixtures must be played by the date of the last round. No match is to be played without the prior knowledge of the Secretary.
- 22 Further to rule 21, in the event of the last scheduled match having to be postponed, then an emergency period of 7 days will be granted. Teams refusing to play a League game will be excluded from the League with immediate effect. All results would become null and void.
- 23 Once a date for playing a postponed match is agreed, **both** teams are to inform the Secretary of this date by email, copying the other team into that correspondence. Following notification from both teams, only then will the Secretary amend Bowlsnet. The Secretary will then confirm in writing to both teams that the fixture is set. Matches played without one or both notifications will be classed as a rule infringement, offending team to be fined accordingly.
- 24 Any team fielding players short in their final two games of the season will be deducted 10 league points per player missing.
- 25 Further to rule 24, if the A team fields players short whilst the B team fields a full team then both the A and B team shall be deducted 10 league points per player missing from the A team.
- 26 All League results are to be entered onto the Bowlsnet database by the Home Team's administrator, with the deadline for that Wednesday's game being at 4:00pm on the following Friday otherwise this is deemed a late result and a £1.00 fine is levied. At the moment it is assumed that all Club's can comply with entering results onto the Bowlsnet database and therefore there is no provision for postal results.
- 27 Results for re-arranged games are to be entered onto the Bowlsnet database by the Home Team's administrator by the next Friday 4:00pm cut-off time.

ADDITIONAL RULES IN RESPECT OF MERITS AND MEETINGS FOR 2023 SEASON

- 28 The League has convened a number of official meetings throughout the year. All Clubs not represented at any of these meetings will be fined £3.00 for each meeting missed.
- 29 A £2.00 fine shall be imposed for any rule infringement.
- 30 All players wishing to enter the Singles and Pairs Merits must have played a league game in the current season to be eligible. Note Pairs entrants are to play for the same Dearne & Don Club. Once the draw is made, a player will not be permitted to make a change in partner.
- 31 Dress code to be applied to all Finals (In line with BCGBA rules - see below extract)
Shirts: Must be collared, with sleeves.
Shirts may include the County's insignia, player's name, Club insignia, sponsor's insignia and/or manufacturer's insignia.
Trousers: These shall be black or navy, single colour, full-length tailored trousers or tailored shorts (knee length).
Nothing in the above rule shall be interpreted to allow wearing tracksuits, shell suits, denim, combat trousers, jeggings or skinny jeans. External pockets on the legs are not permissible.
Anyone player failing to conform to the standard will not be allowed to play in the final and prize money will be forfeited.
For team contests any offending player must be substituted prior to the commencement of the game. However, if the player's game has commenced, the player shall score nil and the opponent shall receive the maximum.

- 32 Addenda to dress code - No interpretation of this Law allows a player to play in only socks/ stockings or in bare feet.
- 33 In any merit, any player having a bye and then facing an opponent who has already played on the green will be allowed to practice for 15 minutes with one set of woods only. For pairs, the same to apply with one jack to be used between them.
- 34 Anyone qualifying for a final and failing to attend will be excluded from entering the following year's competition.
- 35 All prizes and monies are to be presented after the conclusion of the Competition Final. Any recipient not present for the presentation will be deemed to have forfeited their winnings.
- 36 Any matters arising not covered by the above may have to be decided either by the Officers of the League or by Committee but decisions will be taken in the best interest of the League.
- 37 Disciplinary Procedure
1. Any complaints to be reported to the Secretary within 2 days of the incident.
 2. The transgressor is to reply to the charges within 7 days (of notification).
 3. The transgressor is to attend a hearing within a further 7 days in front of an executive committee of 5 people (The Chairman, The Secretary and 3 other selected Club Delegates who are impartial to either the Complainant or the Reported transgressor).
 4. The executive committee will decide at this hearing the next course of action and that decision will be deemed final with no further course of appeal.