



# *Devon County Indoor Bowls Association*

## **DCIBA COMPETITION RULES**

**Amended 06.03.24.**

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## **GENERAL COMPETITION RULES**

### **1. COMPETITIONS TO WHICH THESE RULES APPLY**

County Singles Championship. For a trophy presented by the late Tom Bridger with the runner up receiving the Secretary's Cup.

County Triples. For a trophy presented by the late C.T. Staddon.

County Pairs

County Unbadged Pairs Championship. For a trophy presented by David Butterworth.

County Trophy for a trophy presented by the late A.F. Rihill.

Top Club Competition. For a shield presented by the late A.P Wheeler and the late P. Comer.

Charles Parrott Trophy (Two Fours Competition). For a shield presented by the late Charles Parrott.

Under-21 Singles. For a shield presented by the late Derek Viles.

Inter-Club League. For Divisional trophies donated by K. Ewins and GordonThomas.

Over-60s League (aka Over 60s County Trophy). For a trophy presented by the late E. Crocker which was replaced in 2000 with a trophy presented by R.H.J. Burch.

Any other authorised competition

N.B. Any of these competitions may be sponsored providing it is not to the detriment of the donor of the trophy.

### **2. CONDITIONS**

- (a) Unless stated otherwise play shall be in accordance with the National Championship Rules of the EIBA and or the Laws of the Sport of Indoor Bowls.
- (b) Entries will be accepted only when submitted by the Club Secretary on behalf of the Club Committee and on the understanding that adequate facilities to complete the games will be provided.
- (c) Any game before the Finals may be played on a neutral green of an affiliated club should the competitors mutually agree to do so.
- (d) The rule relating to the prohibition of play on the same rink prior to the competition shall not apply where the previous game was an organised competition or match (Nothing in the Rules authorises players to arrange a practice game for their advantage).
- (e) In all County competitions Club bowls stickers must be used.

- (f) The home-team /side will state which rinks shall be used but in a sides game the Team Captain or Skips will draw for rinks and their opponents.
- (g) The home-team /side shall be responsible for the green fees of the visiting players.
- (h) In an individual game of singles, pairs, triples and fours the failure of player or players to appear after a maximum waiting time of 15 minutes (except in exceptional circumstances) from the time fixed for the start of the game shall cause the team to forfeit the game to their opponents.

If within a period of 15 minutes from the time fixed for the start of the game a single player is missing from one or more of the teams in a side game of four players on each rink, then in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Indoor bowls the game shall proceed but:-

- (1) In the defaulting team the number of bowls shall be made up by the lead and second players playing three bowls each
- (2) 25 percent of the total shots scored by each team comprising three players shall be deducted from their score at the conclusion of the game. Fractions will be taken into account
- (i) Results should be notified to the appropriate Competition Secretary in the time and manner stipulated.
- (j) Substitutes are allowed in accordance with EIBA National Championship rules.
- (k) Dress-code: For all League games (Inter-Club and Over-60s leagues), the norm is greys. Club shirts will also be the norm, and these are to be worn by all players in the team/side. (However during the normalization of bowling after Covid, where stock levels of Club shirts are low or non-existent, and in the interim period until new deliveries are received, some players without Club shirts may wear white shirts instead).
- (l) Where possible the home side should appoint an Umpire for Inter-Club competitions and the Umpire should not be a player in the game.
- (m) With the exception of matches being cancelled for significant health issues (eg Covid; eg ventilation deficiencies) the following applies:-

In respect to all Team Competitions if a scheduled game is cancelled then the team cancelling shall within 5 days of cancellation offer to their opponent at least two alternative dates one of which shall be accepted within 72 hours.

If the team cancelling the game does not offer alternative dates within the 5 day period then the opponent shall offer at least two dates one of which shall be accepted within 72 hours.

If an agreement on date cannot be reached then initially this will be referred to the Competitions Administrator and if required a select committee will be convened to make a final determination.

### 3. **ELIGIBILITY**

- (a) Entry is confined to those Clubs or members of Clubs affiliated to the DCIBA

- (b) Where two or more players combine they shall be members of the same Club.
- (c) A member who belongs to two or more Clubs will only be permitted to play for one of the Clubs in all National, Inter-Club or individual D.C.I.B.A. competitions in any playing season. Contravention of this rule will result in disqualification for the individual/team/side.

#### **4. COUNTY SINGLES, TRIPLES, PAIRS and UNBADGED PAIRS**

- (a) The Competitions will be played throughout the season but predominantly from December onwards and are open to all paid-up playing members of a Club affiliated to the DCIBA.
- (b) Entries for each year's competition to be submitted to the Competitions Secretary by the date shown on the Competitions Entry Form.
- (c) Entry to the Unbadged Pairs is open to members of Clubs affiliated to the DCIBA and who have not been awarded their full county badge prior to 1st October of the season in which the competition will take place.
- (d) Clubs must be prepared to make facilities available to enable their entrants to play their games.
- (e) The County Competitions Secretary will make the draw and determine the closing date for each round. The draw may be an "open" one for the whole County, or zoned in a manner approved by the Executive Committee. If the competitions have been zoned, once they reach the Quarter Final stage, the draw will be completely open.
- (f) Each Competition will comprise:-
 

Singles:	21 shots; no time limit
Triples:	18 ends; maximum 3 hours 30 minutes
Unbadged Pairs:	18 ends; maximum 3 hours 30 minutes
Pairs	18 ends; maximum 3 hours 30 minutes

Dress Code: Greys with Club Shirts, Finals Whites with Club Shirts

- (g) Finals will be held at the Club of the County President unless alternative venues are advised and agreed by the Executive.
- (h) Entry fees and cash prizes will be determined by the County Competitions Secretary in consultation with the County Secretary and Treasurer.
- (i) The first name drawn will be the challenger who will be responsible for the green fees of their opponent(s) except when the opponent is from the same Club or as mutually agreed. The challenger will be responsible for providing a marker when required.
- (j) Where possible the challenger must, no later than 10 days prior to the closing date of the round offer the opponent the choice of 2 dates, one of which may be a weekend date. The opponent will within 3 days of receiving dates from the challenger accept one of the dates offered.
- (k) No extension beyond the closing date of each round will be allowed except for reasons beyond the player's control and has been authorised by the Competitions Secretary.
- (l) All games will be played in accordance with the National Championship Rules of the EIBA and or the Laws of the Sport of Indoor Bowls.

- (m) Only one substitute may be used during the Triples, Pairs and Unbadged Pairs competitions.

## **5. COUNTY TROPHY**

- (a) Each competing Club shall be represented by four rinks of "Fours" all players to be full playing members of that Club. Two rinks of "Fours" will play at home and two rinks of "Fours" will play away and the home and away matches will start at the same time unless an alternative start time has been agreed by both Clubs.
- (b) The draw shall be made by the Executive Committee.
- (c) Play shall be completed no later than the play by date as shown in the County Fixture Schedule. Date and times of games to be mutually agreed by the competing Clubs. The date of the County Trophy Final is not subject to change.
- (d) The competition shall be played on a knock out basis.
- (e) Games will be of 21 ends. The challenger (first named in the draw) will prior to the draw for rinks and opponent, nominate which rink of "Fours" will play the extra end in the event of a tied game.
- (f) In the final all "Fours" will play on a neutral green as designated by the Executive Committee. The challenger (first named in the draw) will prior to the draw for rinks and opponent, nominate which rink of "Fours" will play the extra end in the event of a tied game.

## **6. TOP-CLUB**

- (a) This competition will be open for one entry from each Club.
- (b) The draw will take place at an Executive meeting.
- (c) Each Club will be represented by a side of 11 eleven players and all players will be full members of the competing Club. If a team fails to provide 11 players the result will be a "walkover" for their opponents
- (d) A side will consist of players in the following events:-
- (1) TWO wood singles (21 shots)
  - (2) FOUR wood singles (21 shots)
  - (3) Four wood pairs (21 ends)
  - (4) Three wood triples (18 ends)
  - (5) Two wood Fours (21 ends)
- (e) The challenger (first named in the draw) will play the 2-wood singles, Pairs and Fours at home and the 4-wood singles and Triples will be played away. All games to be played simultaneously if possible.

- (f) Where the challenger is a Club with 2 rinks only then the 2-wood singles may be played consecutively with the Pairs or Fours.
- (g) Each event will be played to a result (by playing an extra end where required). The result of the match will be decided by awarding one point to the winner of each event.
- (h) The competition will be run on a knock out basis. Play-by dates will be decided by the Executive Committee.
- (i) Dates and times of matches will be mutually agreed between the competing Clubs.
- (j) A time limit may be imposed by either competing Club; such limit cannot be less than THREE hours and will be declared before the start of play.

## **7. CHARLES PARROTT SHIELD (TWO FOURS COMPETITION)**

- (a) The competition will be open to one entry from each Club. Each Club will be represented by two rinks of "Fours" with one rink of "Four" playing at home and one rink of "Four" playing away simultaneously. All players will be full playing members of their Club and will not have been awarded their County badge by any County.
- (b) The competition will be played on a knock out basis and the draw for the competition will take place at an Executive Meeting. Games will be of 21 ends.
- (c) Prior to the commencement of the match the first named in the draw will nominate which of their rinks of "Four" will play the extra end in the event of a tied game.
- (d) The final will be played on a neutral green as nominated by the Executive Committee.
- (e) Closing date for all rounds will be decided by the Executive Committee and will be shown in the County Fixtures schedule. No extension beyond the closing date of each round will be allowed except for reasons beyond the player's control. The start time for each game will be as mutually agreed by the Clubs.
- (f) A time limit may be imposed by either competing Club; however the time limit cannot be less than 3 hours and such limit will be declared prior to commencement of the game.
- (g) A player who in the same season plays in three matches including the Final for the winning Club will then be eligible for nomination for a County game as defined in Rule 8 of the DCIBA Rules and Constitution.
- (h) Players who are nominated will be allowed to play in the competition until they are awarded their full County badge. If the badge is awarded during that season's competition the newly badged player(s) will remain eligible to play until either his /their Club is eliminated or the competition reaches its conclusion.
- (i) Any player having been a member of a winning team twice in a Final of the C Parrott competition , will no longer be eligible to play in that competition from the start of the 2024/25 season.

## **8. UNDER 21 SINGLES**

- (a) This is a Round Robin singles competition open to players who have not attained the age of 21 by 1<sup>st</sup> October of the season in which the competition takes place.
- (b) The competition will be played in Sets with the format as follows:-
  - (1) Best of 2 sets (5 ends each) with one end "tie break" if needed.
  - (2) Top 2 players from each group progress to knock out stage.
  - (3) Knock out stage up to semi final comprises best of 2 sets (5 ends each) with one end "tie break" if needed.
  - (4) Semi final will comprise best of 2 sets (7 ends each) with one end "tie break" if needed.
  - (5) Final will be played on County Finals day and will comprise best of 2 sets (11 ends each) with one end "tie break" if needed

## **9. INTER-CLUB LEAGUE**

- (a) Each competing Club will be represented by four rinks of "Four". Two rinks of "Four" playing at home and two rinks of "Four" playing away at a simultaneous time if possible. Participating players will be full members of their respective Club.
- (b) The draw will be made by the Executive Committee or appointed sub-committee.
- (c) Games will be of 21 ends
- (d) Play will be on a Saturday morning on fixed dates, starting times unless alternative times are agreed by the Clubs will not be before 10.00am and not later than 3.00pm. However, in exceptional circumstances and with the express permission of the Inter Club Secretary matches may be played at different times and /or on different days. Dress code is greys.
- (e) The Executive Committee will decide on the number of divisions which will form the League and the number of Clubs in each Division. This may be reviewed annually. Clubs may apply to enter more than one team in the League but must be able to accommodate all their home rinks simultaneously. New teams will initially be placed in the lowest Division.
- (f) Points in each game will be awarded as follows:-
  - 6 points awarded for an overall team win
  - 3 points awarded for a tied game
  - 2 points awarded for each winning rink
  - 1 point for a drawn rink
  - Total maximum points possible is 14
- (g) In the event of two or more Clubs ending the competition on equal points the higher placed Club will be the one with the greater shot difference. Should a number of matches be cancelled for health reasons (eg Covid; eg ventilation deficiencies), league positions will be determined for each club on an average points won per match played basis.
- (h) At the conclusion of each season there will be promotion and relegation between the top and bottom teams in each Division.

- (i) By entering the competition you implicitly agree that your Club **will play all** competition matches prior to the Finals Day as shown in the County fixtures schedule (unless match cancellations are due to genuine significant health issues (eg Covid; eg ventilation deficiencies)).

Fixture dates may be re-arranged by mutual agreement between the Clubs and the Competitions Organiser must be advised in good time by both Clubs of any change.

Should the Clubs mutually agree that a match cannot be played then no points will be awarded to either Club [but Condition 2(m) also applies].

All disputes will initially be referred to the Competitions organiser and if required a selected committee will be convened to make a final determination.

Where there is evidence of persistent intent by a Club not to play their fixture(s) the Executive Committee reserves the right to suspend such Club(s) from the competition.

- (j) Clubs with "A" and "B" teams must register a minimum of 16 players for each team. Players registered for the "A" team cannot play for the "B" team. If Clubs have "A" and "B" teams in separate divisions in any season "B" team players may play a maximum of 2 matches for the "A" team without compromising their eligibility to continue playing for the "B" team. Should a "B" team player play 3 matches for the "A" team he automatically becomes an "A" team player and can no longer play for the "B" team.

If a Club has "A" and "B" teams in the same division then players can play for one side only throughout the season.

- (j) In the event that a Club withdraws from the competition during the season then all points earned against the defaulting Club will be rescinded.

(k) Late results Submission (League matches) - Deduction of points gained

Scores (including all detail sufficient to update League tables) must be received by the relevant League Co-ordinator within 72 hours of the conclusion of the match concerned.

The Result Sheet for the current season must be completed and is the prime notification medium for reporting results for League matches.

The preferred method of reporting is email with a copy of the Result Sheet attached.

Where postal services are relied on instead, the result must also be phoned in within the permitted period stating overall match score in terms of shots, and also stating number of rinks won, drawn, lost.

In the absence of a timely submission of a match result by one of the two teams, initial updates to the League Tables may use the Opposition's Result submission for both teams.

However, failure by a team to comply with the time limit stated will result in any points accredited to the Offending Team's record for the match concerned being deducted, and further being recorded as Penalty points. "Shots for" will also be deducted, but "Shots against" will stand.

## 10. OVER-60s LEAGUE

- (a) Each competing Club shall be represented by four rinks of "Fours" with all players to be full playing members of the Club and to be aged 60 years or over. Two rinks of "Fours" will play at home and two rinks of "Fours" will play away and the home and away matches will start at the same time unless an alternative start time has been agreed by both Clubs.
- (b) Play will be on Wednesdays on fixed dates. Starting times unless alternative times are agreed by the Clubs will not be before 10.00am and not later than 3.00pm. Dress code is greys, except for the play-off final when whites will be worn.
- (c) A time limit may be imposed by either competing Club but this has to be declared prior to the start of play. Such a time limit cannot be less than 3 hours.
- (d) By entering the competition you implicitly agree that your Club **will play all** competition matches prior to the Finals Day as shown in the County fixture schedule (unless match cancellations are due to genuine significant health issues (eg Covid; eg ventilation deficiencies).

Fixture dates may be re-arranged by mutual agreement between the Clubs and the Competitions organiser should be advised of any change. Should the Clubs mutually agree that a match cannot be played then no points will be awarded to either Club [but Condition 2(m) also applies].

All disputes will initially be referred to the Competitions organiser and if required a selected committee will be convened to make a final determination.

Where there is evidence of persistent intent by a Club not to play their fixture(s) the Executive Committee reserves the right to suspend such Club(s) from the competition.

- (e) The competition shall be played on a league basis with points in each game awarded as follows:-
  - 8 points for an overall win
  - 3 points for each winning rink
  - 1 point for each rink where the score is tied
  - 1 bonus point when the overall win is by 11 to 20 shots
  - 2 bonus points when the overall win is by 21 shots or more

Total maximum points possible is 22

In the event of 2 or more teams finishing on equal points their league position will be determined by the team with the greater shot difference. Should a number of matches be cancelled for health reasons (eg Covid; eg ventilation deficiencies), league positions will be determined for each club on an average points won per match played basis.

On completion of the league fixtures the top 4 Clubs from each division will then participate in a knock out competition with the two clubs remaining at the end of the knock out phase competing in the Final. See clause (g) for Play-Off format.

- (f) The Executive Committee will have the right to propose further changes to the Competitions structure and playing format.
- (g) The Play-Offs and Final will consist of 21 ends and the Challenger (first named in the draw) will prior to the draw for rinks and opponents, nominate which rink number will play the extra end in the event of a tied game. The Final will be played on a neutral green as designated by the Executive Committee.

#### **Play-offs: Quarter Finals**

1A v 4B  
2A v 3B

3A v 2B  
4A v 1B

#### **Play-offs: Semi Finals**

1A or 4B v 3A or 2B  
2A or 3B v 4A or 1B

#### **OVER 60S COUNTY-TROPHY GRAND-FINAL**

**Winner Semi-Final 1 v Winner Semi-Final 2**

- (h) In the event that a Club withdraws from the competition during the season then all points earned against the defaulting Club will be rescinded.
- (i) Late results Submission (League matches) - Deduction of points gained

Scores (including all detail sufficient to update League tables) must be received by the relevant League Co-ordinator within 72 hours of the conclusion of the match concerned.

The Result Sheet for the current season must be completed and is the prime notification medium for reporting results for League matches.

The preferred method of reporting is email with a copy of the Result Sheet attached.

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In the absence of a timely submission of a match result by one of the two teams, initial updates to the League Tables may use the Opposition's Result submission for both teams.

However, failure by a team to comply with the time limit stated will result in any points accredited to the Offending Team's record for the match concerned being deducted, and further being recorded as Penalty points. "Shots for" will also be deducted, but "Shots against" will stand.

- (j) Clubs with "A" and "B" teams must register a minimum of 16 players for each team. Players registered for the "A" team cannot play for the "B" team. If Clubs have "A" and "B" teams in separate divisions in any season "B" team players may play a maximum of 2 matches for the "A" team without compromising their eligibility to continue playing for the "B" team. Should a "B" team player play 3 matches for the "A" team he automatically becomes an "A" team player and can no longer play for the "B" team.

## **11. QUESTIONS & DISPUTES**

All questions and disputes will be referred in the first place to the Officer in charge of the competition concerned but if necessary will be referred to an Emergency Committee in order to provide a resolution.

Any question or dispute arising in respect of a match must be submitted in writing (this can be by email) to the Officer in charge of the competition within 24 hours of the match completion.