

# Sheffield & District Social Clubs Bowling Association

## Byelaws & Rules

### Byelaws

1. The name of the Association shall be "Sheffield and District Social Clubs Bowling Association".
2. All bona-fide Social Clubs within a radius of 20 miles from the city centre of Sheffield shall be eligible to become members of the Association. The definition of "Social Club" shall mean a club that provides social activities for its members, including bowls. New clubs, including Sheffield and District Parks Clubs, wishing to join the Association shall be proposed and seconded by existing member clubs, and approved at the A.G.M.
3. All games shall be played under the laws of the British Crown Green Bowling Association, unless provided otherwise by these byelaws and Rules.
4. The Association shall be governed by an Executive Council, which shall consist of one representative from each club in membership of the Association.
5. The Executive Council shall arrange four meetings each year: - A.G.M., Finance, Competitions, and Agenda.
6. The Officers of the Association, who need not also be members of the Executive Council, shall be elected annually, and shall consist of a President, Vice-president, Secretary and League Secretary. Nominations should be sent to the Secretary at least 28 days before the A.G.M.
7. The Executive Council shall elect an Emergency Committee, consisting of the Officers and two other members.
8. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in February. At the A.G.M. only the Officers, Life Members and one delegate from each member club shall be eligible to vote. In the event of votes being equal, the proposition shall be lost.
9. The Association may, if it so wishes, elect Life Members at the A.G.M. Nominations should be sent to the Secretary at least 28 days before the meeting.
10. The Executive Council shall appoint two auditors, and the accounts of the Association made up to the last day of February shall be audited annually and a copy, together with a notice convening the Finance Meeting shall be sent to each club at least 7 days prior to the meeting.
11. All monies belonging to the Association shall be banked in that name.
12. All significant accounts shall be paid by cheque, signed by any two of the President, Vice-president and Secretary.
13. The Secretary shall be granted a working balance of £5.
14. The entry fees for league and cup competitions, and the player's registration fee and levy, shall be decided annually by the Executive Council.
15. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Association. A minute of a meeting shall only be rescinded if agreed to by a two-thirds majority.

16. Each club shall be in possession of a copy of the Association's BYELAWS and RULES, and be bound thereby. In the case of wilful infringements of any of the said Byelaws, Rules or Laws of the game by any club, such club may be liable to a fine or expulsion from the Association. The fine shall be determined by the Executive Council.
17. No Byelaw of the Association, or Rule of any League or Competition, shall be altered, rescinded or added to without the consent of at least two-thirds of those present and eligible to vote at the A.G.M.
18. Notice of any amendment or alteration to either the Byelaws or Rules, together with the names and clubs of the proposer and seconder, shall be given to the Secretary in writing 14 clear days before the A.G.M. The Secretary shall send notice to the member clubs of the Association.
19. At each meeting there will be a roll call and any club not sending a delegate, or a written apology, to a meeting shall be liable to a fine of £4 Any club failing to attend, or submit an apology for their absence, at two consecutive meetings within one season will receive a warning letter from the Association Secretary. Should the club fail to attend the next meeting or submit an apology for their absence, then their membership of the association will be terminated from the start of the following season.

For the purpose of this rule the season shall commence with the AGM and conclude with the agenda meeting the following year.

20. Any matter not provided for in these Byelaws or Rules shall be decided by the Emergency Committee, for ratification by the Executive Council.
21. The association will adopt the code of conduct as followed by the Sheffield Parks Association and any breach of this code of conduct MUST be reported to the Association Secretary who will arrange a meeting of the Emergency Committee to deal with the matter. Evidence in relation to the breach will be collected and in the event of such a breach being upheld that committee will impose any sanction that they deem to be appropriate.

The circumstances surrounding such action and any subsequent action will be notified to South Yorkshire County Crown Green Bowling Association for their information.

A copy of this code can be found in this handbook and on the association website.

## League Rules

1. The composition of the league and the playing arrangements shall be left entirely to the discretion of the Executive Council.
2. All entry fees for league competitions, as decided by the Executive Council, must be paid no later than 30 April in each year.
3. A team shall consist of eight players in all league matches, and may comprise both male and female players. The minimum age for playing is 12 years.
4. All teams shall play home and away matches with each other during the season. Where a club has two teams in the same division, the teams shall play their second match as early as possible in the second half of the season.

5. A player can only play for one club affiliated to the Association in one year. The penalty for breach of this Rule will be suspension, fine or both, as decided by the Executive Council.
6. All players must be registered with the Secretary and League Secretary before being selected to play. The forename and surname for each player must be shown. Lists of original players should be registered by the first Monday in June. Additional players may be added at a later date, but the League Secretary must be advised before they play for the team.
7. Where a club has two or more teams, players must be registered to a specific team.
8. Where a club has two teams in the same division, players may not be transferred between teams.
9. Where a club has teams in separate divisions, the team in the lower division may, in exceptional circumstances, play not more than two players registered for the team in the next higher division. A player registered in a higher division may play only twice for a team in a lower division.  
Any player having played a total of three times with a team from a higher division (i.e A Div once, B Div once C div once or any combination) shall become a recognised senior bowler of any lower division team(i.e. D Div)
10. Any failure to comply with provisions of rules 6, 7, 8 or 9 will result in the players being disqualified, the opponent being awarded the game 21 – 0, and a fine of £2.
11. In all league matches, the names of all players shall be drawn before the match starts, and the names so drawn shall play one another, and cannot be changed. No cards can be left blank, and the full forename should be shown for each player, in order to avoid confusion.
12. Matches will start as near as possible to 6-30pm (6-0pm in the case of matches in April and after the second Monday in August). Scratching time will be when the green is not full. The visiting team shall be allowed 15 minutes practice before the recognised starting time for the match, and shall take the jack.
13. A match shall consist of 4 single games and 2 double games of 21 up, and shall commence with three ends, normally 1 double and 2 single. One point shall be awarded for each winning game, and two points for the highest aggregate team score, making a total of eight points per match.
14. If a player is absent when called to the green, a bona-fide reserve may play in his place. If both are absent, the match shall be awarded to the opponent 21-0. In a double game, one player may play, if his partner or reserve is missing, the order of play being for the second player of the full team always to play the third and sixth woods, whichever side has the jack. The fine for each absent player will be £2.
15. Any player leaving the green for any reason without the consent of his opponent shall forfeit the game. He shall receive his score at the time of leaving the green, and his opponent 21.
16. Normally, only players playing a game shall be allowed on the green. However, the captains or vice-captains may come on to the green, to take the place of a referee, to measure or settle a dispute, or to prevent a possible collision of a running bowl.

17. The green keeper or respective captains shall decide any dispute arising out of the fitness of a green for play. Inclement weather must not be taken as an excuse for not keeping a league fixture, and a later start must be considered before a match is postponed. The two captains should endeavour to agree a new date to play before postponing the match.
18. In the event of any match not being commenced, or being left unfinished due to rain or other causes over which neither team has any control, the game shall resume where left off on the same green, within 21 days if possible, any longer postponement needing the approval of the Secretary or League Secretary. The players of both teams must be present and ready to play before the scratching time on the rearranged date.
19. League fixtures will only be re arranged in the case of the following three circumstances:
  - a Adverse weather conditions
  - b The sudden bereavement of a member of one of the teams.
  - c The funeral of a member of one of the clubs or other prominent member of the bowling fraternity.
20. Where a match has been postponed, the teams chosen for the rearranged date cannot include any player who would not have been available because he would have been playing in another match on the original date in our league.
21. The home club is primarily responsible for rearranging a postponed or unfinished match, and notice of the postponement or rearrangement must be sent to the League Secretary within 3 days. Clubs failing to comply with this rule are liable to a fine of £2.
22. In a rearranged unfinished match, the teams should consist of the same players as for the original match,, although alternative players may be substituted if necessary, as long as a game had not already been started. In the latter case, the score of the missing player shall be his score at the time the match was postponed, his opponent receiving 21.
23. All league matches that have been rearranged must be completed before the date of the last fixture on the league programme. In the event of the last game of the season being postponed, it will have to be rearranged within 7 days. Failure to comply with the above rules, without prior agreement of the Secretary or League Secretary, will result in a fine of £2, and neither team shall receive any score.
24. The home club must forward the result sheet of each match, including individual scores and signed by both captains, to the League Secretary within 7 days of the match. The name of each player should include the forename of all players, and should show the word "Absent" on the appropriate line if a full team was not played. Clubs failing to comply with this rule are liable to a fine of £2.
25. League tables will be published, wherever possible, at monthly intervals.
26. The highest number of points obtained shall decide the league championship in each division. In the event of a tie, the club having the highest aggregate shall be declared the winner. The wining clubs will hold the trophy for one year.
27. All objections shall be in writing and reach the secretary within three days of the event, and be accompanied by a fee of £5. This fee will be returned if the objection is upheld.

28. Any player with a foreseeable reason to leave the green in accordance with rule 15 shall make the circumstances known to their opponent and any referee at the start of the game.