



Bowls Algarve Inter-Club Winter League

Rules & Format 2023/24

1. Each club affiliated to Bowls Algarve may enter one or more sides in the League.
2. All players in each Side must be bona fide members of their Club and registered with Bowls Algarve. Players registered by 14th September 2023 are eligible to play in the Winter League. Additional registrations will only be accepted by the Secretary between 10th December and 20th December 2023. Players may only represent one club in the Winter League.
3. Each Side will consist of three triples, and there are no restrictions on the composition of each triple. Each Side can register up to 14 bowlers. In addition, all Clubs can register a POOL of up to 12 players who can be invited to play for any of the Club Sides with no restrictions on the number of appearances. If a Side is unable to provide 9 players from their list of up to 14 registered players, they will be permitted to select players from the list of registered Pool players to make up the correct number.
4. Each league match will consist of two trial ends and two sets of nine ends of play. The Home Side will have choice of mat for the first set and the Visiting Side will have the choice of mat for the second set. All Dead Ends must be replayed. Two points will be awarded for a set win and one point for a set draw. The Side with the highest total number of shots across the three triples shall in addition be awarded two bonus points. In the event of a tie on total shots each Side will be awarded one bonus point. Maximum points possible per fixture will be 14. The order in which the three players play may be changed after completion of the first set but interchange between the triples is not permitted. League Winners at the end of the season will be the Side with the most points awarded. In the event of a tied situation shot difference will count. Where shot difference is also tied, total shots scored will count. No reserves will be permitted to play but should a player take seriously unwell or sustain a serious injury and cannot continue play then a substitute will be allowed.
5. All fixtures should be played on the stipulated date unless exceptional circumstances prevent this. The League Director must be notified of these circumstances and authorise the fixture to be rearranged. All matches should be played within fourteen days excluding the Christmas break. In the event of the circumstances involving the League Director's club, the final decision shall be with the Management Committee Chairman. Each club must ensure that they have sufficient squad members to fulfill all their fixture obligations on the specified dates.
6. Any Side unable to fulfill a fixture shall have five points and ten shots deducted from their totals to date and all points available will be awarded to the opposition. The opposition will also add ten shots to their total shots to date.

7. If a Side is able to field only two Triples, those triples will play their games in the normal way, and the opposing Side will be awarded four points and ten shots in respect of the missing third Triple. The Side with only two Triples will, additionally, have four points deducted from their total points to date and ten shots deducted from their total shots to date. In addition, the charge of 8 Euros per player for the triple unable to play will be at the discretion of the Home Club.
8. If a Side is able to field two full Triples and only a pair for the third Triple, then the pair may play four bowls each and the opposing skip will play two bowls and his/her other two players will play their usual three bowls. The pair will forfeit one quarter of their shots at the end of each set. Only one game may be played in this way, the other two games must be full triples.
9. If any Side fields an ineligible player then, irrespective of the actual result of the match, the Side will be disqualified and Rule 6 above will apply. If a side is not satisfied or uncertain regarding a player's eligibility, they must raise a query with the League Director within 24 hours as per Crystal Mark Law 36.2
10. All fixtures will start at the time shown in the schedule published by the League Director. Should a Side not be fully ready to play within 30 minutes of the agreed start time, then they shall forfeit the match and the provisions of Rule 6 above shall apply. The idea is that all games take place at the same time. Should a game begin and a player suffers an injury or illness with NO substitute available then Crystal Mark Law 32.6 (which decides how the game proceeds and the shots penalty) shall apply.
11. Players are asked to wear full white or Club/Team colours for all League fixtures, however white or Club/Team colours above the waist is acceptable. Bowls footwear must be worn by all players. Footwear should be flat-soled or very small, dimpled soles are also permitted. All other soles are not permitted as they have potential to cause damage to both lawns and carpets. Non-compliance in either respect may result in an official warning. Where such a warning has been issued, a subsequent contravention of this rule by the player will result in his/her disqualification. If he/she has played then the Triple will forfeit one third of their score.
12. There will be a match fee of eight euros per player. The visiting Side will pay this amount to the Home Club and will be responsible for fees from any players failing to arrive. The Home side may charge the match fee or a proportion thereof, to their own players on a discretionary basis.
13. Rinks will be drawn from those available, by opposing Captains before play commences. The Home Side will lay down their three cards and the Opposition will place their cards at random on top of these. Rink numbers will be allocated also on a random basis. Where possible the three rinks will play side by side. The two Captains must also check and agree the eligibility of all Players from their list of Registered Players. The League Secretary will issue all Captains with a list of all registered Players and will issue updates of any additional players registered as per Rule 2. Captains will be required to maintain an updated list of all registered players.
14. If bad weather intervenes- and subject to the decision to cease play being made/agreed by the Home Club's Management-all three Triples must complete the minimum 12 ends to constitute a completed fixture. If they have done so, scores for ALL ends played will

stand. Otherwise, the match shall be declared suspended and the two Sides shall agree a date to continue within 14 days or as otherwise agreed with the League Director. The resumed match should preferably be played on the same rinks but 2 more trial ends will be permitted and any Triple which had not completed 18 ends before the stoppage, will play to the completion of eighteen ends. In the event that a player is not available for the resumed match, a substitute is allowed in accordance with Crystal Mark Laws 33.4.

15. The Skip of each Triple shall keep a scorecard for their game, which shall be agreed, time game completed and signed off by the two opposing Skips after the match. Each Side will retain their own scorecards in case of subsequent query. Both sets of scorecards MUST contain the FULL GIVEN NAME AND SURNAME of each player.
16. The Home Side shall be responsible for advising the result of each fixture by email to the League Director or to whoever the League Director has advised for results to be sent to within twenty-four (24) hours of the completed match. League result sheets and tables will be circulated to all clubs as soon as practicable.
17. The Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Crystal Mark Fourth Edition) shall govern all League matches. It is, however, hoped that the spirit of fair play and common sense will prevail, in the event that these Rules and the Crystal Laws do not cover a specific circumstance. The Home Side will provide an umpire, whose aim will be to resolve any dispute at the time. If no umpire is supplied the matter will be resolved by the Team Captains. Where, however, resolution is not possible, disputes should be referred firstly to Club Captains who will then refer, if necessary, to the League Director, within 24 hours, who shall make a binding decision.

28.09.2023