

## HEMEL HEMPSTEAD BOWLS CLUB CLUB COMPETITION RULES

### Revised Rules - 2020

1. There will be no competitions run by the Club other than those set by the Executive Committee.
2. The first named on the list of competitors is the Challenger who must contact the opponent within 10 days of the start of the round to agree a date for the match. If a date cannot be agreed the Challenger must, within the 10 day period, offer a choice of two dates for the match (not in the same week and only one of which may be a Saturday or Sunday). It is the Challenger's responsibility to provide a marker and reserve a rink.
3. If no date has been agreed then the match will be claimed by the non-offending party.

**Note:** The non-offending party is considered to be the Challenger if he has received no agreement to his offered dates or the Opponent if he has not been contacted or received a choice of dates under Rule 2.

4. The Competitions Secretary has no power to deviate from any rule or extend any date except in cases affecting both parties (e.g. the green being unavailable for play on the fixed date) or the unexpected illness of one of the players which, in the judgement of the Competitions Secretary, is sufficient to warrant the extension of the closing date. In no circumstances shall an extension exceed 7 days. The decision of the Competitions Secretary is final.
5. The closing date for each round will be fixed and all dates must be strictly adhered to.
6. A substitute can play in any pairs competition provided that the substitute is eligible to play in the competition concerned and has not entered it for that season. At least one of the originally-entered competitors must play in each round of the competition. With the exception of the Australian Pairs competition the substitute should be of the same gender as the competitor who is unable to play. **The substitute should have a similar handicap to the replaced competitor.**
7. A player will forfeit the match if he/she has not arrived at the club by 30 minutes after the agreed time of the match.
8. Once a match has been arranged it may only be re-arranged with the agreement of both parties. If an agreement cannot be reached, the competitor requesting the re-arrangement will forfeit the match.
9. Each round of the Singles Handicap will be played to 21 shots. The difference between the handicaps of the two competitors will be awarded at the start of the match to the player with the higher handicap.
10. Entry to the Open Non-Winners competition is restricted to all club members who have never won a club competition, either in this club or at another flat green bowls club.
11. Woods used in competitions must comply with the Bowls England rule on stamping.
12. If a match is forfeited for any reason the competitor progressing to the next round must write "forfeited" against the opponent's name for the round that has been forfeited.
13. It is a condition of entry that all Members entering competitions organised by the Hemel Hempstead Bowls Club do so on the understanding that they will comply with these Rules as drawn up by the Executive Committee of the Club.

**14. In the event of any dispute not covered by the competition rules of the Hemel Hempstead Bowls Club, then the decision of the Competitions Secretary is final.'**

**Additional Notes**

1. In the interests of having matches played sooner rather than later and to reduce the possibility of matches being forfeited unnecessarily, the opponent is requested to contact the Challenger towards the end of the 10 day period referred to in Rule 2 if no approach has been made by the Challenger.
- 2 **If competitions have few entrants with no need for earlier rounds, competitors are requested to play their matches as soon as possible without necessarily waiting until the month in which the match is to be completed.**
3. The Competitions Secretary will endeavor to schedule the Men's and Ladies' Championship Singles Finals on the Sunday afternoon of the Finals Weekend.