

WOMEN'S COMPETITION RULES 2021

1. The competitions shall be open to members of clubs affiliated to Sussex County Bowls, provided such clubs are not in arrears with their subscriptions.
2. The competitions shall be played under the Rules of Bowls England and under the control of Sussex County Bowls Women's Section.
3. The competitions shall consist of – four-wood Singles – 21 shots, two-wood Singles – 21 ends, **Pairs – played with 3 bowls to 18 ends, Triples – played with 2 bowls to 18 ends, Fours – played with 2 bows to 15 ends and Senior Fours – played with 2 bowls to 15 ends.**

Two trial ends allowed in all matches.

4. In the event of a tie, an extra end shall be played, the Skips to toss for the jack.
5. Entries for the competitions are to be made on the entry form supplied to Club Secretaries, and submitted to the Competition Secretaries with the fees, by a date specified on the forms. In team games, only the Skip's name may be entered, but all fees must be paid.
6. The Draws for all competitions shall be made by the Competition Secretaries and Officers.
7. Each discipline will be played consecutively to a conclusion, in an order to be decided by the G.P.C.
8. COUNTY COMPETITIONS LEADING TO THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS:

ZONE A and B. The County/National Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours and Senior Fours competitions will be played **on set dates, on challenger's greens**, with a start time of 6 p.m. but **these may be played earlier in the day by mutual agreement**. In the absence of mutual agreement, the 6 p.m. start time will be adhered to.

Drawing for rinks - For all the above competitions, the Draw for rinks shall be made in accordance with the Current Laws of the Sport, i.e. for a match requiring one rink, a minimum of two rinks shall be offered to the opponent, For a match requiring more than one rink, the minimum number of rinks offered shall be at least equal to the number of rinks required.

Rink Fees - The Challenger(s) to pay the Rink Fees as required by the host club, but may collect a contribution of £2.50 from the visiting player(s). (Proposition approved at the 2019 A.G.M.)

DRESS CODE – Up to and including the quarter-finals, for matches played during the day – white skirts or white tailored trousers or cut-offs, (NO jeans), shorts may be worn, but must bear the Bowls England logo. Club shirts and knitwear or jackets. Flat-soled bowls shoes. Sandals not allowed. For matches played at 6 p.m. **grey** skirts, tailored trousers or cut-offs may be worn (NO jeans). For the County Semi-finals and Finals – white below the waist as above. All members of a team must be dressed the same above the waist.

All rounds of the County/National two-wood competition shall be played on one day, on a weekend, up to and including the Quarter-finals.

The Under 25s Singles and Pairs will be played on County Semi-finals day.

9. **ZONES A and B SUSSEX COMPETITIONS THAT DO NOT PROCEED TO THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS AT LEAMINGTON:**

i.e. Unbadged 4-wood Singles – to be played with 4 bowls to 21 shots,

Unbadged (Trixie) Pairs - **played with 3 bowls to 18 ends,**

*Sussex Champion of Champions, played with 4 bowls to 21 shots.

The Above competitions will be played on ‘play-by’ dates, on challenger’s greens, with the challenger offering two dates, with a start time of 6 p.m. but **may be played earlier in the day by mutual agreement.**

* Sussex Champion of Champions: Eligibility – The winner of each club’s 4-four-wood Singles Championship, provided that a) she does not leave the club, (b) she has played in the Club Final. If a club ceases to exist, the Club Champion may, for one season only, enter the Sussex Champion of Champions competition under the name of the disbanded club, regardless of which club she has subsequently joined. (Please note that, for this competition, the scorecard from the Club Final should be forwarded with the entry form),

Rink Fees - The Challenger(s) to pay the Rink Fees as required by the host club, but may collect a contribution of £2.50 from the visiting player(s). (Proposition approved at the 2019 A.G.M.)

Drawing for rinks - For the above competitions, the Draw for rinks shall be made in accordance with the Current Laws of the Sport - for a match requiring one rink, a minimum of two rinks shall be offered to the opponent, For a match requiring more than one rink, the minimum number of rinks offered shall be at least equal to the number of rinks required.

DRESS CODE – Up to and including the quarter-finals, grey skirts or grey tailored trousers or cut-offs, (NO jeans), shorts may be worn, but must bear the Bowls England logo. Club shirts and knitwear or jackets. Flat-soled bowls shoes. Sandals not allowed.

For the County Semi-finals and Finals – white below the waist as above. All members of a team must be dressed the same above the waist. A badged opponent must be offered an alternative date if she has already been selected for a County match, or is already playing in a County/National competition, on the date offered.

10. Dress code for Sussex Top Club and Double Rink – Whites and club shirts.
11. If any players fail to appear within 30 minutes of the start time, the match will be awarded to the opponents.
12. Any players conceding a walk-over must advise their opponents and the relevant Competition Secretary. Players giving a walkover after winning a previous round, for any reason other than illness or bereavement, will not be allowed to enter that competition the following year. However, in extenuating circumstances, an Appeal may be made in writing to the County Secretary, and reported to the G.P.C. whose decision shall be binding.
13. Players taking part in the first game shall constitute the team and shall normally play together throughout the competition. If a player is unable to proceed to a subsequent round, ONE substitute may be used provided she has not already competed in that competition. She may play in any position, except that, if during the course of a game a player has to leave the green owing to illness, the substitute may not play skip.
14. Named players giving a walk-over in the first game cannot act as a substitute in another team as this is considered to be a game played and lost.
15. County Singles entrants who change clubs before the start of the season may continue to play in the competition, provided that her new club is within the same Zone in which she was drawn.
16. Finalists in the County competitions will represent Sussex at the National Championship Finals at Leamington Spa. If unable to proceed to the National Finals, competitors must concede before the County Semi-finals.
17. The date stamp on bowls must comply with the Bowls England ruling i.e. all rounds played at County level, 1985 or later. For the National Finals at Leamington Spa, the date stamp must be the year in which the Finals are played or later.
18. Smoking on the green (which includes the bank and surrounds) whilst the game is in progress is forbidden.
19. In accordance with the Laws of the Game, all team members must have the same stickers.

THESE RULES MUST BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO.