

# Dereham & District Bowls League

President: Mr Mark Codman

Chairman: Mr P Digby

Secretary: Brian Armer, 9, Meadow Drive, Scarning, Dereham. NR19 2TT.

Tel:01362 691397. Mob: 07521870015. e-mail: [brianarmer@sky.com](mailto:brianarmer@sky.com)

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## DEREHAM & DISTRICT BOWLS LEAGUE BY-LAWS

1. The League is known as The Dereham & District Bowls League.
2. Where relevant these rules will also apply to the Hospital Cup Competition.
3. All Clubs will make a payment to the league at the AGM. The fee to be fixed at the AGM. The fees will also be set for the Hospital Cup Competition.
4. All league and KO Cup games, or any other competitions played within the leagues jurisdiction, shall be played under the rules of the Norfolk (English) Bowling Federation except where varied herein.
5. The Jack, during open play is forced into the ditch by the effects of play it shall be deemed **Live** in the ditch and played to. Any woods in the ditch are considered dead. Outside the confines of the rink, jack or woods are considered dead. If accidentally interfered with, the opposing party shall replace the jack as near as possible to its original position.  
Where there is no ditch the end of the rink should be visibly marked, preferably with string.
6. The teams in the league are split into two divisions. Each club shall play a home and away game, with each other in its division. The respective league position for each team being decided as follows:
  - a) Two points will be awarded to each winning block and an additional two points to the team with the highest aggregate score. (In the event of an aggregate score tie, these two points will be shared).
  - b) When all matches have been played, the team in each division with the most points overall, will be the division winner. In the event of a tie on points, the club with the highest aggregate score of shots for, will be deemed the winner. The two top teams from division 2 will be promoted to division one, whilst the two bottom teams of division one will be relegated to division two. (Other than exceptional circumstances, i.e. when new

applications are made to join the league, which may cause an imbalance).

- c) Presentation of the trophies will take place at the end of the season, when each team competing in the league will be asked to submit one block to play in a special competition.
7. Teams to consist of twelve players each, in blocks of three, three woods each, and games to be 16 live ends. In the event of a match being stopped due to inclement weather or bad light, a result can be recorded provided that a minimum of twelve live ends have been completed by each block.  
During Covid of 2020, this was amended by Federation rules to comply with distancing. Subsequently, this was voted by all member clubs in 2021 to carry on with 3 blocks of 3 (9).
8. It is down to the Captain of the HOME team to contact the opposing Captain in good time to avoid unnecessary travel by the other team in bad weather conditions, when play is very unlikely.
9. Evening matches to commence at 7pm. Until July 31<sup>st</sup>. From 1<sup>st</sup> August onwards start at 6.30pm. a maximum of 15 minutes grace shall be allowed for late arrivals. Should a club be unable to field a team, the opposition may if they wish, claim the game with the points recorded as 10-0 and the shots as 20.
10. Before the start of the game, the two captains shall provide a set of four scorecards marked with the players names in each block. These cards shall be placed face down and the visiting captain shall be responsible for drawing one card from each set to form the teams for each rink, marking the appropriate rink numbers on the reverse of the playing/score cards.
11. The play shall be in rinks. All rinks to be plainly marked and numbered, the mat and Jack/cot must be aligned with the rink markers. At the first end the front edge of the mat shall be placed two (2) meters into the green. The minimum cast shall be 23 meters and the maximum allowable cast should be 38 meters.  
After the jack/cot has come to rest, there must be at least two (2) meters between it and the end of the green. For subsequent ends the mat may be placed anywhere in the rink provided a minimum cast of 23 meters is made.
12. Should circumstances arise compelling two players to play against three, the leads and the skips shall maintain their respective playing positions, thus the play order will then be :  
Lead, Lead, Middle, Lead, Lead, Middle, Lead, Lead, Middle, then change over for skips to bowl.
13. The Secretary or the responsible member of each home club is responsible for **informing the League Secretary of the results of**

**matches as soon as possible by returning the result card** supplied by the league.

Result cards to be signed by both captains, or their appointed deputy **before leaving the game.**

14. All players taking part in games of the league, **must wear** flat smooth soled shoes or slippers.
15. the winning clubs shall be held responsible for the safe custody of the trophies and shall return them to the league secretary on or before the final presentation day.
16. The committee are the sole interpreters of these by-laws, and from their decision there shall be no appeal at law or otherwise.
17. The committee shall be made up of the three League officials plus one member from each club in the league. Unless notified otherwise this member will be deemed to be that clubs secretary.
18. The League Secretary shall convene a special meeting of the committee at any time on receiving a requisition to that effect in writing signed by the secretaries of not less than two clubs belonging to the league. Such a requisition must state the objective of such a special meeting.
19. Any club wishing to raise an objection under these by-laws regarding a specific match must do so in writing to the secretary, within five days (excluding Sundays) of the match in question. Any dispute will be dealt with by the committee. No member of any club involved with the dispute or protest shall be eligible to sit on the committee whilst such a dispute is resolved.
20. Greys and whites to be worn for all matches.  
T Shirts with Sponsors and team name and coloured, may be worn providing all team members have them.  
In warm weather shorts may be worn but they must be tailored bowls shorts.
21. No by-law shall be altered, rescinded or added to without the consent of the majority of those present at a committee meeting.

Brian Armer. Hon. Secretary.

February 2005.

*Rule 5 amended by AGM of January 2010.*

*Rule 20 amended by AGM of January 2016*

*Rule 20 amended by AGM January 2020*

*Rule 7 amended by AGM 2022*