

Over Veterans Wyre Bowling League

League Rules & Bye Laws

1. League Name

The League shall be known as 'The Over Wyre Veterans Friendly Bowling League' (OWVBL) and all League & Competition matches to be played under British Crown Green Bowling Association (BCGBA) rules together with such additional rules as may from time to time be adopted by the league and be bound thereby.

2. Matches

Matches to be played primarily on a Monday Afternoon. Some Matches may be played on a select few Fridays.

3. Management Committee

The affairs of the League shall be governed by the Management Committee elected annually at the AGM. The Officers of the Executive Committee shall comprise of; President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Competitions Secretary, 2 members plus 1 representative from each division.

4. Subscription and Teams

The annual subscription of each team shall be determined annually at the AGM. This must be paid by 1st May each year.

5. Affiliation

All Clubs shall be affiliated in accordance with the BCGBA byelaws.

All cases of dispute will be governed by the Laws of the BCGBA, a copy of which must be held by each club and shall be interpreted by a both Captains.

6. Financial Affairs

An account shall be opened at the local branch of an approved bank or building society. All monies to be paid through the Hon. Treasurer, who shall submit a statement of accounts at the AGM and at any other time of request. All cheques must be signed by two of the League Officers.

The Financial year-end of the League shall be the 31st October.

Accounts to be audited annually before the AGM.

7. League Constitution and Application for Membership

The Constitution of the OWVBL shall be ratified for the forthcoming season at each AGM. Any new applications by new clubs or teams for membership of the League will also be ratified, or otherwise, at this meeting.

A Club wishing to revise the number of teams competing in the League must notify the secretary no less than 28 days before the AGM by email.

8. Annual General Meeting

The League AGM shall be held no later than the second Monday in February and a representative from all member teams of the league may attend. For all matters requiring a vote team representative will each cast one vote. All members of the Management Committee and Officers of the League, excluding the Chairman, may represent their Team and cast a vote on matters to be voted on.

The Chairman may cast an additional casting vote, if necessary, to break a tie.

9. Rule Amendments

No League rule shall be altered, except at the AGM. Notice of any suggested alterations must be in the hands of the secretary no later than 28 days before the AGM, who shall advise each Club Secretary of any proposed alterations at least 14 days prior to the date of the AGM. Any Club wishing to move an amendment to a proposed amendment shall notify the League Secretary by email, no later than 7 days prior to the date of the AGM. To become operative any alterations or additions to these rules require at least two thirds majority of the votes cast.

10. EGM Request

Any club may request the league secretary to call a meeting of the Management Committee. Such a request must be in writing/e-mail and must state the nature of the business being brought forward and this shall be placed before the Management Committee who, if they consider it of sufficient importance, shall instruct the league secretary to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of the league. The notice convening an Extraordinary General Meeting shall state the nature of the business to be discussed, and no other business shall be transacted. Voting rules for an EGM shall be as rule 8.

11. Protests

Any team protesting another team or player shall do so by a resolution passed by the Committee of the team making the protest. Accompanying the protest, a written statement of the facts must be sent to the League Secretary and an inquiry shall be instigated by the Management Committee. A copy of the statement must also be forwarded to the team protested. Team members must forward any complaints to the League Secretary through their team captain or Club Secretary.

12. Player Registration

The age qualification for a player to be registered with the league shall be that he attains the age of 60 before 1 October in the season of registration.

Any player to be registered must be a paid-up member of the club he represents and may only play for one club in the league during any one season.

All players must be registered with the secretary. A player can be registered on the day of the match and may take part in the match with mutual agreement of the captains. The secretary must be informed on the scorecard.

Any new team joining the League must submit a printed list of their members, wishing to play in the League, to the Secretary on or before the 31st March for the coming season. This list should detail Christian name, Surname & BCGBA Reg no. For all existing clubs in the League, the list of registered players from the previous season will be automatically carried over to form their starting list of registered players for the coming season. There will be no requirement for existing teams to forward a list of their registered members to the Secretary unless they wish to do so. Any amendments to a team's existing list of

members can be made at any time by contacting the Secretary with details of members to be added or removed from the existing list.

13. Player Qualification for a Match and the Season

Where a club has two teams in the league movement between teams will be permitted where a captain finds that he has availability problems within his squad. A maximum of two players will be allowed to move between teams in any one match. Where the teams are in the same division the player will take his place in accordance with his aggregate for his normal team. In the case of teams in different divisions a player moving down will come in at the top of the aggregates and a player moving up will come in at the bottom of the aggregates. The player will retain his existing aggregate when he moves back to his normal team.

If a player plays in a match contravening this rule, rule 24 will apply and a two-point deduction issued.

This rule will not apply for cup games; a player must only play cup games for the first club team they play for in the cup. If a team contravene this rule the result of the game played will be 21-0 to the opposing team.

If there is any doubt about the eligibility of a player, then please check with the Secretary before the match.

The Secretary shall be instructed to draw to the attention, of the League Officials, any noticeable infringements of this rule. The Management Committee are empowered to take any steps as they deem necessary. This may include a fine or the deduction of further points if the circumstances warrant such action.

14. Promotion and Relegation

Promotion and relegation will apply annually.

Providing the size of a division is not reduced after the end of the season, the two teams occupying the bottom position in each division at the end of the season shall be relegated, and the two teams occupying the top positions in each division shall be promoted.

Where a team joins or withdraws from the League before the preparation of the league fixtures, the League Secretary shall draft a suggested constitution considering the number of competing teams. This to be agreed or amended at the AGM. Nothing in this rule shall operate to prevent the AGM promoting or relegating more than two teams.

15. Commencement of Game

Matches shall commence at 13.30. All players must present no more than 1 hour after the official start time.

16. Adherence to Fixtures

All clubs in the League shall play home and away matches in accordance with the official fixture list and no alterations shall take place without first receiving permission from the League Secretary. Any suggested re-arrangement shall be prior to the date specified in the fixture list. The request for any alteration of any fixture shall be made at least five days before the proposed date and enclose written agreement to the alteration by the other club. The League Secretary shall have the power to arbitrate and sanction re-arrangement of fixtures when necessary. Clubs are requested to make reasonable allowance for non-availability of popular greens, wherever possible.

17. Postponements

Matches may only be postponed in cases of bereavement or inclement weather. Postponed matches must be replayed within 28 days of the original fixture date. The day on which this should be played, and the start

time are flexible if agreed by both captains. The secretary must be informed of all postponed matches on the same day and the dates for the rearranged match.

No match may be re-arranged due to lack of available players.

In the event of a league match being suspended owing to inclement or any other satisfactory reason, the match to stand as so far played and to be completed on a date mutually agreed upon by the competing teams, and not to be replayed in its entirety.

In the case of an unfinished game the original players to finish the game, but if either player is unable to continue a substitute can be used providing that the score is continued from where the game was stopped.

In games that have not commenced players can be substituted but no player may play twice in any one match.

Substitute players should be matched up with the original player as far as possible but should have an average which is no more than 10 points higher if possible.

In the event of wet weather making the home green unplayable, the home captain must notify the visiting team captain no later than one hour before the match is due to commence.

If teams fail to agree a date to rearrange then the committee will set a date that the match must be played and that will be final. Failure of a team to adhere to this date will mean that the offending team concede the match to nil. The committee will then decide further punishment of fines and possible points deductions.

18. Infringements

In case of any infringement by any team they shall be liable to expulsion from the league, or if offence is found to affect the result of a league match points shall be deducted from the offending team if the league so decides. In case of a cup competition match the league shall have the power to award the match to the offending team's opponent in that match

19. Making the Draw

Teams shall consist of 8 players

On the first league game of the season players' opponents are decided by 'turn of the cards' to establish averages, The home captain will place his eight cards face down with the away captain then placing his eight cards randomly on top. In respective fixtures names to be placed down on the result card at the start of the match in the order of merit based on the player's 'average' positions within the team.

The home team captain has the choice of playing order.

A player not declared present but is selected with his name down on the result card to play, who has not arrived at the green by 3 o'clock, will be scratched and a substitute will take his place - in this situation the player's individual average / merit position will not apply. A player who is selected and who is present at the green shall not be substituted. If no substitute is available Rule 24 will apply.

20. Match Practice

Practice other than 15 minutes prior to the start of the match, must not take place on an opposing team's green on the day of the League match, unless the player is a member of the opposing Club or involved in an official match or competition on that green. In the 15 minutes before a scheduled match start time, the away team has exclusive use of the green for practice. The visiting Captain shall be allowed 15 minutes prior to this time to allow for the draw to take place and the match to commence at the correct time.

21. First Jack

In each match, the Jack shall be led off by the visiting team.

22. Provision of Jacks

The home club must provide eight standard Jacks. These standard Jacks, (which must be in date in accordance with the current BCGBA rules) must be used in practice before the match; four of these then to be used in the match.

No more than four Jacks shall be used on the green at the same time, except if conditions warrant it and the captains agree. They shall have the discretionary power to put up to six Jacks on the green at the same time.

23. Markers

There shall be two markers for each game.

In the event of a dispute over the score of the game which is to be marked by a representative of each competing club, the score on the card when last checked will be deemed correct. **Card must be checked every five ends** or less if agreed by both markers.

24. Walkovers

Each game shall be 21 up, from scratch; a player having a walkover shall count 21-0 for the purpose of the match result, but for Merit purposes, his score shall count as 21-11.

25. League Match Points Scoring System

The result of each match to be calculated as follows:

- i. 1 point for each winning player
- ii. An additional two (2) points will be awarded to a home team winning the aggregate score.
- iii. An additional three (3) points will be awarded to an away team winning the aggregate score
- iv. In the event of the aggregate being tied then one (1) point will be awarded to the home team and two (2) points awarded to the away team.

26. Final League Table

- i. Team with the most points
- ii. The team with the most games won
- iii. The team with the most games drawn
- iv. The team with the highest aggregate difference
- v. In the unlikely event of the teams still being level, a play-off will take place between the teams concerned.

27. Submission of Results

The detailed result of each League match, signed by representative of each team, must be forwarded immediately by the home team captain or secretary to the League Secretary, at the very latest, within 72 hours of the completion of the match or a £5 will be issued.

The preferred methods of submission are as follows:

- **Website Input** -- Input via the www.online-bowls.com website by an authorised delegate of each club or team.

Other accepted methods of submission are:

- **Email.** By forwarding an email to the Secretary, attaching a detailed match result sheet.
- **Direct Delivery.** The completed result details should be delivered to the home address of the Secretary.
- **First Class Post.** By posting, first class details of the match result to the home address of the Secretary.

28. Fines

- Teams failing to send a representative to the AGM without apologies will be fined £20 which will be due by the registration night otherwise a 5-point deduction will be incurred (Fine will also still be owed).
- Teams failing to send a representative to Presidents Day without apologies will be fined £20 and will be due within 4 weeks of the date issued otherwise a 5-point deduction will be incurred (Fine will also still be owed).

29. Merit Prize

To qualify for the top average prize a player shall not have missed more than 3 home and 3 away games during one season.

30. Cup Rules

- 1) Cup matches will be played using current averages, not turn of the card. But please note that score obtained during a cup match will not be added or taken from your current average.
- 2) No practice allowed before cup matches. The first throw of the jack shall be shared alternatively.
- 3) Captains will be given a team handicap prior to their first cup match. The secretary will give your handicap to you after the last game of the season.
- 4) The better aggregate score following handicap will determine cup matches. In the event of a drawn aggregate the number of games won will determine the result. If both teams are still tied at this point each captain is to nominate three players for a playoff. To determine who plays whom in the play off the captains will have to do to turn of the card. The aggregate score of each three matches will be taken to determine the outcome. If this is also tied, then the number of winners will be used.
- 5) All cup matches will be played on neutral greens. If the president's team reaches the final the committee will decide where the final will be moved to, both finals will be played at the same venue.
- 6) A player must have played at least two league matches in the season before being eligible to play cup matches.
- 7) Teams must commit to playing their cup matches regardless of how many players they have available otherwise they will be fined £20.
- 8) All scorecards for the cup matches shall be sent to the secretary in full, emailing just the final aggregate score will not suffice.

31. Presidents Day

- All teams automatically have 2 players entered in the Presidents Day draw. Any player who does not turn up will be fined £20. The draw for this will take place on the second doubles day.
- The winner of Presidents Day will be handicapped for the following year to play off scratch. Otherwise, first division players have 3 on the card and second division players have 4 on the card.
- In the event of a player having a bye in the first round, a maximum of 4 ends of practice will be allowed.

32. Doubles Day

- Pro-forma will be given out to all captains with regards to doubles day entry on the registration day.
- Captains are asked to submit the number of couples wishing to play.
- All Teams must send at least 1 pair to the Doubles Competition or a £20 fine imposed.
- Competition is open to 64 pairs (2 Qualifying days 32 down to 8) 2 places available per team. Teams may put down for extra spaces in the draw.
- Pairing must be returned no later than 5 weeks before doubles day. (This can be the form, or an email sent to the competitions secretary).
- Failure to submit the form will result in a £20 fine.
- The committee will make the draw 3 weeks before the first date of the double's day.
- The secretary will send out a £20 fine if a pair does not attend on the day. This must be paid by the end of the season.

33. Presentation Afternoon

- An agreed sum, fixed by committee shall be expended on the season's prizes, any addition there to be met by the winners concerned.
- To qualify for the top average prize a player shall not have missed more than 3 home and 3 away games during one season.
- Any prize winner not attending the presentation dinner shall forfeit their prize money. If in the opinion of the committee a justifiable cause is given for nonattendance the winner shall nominate a person from their team to collect the prize money.
- Any objection to be put in writing to the league secretary of the offending club, also the league secretary with £1 for expenses. To be discussed by the management committee.