



INTERCLUB COMPETITIONS

Rules & Format 2023/24

Entry is open to all bowlers who are members of a club affiliated to Bowls Algarve. Entry forms for all competitions MUST include the full names of ALL entrants. Forms listing "A N Other", or similar will not be accepted.

1. The competitions will be:

Men's singles

Ladies' singles

(Should a threshold of eight entries not be achieved for either or both of the above competitions then they will be combined and played as 'open singles')

Open pairs

Open Australian pairs

Open triples

2. All bowlers in each team must be bona fide members of the same club at the time of entry, and remain so throughout the period of the competition. Players may only enter from one club across all competitions.
3. There is an entry fee of €5 per competitor, per competition, which should be paid to the club organiser on entering the competitions. In turn, this should be passed to the Bowls Algarve treasurer when convenient. All fees to be paid before entries are accepted into the draw. Given the reciprocal nature of all these games, no green fees will be charged of visiting competitors.
4. No replacement is allowed for any bowler in singles competitions. In other competitions, one replacement may be used provided he/she is a member of the same club as the other bowler(s) in the team on the date of the match. If a replacement is used in the initial round (whether a preliminary round or first-round proper), he/she will be regarded as an original entrant in place of the bowler replaced. In any subsequent round, one replacement, who may or may not be the bowler replaced in the initial round, will be allowed. Thereafter, no further replacement will be allowed apart from the final round when triples may use one further replacement who has not played earlier in that competition. A replacement may play in any position. No bowler may play as a replacement in more than two competitions.

In the event of a bowler becoming unable to continue playing during any match in progress (as dealt with in World Bowls Laws 32 and 33), he/she may be substituted by another bowler who must be a member of the same club. The substitute must not skip; other members of the team may rearrange their positions as necessary. The substitute will not be regarded as a replacement as defined in the previous paragraph.

5. Entrants and representatives of member clubs may attend the draw. Notice of the venue, time and date will be advised in advance. For each game in the first round (whether preliminary, or first-round proper) of each competition, the first player/team drawn will be the home player/team. For subsequent rounds, the home player/team will be drawn, i.e. it will NOT just default to the player/team at the top of the draw. All match period dates will be shown on the draw tables and matches should be played as soon as convenient, (even if part of a later round). In the event that a result is not available for any fixture by the due date, the competition organiser, in consultation with the league director, may decide to disqualify either or both parties. **NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GIVEN TO CLOSING DATES FOR ANY ROUND UNLESS EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES PREVAIL AND PRIOR AGREEMENT OBTAINED FROM COMPETITION ORGANISER.**
6. The home bowler/team, as indicated by the draw tables, - being the challenger - shall offer the opponent(s) three dates (non-consecutive and not all in the same week) for the fixture. Such offer

must be made by the seventh day of the match period. Failure to do so results in loss of their status as challenger and, from the eighth day, home advantage will transfer to the opponent(s) who shall offer three non-consecutive dates and not all in the same week for the fixture to be played on their home green. Dates should not clash with Bowls Algarve fixtures unless by mutual agreement. Matches can be played earlier than the match period subject to both players/teams agreeing, should this not be the case then the rules above apply

7. The home player/team shall offer a draw for rink from those available. For the singles competition; the home player will arrange a marker. Players may be allowed up to four ends practice on the day of the match subject to a rink other than that to be used for actual play being available and with the agreement of the home club. (For the semi-finals and finals, the agreement of the organiser will also be required). Two trial ends using the same number of woods as to be played are allowed except that in singles the visiting player may decide whether two or four bowls are to be used. Toss for choice of who plays first. Dead ends to be replayed.
8. Singles competitions will be first to 21 shots. All other competitions to be played over 18 ends with an extra end to separate ties.
9. The winner shall be responsible for advising the result, by e-mail to the competition organiser, within 24 hours of completion of the game. The notification must include the names of the players on each side, as well as the score so that any information on replacements/substitutes can be recorded. Scorecards must be completed with the FULL FIRST NAME AND SURNAME of all players and showing the competition. Replacements/substitutes, if used, must be clearly indicated with names as above. All cards to show game completion time, agreed and signed by the single players or skips.
10. Failure to arrive within 30 minutes of the agreed start time for an arranged match will result in disqualification, as could failure to play any tie within the stipulated match period (see rule 6).
11. All players will play in white or coloured club shirts until the finals when full whites, which may include coloured club shirts, will be required. Flat-soled (heel-less) footwear must be worn by all players. Non-compliance in either respect may result in an official warning. Where such a warning has been issued, a subsequent contravention of the rule by the player will result in his/her disqualification. If the player was part of a triple or pair, that triple or pair should forfeit one third of their score; if the player was in the singles, that game will be declared null and void. The opponent will proceed to the next round (or is the winner if the final).
12. Walkovers will not be allowed in finals. If the winning semi-finalists cannot fulfil the match their previous opponents will go through.
13. All competitions are governed by the Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Crystal Mark Fourth Edition) and such local rules as may, in due course, be published. It is, however, hoped that the spirit of fair play and commonsense will prevail in the event that the Laws and these rules do not cover a specific circumstance. All queries and disputes should be referred to the competition organiser. If a satisfactory outcome is not reached, the matter is referred to the league director whose decisions on these or any other matters not covered in the rules shall be binding on all competitors.
14. In exceptional circumstances the competition organiser, in consultation with the league director, may amend these rules as necessary.

Revised: 22nd July 2023