

WATFORD VETERANS BOWLING ASSOCIATION

OUTDOOR LEAGUE RULES - 2024

1. The League shall consist of up to Four Divisions.
2. The Committee shall maintain a waiting list of applicants to join the league. If there are sufficient on the waiting list another Division may be formed.
3. A club may not enter more than three teams, except where a vacancy exists that cannot be filled from the waiting list or the start of an extra league and then only with the agreement of the committee
4. A team intending to resign from the league shall inform the Veterans Secretary by the 31st December the preceding year.
5. A Team shall consist of Two Triples. Any number of men may play in a team but nobody shall play in more than one team in any season. This rule applies equally to all teams of the same club. A list of team members shall be provided to the Outdoor league Secretary prior to the start of the season and any additional members must be provided prior to that person playing. Players who reach the age of 62 during that season (April to Sept) may be included in teams for the whole season and need not wait until their Birthday. All players (including any substitute used during the game) must be registered prior to playing
6. Before the start of the season the Outdoor Secretary shall issue each team sufficient Score and Result cards for the season.
7. Matches shall commence at 2-15pm on Tuesdays. Matches are to be played with a break, unless mutually agreed by the two team captains.

The home team will make the choice of the two rinks on which the match will be played. The teams playing each other will be decided by shuffling the scorecards facedown, then the away captain will place two opposing scorecards together and write the number of one rink on them. The other two scorecards will then be marked with the other rink.

The names of the players shall be recorded on the scorecards and result cards in block capitals. Scorecards must be signed by both skips and retained for inspection if required. Result cards must be fully completed and signed by the Captains. It is the responsibility of the Home Team to send the result card by 1st class post or electronically within 24hrs of the completion of the match to the Outdoor league Secretary.

8. Two points will be awarded for a win and one point for a draw. Teams finishing with the same points will be ranked on shot difference.
9. For the following season, the top two teams will be promoted to the next higher division and the two teams finishing bottom will drop to the next lower where one exists. If a club has two or three teams and one of them finishes at the bottom of the lowest Division then that team shall drop out and be replaced by the team at the top of the waiting list. Two teams will always be promoted, but if the divisions need to be restructured due to teams dropping out of the league, then more than two teams may be relegated to a lower division.
10. A match may be postponed if the green is or becomes unplayable, or the green is required for a fixed County date. In this case the match should be rearranged to a mutually agreed date

In other cases where a team wishes to cancel a match, the opposition has the option of deciding the date of the fixture and giving three dates on which the match may be played. Dates cannot be at weekends or time of matches other than 2.15pm unless mutually agreed.

All rearranged games must take place before the end of the regular season.

If a team cancels more than two games in a season, then these further cancelled games will result in a loss for the cancelling team with a shot difference of minus 5.

11. If a match has to be abandoned and a minimum of six ends have been played by both rinks, then the scores on the last completed ends shall count. If six ends have not been completed by both rinks then the match should be arranged at a mutually convenient date, before the end of the season, or otherwise discussed with the League Secretary
12. If a whole team is delayed there should be a maximum allowance of 30 minutes. If a team arrives with only five players the game may still be played. The rink with only two players shall have four woods each. Should the third player arrive they will be allowed to play providing the game has not completed 4 ends. The complete team will have the first and last wood of every end, but the winner of an end casts the jack. On completion of the game, the team with two players forfeits 25% of their shots which they scored during the time they only had two players, rounded to the nearest whole number (0.5 of a shot rounded up).

13. If a player has to stop playing during a game because of ill health a substitute may play in his place or rule 12 will apply for the rest of the game. A break of a maximum of 10 minutes may be allowed for recovery.

14. Dress code for matches is greys with white shirts, club shirts or registered club colours

Approved at Watford Veterans Bowling Association at the AGM on 23rd October 2023