

WATFORD VETERANS BOWLING ASSOCIATION

OUTDOOR LEAGUE RULES - 2025

1. The League shall consist of up to Five 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 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 in block capitals. Scorecards must be signed by both skips and retained for inspection until the end of the season. Results should be entered by the Home team using the Results Page on the WVBA website within 24 hrs of the completion of the match.

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. Matches may be postponed for two reasons. The first is that the green is required for a County game. These fixtures are known well in advance and so an alternative date can be agreed before the start of the season. The other reason is the green is unplayable and an alternative date must be agreed.

If there are other exceptional circumstances where a team wishes to cancel a match the Outdoor Secretary must be informed in advance, and his decision on whether the circumstances are exceptional is binding.

In all other cases where a team wishes to cancel a match, the team cancelling the match must give three alternative dates to the opposing team. If no agreement is reached then the other team should give three dates. If still no date is agreed then the cancelling team loses the match 0-5.

Dates given in each case must be within a month of the cancelled fixtures, or by the end of the season, whichever is earlier. Dates cannot be at weekends or time of matches other than 2.15 unless mutually agreed.

If a team cancels a rearranged game, then that team loses the match 0-5, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

All communication between teams offering dates must be copied to the Outdoor League Secretary.

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 Outdoor 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 28th October 2024