

AMESBURY BOWLS CLUB

A COMMUNITY AMATEUR SPORTS CLUB

Reg No 04597

RULES AND CONSTITUTION

Part 2 – RULES

Amended October 2024

These rules may only be amended at a General Meeting or Special General Meeting called for that purpose. Notice of any proposed rule change amendments must be sent to the Secretary and shall be displayed in the Clubhouse at least 14 days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be submitted. Any amendment shall require the approval of at least two thirds of the members present at such a General or Special Meeting.

1. THE GREEN

The Green will be opened for the season during April each year and close approximately at the end of September at dates confirmed by the Management Committee. All play shall be subject to Bowls England rules. The use of the green will be at the discretion of the Green keeper or Chair of the Green Committee or in their absence a member of the Green Committee.

2. CLUB OPENING

The Club will be open during the year the times of which will be subject to the discretion of the Management Committee.

3. BAR - PERMITTED HOURS OF OPENING

The permitted opening hours during which intoxicating liquors may be supplied to members for consumption on or off the premises shall be in accordance with the licensing laws prevailing at the time.

4. PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

Limitation of Club Liability

Members are bound by the following Rule which shall also be exhibited in a prominent place within the Club premises:

4.1 Members of the Club may use the Club premises, and any other facilities of the Club, entirely at their own risk and impliedly accept:

(a) The Club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property belonging to members on club premises or its surrounds, including the adjacent car park.

(b) The Club will not accept any liability for personal injury arising out of the use of the Club premises, any other facilities of the Club either sustained by members or caused by the said members whether or not such damage or injury could have been attributed to or was occasioned by the neglect, default or negligence of any of them, the Officers, Committee, Trustees or Servants of the Club.”

4.2 Membership of the Club and acceptance of these Rules by the member will be deemed to constitute consent to the holding of relevant personal data for the purposes of the Data Protection Act.

5. APPOINTMENT OF CLUB COACH

The Management Committee shall appoint a Qualified Bowls Coach(s) who shall coach members and advise on the interpretation of the rules of the game and green etiquette.

6. DRESS ON THE GREEN

Club Shirts to be worn when representing the club, together with mid grey or white below the waist, which, will be specified on the team sheet.

At other times club shirts, obsolete club shirts, white tops with collar and sleeves and predominantly white bowls branded shirts must be worn, with grey below the waist.

Fleeces, jumpers or cardigans if worn should be plain white

Jackets if worn should be regulation predominantly white or official club-coloured jackets.

FOR MEN

If worn when representing the club mid grey or white bowls manufactured or tailored trousers (no jeans, denims, cord or cargo trousers)

FOR LADIES

If worn when representing the club mid grey or white bowls manufactured trousers, culottes, skorts or crops (no jeans, denims, cord or cargo) Skirts if worn must be regulation.

Mid grey or white smart knee length bowls manufactured or tailored shorts (this does not include beach, football, athletic or other sports/casual shorts) together with white long, ankle or trainer socks may be worn on the green. Refer to BE & BW Guidance for the wearing of shorts.

Hats – Predominantly white

Rainwear – Predominantly white or official club-coloured jackets.

Footwear – Flat bottomed heelless shoes/trainers must be worn at all times when on the green. This footwear should not be worn at any other time, this to protect the green from disease.

For those members playing in National & County competitions and matches please adhere to the published dress code.

Please remember that even for casual bowling you must wear the appropriate dress.

7. BOOKING OF RINKS

Note: - To allow maintenance and preparation the opening times of the Green for bowling will be advised by the Green Committee and displayed in the Changing rooms and equipment shed.

SET DATE National and County Competitions take priority (These dates will be avoided by the Fixtures Secretary)

All league matches, gala days, finals and occasions when the Green is made available with the consent of the Management Committee to other clubs or Associations e.g. Bowls Wiltshire and Salisbury & District.

All rinks will be reserved provided rinks are available after first accommodating **SET DATE** County Competitions on a Tuesday Evening for Club Night.

Rink 1 **should not** be used for League, National and County Matches/Competitions, unless under exceptional circumstances and with prior approval of the Management Committee.

Rinks may be booked by members on a first come first served basis. Priority may only be claimed if the rinks are already fully booked, and a rink is required for a set date County competition. In this

case the member must raise the matter with his or her Captain who shall allocate a rink in a fair manner and in consultation with the other Captain if necessary.

7.1 NEW BOWLERS

Coaching of new bowlers shall take place on Rink 1 and if numbers require Rink 6 may be used. Other rinks may be used at the discretion and with prior approval of the Management Committee.

8. ROLL - UPS

After first checking if any rinks are booked for Competitions, players may enter the Green and commence play first using the outer rinks 1 and 6. If these rinks are full use rink 2 then 5 and if necessary rinks 3 and 4. This reduces the use of the four inner rinks, allowing the rinks to recover, since these are the ones used most frequently for League games and Competitions. If there are no vacant rinks available additional players may join others using rinks for Roll-ups. For visitors, Clause 10 (below) refers.

9. HIRE OF BOWLS

Any member who uses Club Bowls shall pay a hire charge, the amount of which shall be determined by the Management Committee.

10. VISITORS

Visitors who are competent bowlers may “roll up” on the Green up to four times per year on payment of a green fee. They will be deemed to be a temporary member upon signing the Visitors book. The green fee will be determined by the Management Committee, displayed on the Club notice board and reviewed annually.

A member may invite a guest(s) to the Club for a roll-up for up to four times a year providing that:

- (a) The guest resides outside the area normally covered by the Club.
- (b) The guest is a competent bowler – this defined as currently being a member of a Bowls Club or has been a member of a Bowls Club
- (c) To comply with insurance requirements the member must complete their details in the Visitors Book and pay the appropriate fee for rink and bowls hire.

A person attending the club to try the game of bowls will be deemed to be a temporary member upon signing the Visitors’ book.

Note - A roll –up is an ad hoc game of bowls or practice strictly outside of any organised event

10.1 GUESTS - NON PLAYING

Members of the club shall be allowed to introduce non playing guests to the club at any time subject to the following:

- (a) Introduction of guests shall be limited to four
- (b) A member accompanying a guest to the club shall immediately upon admission of such guest to the premises, enter the date, name and address of such guest in the book provided for that purpose and sign each entry

(c) A member may accompany their spouse/partner to the club on any occasion without limit, subject to their details being registered by 1st April annually. If they wish to attend the club unaccompanied, they will be required to apply for Social membership and pay a fee notified by the Management Committee

The following shall not be admitted as guests:

- (a) Former members who have been expelled or who are under suspension.
- (b) Persons, who having been nominated for membership, have been rejected.

11. SELECTION FOR TEAMS AND MATCHES

Members selected as reserves, shall confirm their availability by ticking the list on the notice board. Anyone who intends to travel direct to an away match should indicate this on the list by assigning the letter D” aside their name.

12. REPORTING FOR MATCHES

Members selected to play but who are unable to play shall notify the team Captain of the day as soon as possible. Members selected for matches shall report their presence to the team Captain of the day not less than ten minutes before the scheduled starting time.

In the event of a team member failing to report and without contacting the Club with a legitimate reason, the reporting reserve will be invited to play.

13 CLUB COMPETITIONS

Members entering Club Competitions must insure that they are available to play on Finals weekend should they progress that far. Members who find that their situation has changed since entering must withdraw from competitions immediately. Extenuating circumstances must be presented to the relevant Bowls Committee for their decision.

14. SMOKING

Smoking is banned on the green and the surrounds. Smoking is only permitted in the designated smoking area provided.

15. MISCONDUCT OF MEMBERS

A member shall be reprimanded, suspended or expelled from the Club if at any Special Management Committee Meeting called for that express purpose, a majority of those present hold him / her to have contravened the rules or conducted themselves in an unacceptable manner.

Any disciplinary matters will be dealt with in accordance with Bowls England Regulation No.9 - Disciplinary Regulations.

All members are obligated to follow the Rules as detailed herein.

16. SECURITY

It is important that the building is properly locked when vacated. This responsibility rests with every member, and it is erroneous to assume that nothing will happen if the building is left unlocked. When the building is open, make sure that you have a key if you are likely to be last out. Arrangements are made for locking up in the evening and after matches. However, if you find the building unlocked when you believe it should not be so, contact a committee member so that the situation can be rectified. If a stranger enters the building challenge them, don't assume they have a legitimate reason for being there. If you are in the club house by yourself, it is sensible to lock the door from the inside. Keys for the Ladies & Mens Changing rooms are available for a returnable deposit from the Club Treasurer.

17. NOTICES

Members should read the notice boards regularly. We try to keep everyone up to date but this does rely on members reading the information provided. There are also various notices of a more permanent nature around the Club which are there to assist the Club members.

18. CLUB EQUIPMENT

Club equipment should be returned to its correct place after use. Currently 2m sticks, scoreboards, jacks, red and white bowl and jack indicators, mats and pushers are kept in the Equipment shed. Please ensure all equipment is returned after use and the shed is locked. Club bowls should be returned to the location from which they were borrowed. Club equipment must not be removed from the premises unless this is agreed by a Committee member.

19. GENERAL

Notwithstanding any of the provisions in the Rules (above) the Club follows the Bowls England Regulations for the following items of legislation:

Anti doping
Safeguarding – Protection of Children and the Vulnerable
Discrimination, Equal Opportunities and Human Rights
Trans and Gender Diverse policy
Health and Safety
Data Protection
Insurance and Identification
Misconduct, Suspension and Exclusion of Members.

20. Safeguarding

The club shall adhere to the Safeguarding Policy of Bowls England and will ensure that all the contents are communicated to members and clearly displayed within the club premises for Members and Visitors.

The club has a Safeguarding Officer whose details are displayed on the notice board in the club house.

20. Pet Policy

Pets or animals of any nature are not allowed inside the Main clubroom. However Service or Therapy animals (such as Guide Dogs are welcome, except within the kitchen when food is being prepared and served, as required by the Food Standards Agency 2014 regulations.

Club members and visitors are permitted to bring their pets into the grounds of Amesbury Bowls Club under the proviso that (i) any animal is under the constant control of its owner and is at no time left unattended and (ii) the owner of such animal accepts all liability and consequence for the behaviour of the animal. Amesbury Bowls Club will accept no responsibility for any animals brought to the Bowls Club.

21. Help

There are many ways that members can help in the day-to-day activities of the Club. On match days playing equipment needs to be put out and then packed away at the end of the game. Changing Rooms should be kept tidy.

There is extensive work carried out to ensure the green is fit for purpose. This is done by a team of volunteers. If you would like to join this team, please speak to the President.

Cleaning is another obligation on Club members. The club house should be presentable prior to all matches. Cleaning should not be carried out when matches are in progress or in a manner that would disturb players.

The flower tubs/baskets are maintained by members and regular working parties attend to the numerous tasks which arise throughout the year. The list of matters which members execute for the Club is too long to itemise here but all help is gratefully received.