



The West Wilts Bowls League

THE WHITE HORSE LEAGUE- PROGRAMME FOR 2024

RULES – (June 2023)

1. The League shall be run in five Divisions numbered 1,2,3,4 and 5. Teams in each division will play up to 18 games (As shown)
2. Each team shall consist of male players aged 58 years, or over, by 30 Sept in the current year, and may represent one team only.
3. * Games shall consist of 18 ends (plus 2 trial ends) and shall nominally be played on Tuesdays, commencing at 2.00pm in accordance with the League Code programme in para. 7, below. If weather conditions dictate, it will be permitted to play 18 ends with 1 shot scored on the first 2 ends with agreement from both skips. Games must be played on the Tuesday or, if this is not possible then, (by mutual agreement between the 2 Teams involved), by the next Monday of the week scheduled, except in the event of inclement weather when Rule 5 will be applied, or if, due to exceptional circumstances a team is unable to play. The exceptional circumstances will be determined as valid by presentation to the League Secretary. His decision, in consultation with the West Wilts Bowling League Management Committee, will be final. Vacations will not be accepted as a valid reason for postponement. If a game is not played on the Tuesday or by the next Monday of the week scheduled other than for the reasons above, the defaulting team will automatically concede the game, with the opponents being awarded two points and five shots. The HOME team must, as far as possible, give advance notice of cancellation to their opponents to avoid unnecessary travel costs. The HOME team must advise the League Secretary of all changes agreed between the teams concerned. Rule 8 will apply if no information is received.
4. ** If any game is affected by inclement weather or postponed as Rule 3: -
 - a. The result will stand if 10 or more ends have been played when affected by inclement weather.
 - b. If less than 10 ends have been played, the game will continue from the last end played before interruption. Teams should remain unchanged as far as possible.
 - c. * The ground declared unfit, or a game not started as Rule 3. The game must be played within two weeks, (except in the final week of the season when only one week is allowed). The HOME team must offer three non-consecutive afternoon dates to their opponents, one of which may be a weekend. If none of the dates offered to their opponents is acceptable, the two points will be awarded to the home team. If three dates cannot be offered to the Away team, the two points will be awarded to them. Should the re-arranged game also be affected by the weather the teams may agree a revised date within the specified time limit or share the points. The League Secretary must be kept informed of the situation by the HOME team. Rule 8 will apply if no information is received.
 - d. Any disputes will be resolved by the League Secretary, in consultation with the West Wilts Bowling League Management Committee, if necessary. Their decision will be final.
5. * The "HOME" team shall be responsible for forwarding the result of the game to the League Secretary within 24 hours of the game being played : -

It is the responsibility of each team captain to ensure that the results are received by the league secretary in a timely manner. Each club may nominate one person from that club – could be the West Wilts rep. or Club Secretary – to collect all scores from the home teams and send by email, text*** – asking for a receipt. If these are not received on time, i.e. within 24 hours of the game being played, (unless delayed in line with the rules), teams will be penalised appropriately. *As a consequence of this teams will be free to use any style of score card they wish and the WHL will not issue cards.*



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6. * **THIS IS IMPORTANT.** If a score, or notification of postponement, is not received by the League Secretary within 24 hours of the scheduled match, TWO POINTS may be deducted from the HOME team. This is in addition to the actual result. **This Rule will be applied at the discretion of the League Secretary.** Bowls England Rules apply, subject to the above. A draw for rinks is to be made in accordance with WBA Code of Practice

Week

Week

7. At the end of the season the top two teams from Divisions 2 - 5 will be promoted to the division above their current division and the bottom two teams from Divisions 1 - 4 will be relegated to the division below their current division. Promotion and Relegation will be compulsory.
8. Teams that change division must, as far as possible, retain at least four players in the following year.
9. At the end of the season a knockout competition will be held with the teams coming top of each division plus the three teams coming second with the best points average.

10. The 2024 Knockout Competition will be played at Spencer Melksham B.C. on the following dates:

1 Quarter- Finals	Monday.	2 nd September 2024
2 Semi- Finals	Tuesday.	3 rd September 2024
3 THE "FINAL"	Thursday.	5 th September 2024

- 11. Thank you all for your continuing support.**

Mel Waller
White Horse League Secretary.

23/2/2024