

LEAGUE RULES FOR SEASON 2024

1. The league shall be called the Mid Wilts Triples Open Bowls League and is open to all bona fide clubs affiliated to Bowls Wiltshire, and situated in Mid Wilts.
2. Games shall be played using three rinks of triples (nine players).
3. The prime objective of the league is to enable players who cannot command a regular place in the Wiltshire Four and Three Rink League sides to play enjoyable and friendly, competitive bowls within a smaller geographical area. It is understood that some clubs may need to select bowlers from the 4 rink 4s and 3 rink 4s at times to produce a team. The following rules are applied over selection: -
 - (a) Any bowler who has previously played four or more games in the 4 rink 4s or 3rink 4s During this or the past season at the position of skip cannot be selected to skip in the Mid Wilts Triples League
 - (b) Any bowler from the 4 rink 4s or 3 rink 4s who has previously played games in the position of lead, number two, or number three, may be selected to play in any position in the Mid Wilts Triples League.
 - (c) Middleton Cup players, Walker Cup players and Johns Trophy players are allowed to play but cannot Skip.
4. Any club suspecting that the opposition has breached any part of rule (3), is required to submit a written complaint to the league secretary within seven days of the match and include a list of all the players that have played in that match. (The names can be taken from the match score cards).
5. Any club found to be in breach of any part of rule (3) by the MWTBL Committee will have all points won and shots scored for the match concerned forfeited and the opposition awarded a 10–0 win.
6. The League Committee shall consist of a representative from each participating club together with a Chairman, and currently for this season (2023) an interim Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer.
7. Each club shall pay an affiliation fee of £18 for each team entered into the Mid Wilts Triples League, (the first nine pounds for entry into the League, the second £9 for a one team entry fee into the Wilson Trophy). This will be payable on or before March 30th. prior to the start of the season.
8. To assist in Clubs being able to fulfil a game, a team can, on three occasions, complete a fixture should 6 or more players be available (i.e. a max of 3 no. rinks of 2 players). However, should a club on three occasions, play with less than 3 players per rink, the Club will be asked to justify this to the Committee. This may result in the offending team being removed from their respective league.
9. Should a triple be a player short, fifteen minutes after the scheduled start time, they shall play the game as follows:

Both members of the defaulting team play with 4 bowls and 25% (1/4) of their total shots will be deducted at the conclusion of the game. Fractions will be applied to the nearest whole number up. The non-defaulting team with the 3 players will always bowl first irrespective of which triple won the previous end. However, the triple winning the previous end will still cast the jack on the next end.
10. A club shall play their opponents at least twice, home, and away during the season.
11. Any team with 2 players short on one rink, 15 minutes after the due start time, shall concede 2 points and 10 shots to the opposing team.
12. A match result shall be given points as follows: -

A Total of ten points will be given for each game.
The Team with the highest combined total shots (The aggregate score) will be score four points.
Each winning triple shall be awarded two points and one point each, in the event of a tie.
13. Any player belonging to two or more clubs may play for one team only in this competition during any one season.
14. Subject to the weather conditions on the day, both captains (before play commences) can agree to play 16 or 18 ends.
15. Both captains of the day must inform the League results co-ordinator (Pete Sanders petersanders191@gmail.com) of the result, as soon as possible after the game and before 1pm the

following day. The result card, properly completed, by both captains, shall be safely kept by the home club delegate and sent to the League Secretary, if required.

16. The only reason why games may be postponed is due inclement weather.
17. If a game has started but, owing to inclement weather, can not be completed, the game shall be deemed to be completed when a minimum of 30 ends has been played. If 30 ends were uncompleted, then the match will be void, and must be replayed. The captains of the respective clubs shall arrange to play on another date; such date shall be advised to the league secretary or Competitions Secretary within 3 days. In the event of it being found impossible to re-arrange the fixture, by default of one or both clubs, the committee may award points. All matches shall be completed no later than seven days after the last official league fixture. Clubs failing to do so will forfeit ten points for each game not played.
18. In the event of any dispute arising in connection with the league, a clear statement of that evidence, where available, shall be sent to the league secretary within three days of the dispute arising. The matter will be considered by the league committee whose decision will be final and binding. The league representative of the clubs involved shall retire from the committee before it is considered.
19. Any trophies competed for annually shall remain the property of the Mid Wilts Triples Bowls League. Trophies shall be returned to the secretary upon request, for engraving prior to each Annual presentation.
20. The season will conclude with a triples match between each League division champions verses a chairman's team, selected from the rest of the divisions, to coincide with the final of the Wilson Trophy. This match shall be on a green with the relevant number of rinks to accommodate the match, to be decided by the officers before the end of the previous season. This day to be presentation day. Mid Wilts Triples Bowls League, Gala Day.
21. All games will be played in line with the Laws of The Sport of Bowls.