



Odiham & North Warnborough Bowling Club

Heyhoe Bowls Short Mat League

Rules Of Play (issue 4 – Sept. 2022)

(Formally the Monday Night Short Mat League)

1. League Management.

The league shall be managed by the Competitions Sub Committee (here after referred to as CSC).

2. Game format and Dress Code

Triples (This may be changed to Pairs at the discretion of the CSC, dependent on the number of players available to participate). **Dress code** – smart casual.

3. Eligibility.

1. **Full** and **Short Mat** members of O&NWBC are eligible to participate in this competition
2. Members of an organisation approved by the CSC, to participate in this competition for one season only. Non-members of O&NWBC playing for such organisation to pay a NON-MEMBERS rink fee at detailed below.

4. Rink Fees.

1. Full & Short Mat members - **£2.00**
2. Non-Members - **£5.00**

5. Start Time.

All matches shall commence at 19.00 hrs at the latest (as per club room wall clock). Matches may start beforehand if all players are present.

6. Number of Ends.

All matches shall be of 18 ends, with no time limit

7. Matches.

Prior to the start of the League the CSC shall display a request notice on the notice board (under HEYHOE LEAGUE) in the clubhouse entrance hall, requesting club members to apply to participate in the league. From this list, the CSC shall draw teams with assigned team captains, who in turn shall be responsible to producing a playing rota for each team player. The captain can only select players from his / her team.

Each team drawn shall comprise of sufficient players as to provide last minute substitutions without the need for postponements and rearrangements of matches. (e.g., where triples are being played, teams shall have at least 5 team members as a minimum, preferably 6 or 7). Should a situation arise whereby a team captain cannot from his drawn team field sufficient players for a match due to unexpected circumstances, the CSC may nominate a substitute player who is not a member of any other team. That substitute player shall only be permitted to play on that one occasion for that team.

Only the CSC shall have the authority to cancel a match. Cancelled matches shall be rearranged by the CSC and a nominated date given as soon as possible after the original date for the match to be played. That day may not be on either a Monday or a Tuesday.

A fixture list shall be prepared by the CSC prior to the start of the league, which shall show when matches are to be played. Matches shall be planned to be played on either Monday or Tuesday evenings. This fixture list shall be displayed on the Clubhouse Hall notice board.

Each team for the convenience of the fixture list, shall be allotted a letter coding. In each game, the **FIRST** letter indicates the **HOME TEAM**. The Skips shall be responsible for completing the fixture / result sheet after each game, as per rule 14

Unless otherwise stated, national rules shall apply (England Short Mat Bowls Association).

8. Late Arrivals.

Players arriving late at the venue may join the match prior to 19.30 hrs (as determined by the club room wall clock) and only at the start of the next end. Players arriving after 19.30 hrs, may **NOT** join the match.

9. Late Starts.

Failure by any team to commence play by 19.30hrs, will constitute “**NO GAME**”. In such a case the opposition shall be awarded 2 points and NO shots.

10. Player shortage.

In the case of **triples**, if a team is unable to start the match with 3 players the following rules shall apply.

1. The team with a player short may start the game playing as a pair, pending the arrival of a late arriving player. This team shall play with **4** bowls each (8 bowls in total). The opposing team with three players shall play with the **lead** and **No 2** playing with **3** bowls and the **skip** with **2** (8 bowls in total). Should the absent player arrive in time to join the match (by 19.30 hrs), all players shall revert to playing with 3 bowls each.
2. If the absent player fails to arrive by 19.30 hrs, the team with the shortage of players, shall continue to play as a pair and **forfeit 25%** of the team's final score. The Triple shall continue to play as per rule 10.1 above

In the case where due to a shortage of players, the league format is that of **PAIRS**, should any team be unable to start a match by 19.30 hrs, that team shall forfeit the game. In such a case, the opposition shall be awarded 2 points and NO shots. The match shall NOT be rescheduled.

11. During play.

1. If a bowl is delivered and before the next bowl is released, it causes the Jack to go off the side of the mat, the opposing team shall be awarded **2 shots** and the end shall count as being played.
2. If the Jack is struck and comes to rest at the edge of the mat but eventually falls off the mat after the next bowl has been delivered and without another bowl hitting it, the end shall be declared DEAD. In this case, the end shall be replayed in the same direction.

12. Trial Ends.

At the start of the match, **TWO** trial ends shall be played.

13. Points awarded.

2 points for a **WIN** : 1 point to each team for a **DRAW** : 0 points for a **loss**.

14. Results

Both skips shall ensure that the correct result scores are recorded on the FIXTURE / RESULT sheet, located on the notice board in the clubhouse entrance hall.

15. League tables.

The CSC shall publish a league table each week throughout the duration of the league fixture programme, to be displayed on the notice board (under Heyhoe League).

16. Final league placing.

Upon the completion of the fixture programme, the team who amasses the greatest number of points shall be declared League Champions. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points, shot difference shall determine final placings.

17. Disputes.

In the event of any dispute not being settled by the skips / captains, details of the dispute shall be forwarded to the CSC for their consideration.

18. Covid 19.

All players shall be required to comply with any guidelines / restrictions / protocols which may need to be introduced at any stage during the duration of the Heyhoe League fixture programme, in order to meet government and or governing body guidelines.