

NEWPORT PAGNELL BOWLING CLUB

GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

(Revised 22/06/2026)

These rules apply to all club competitions. There are competition factsheets for each individual competition which contain the specific rules applicable to that competition and should be studied by players and markers prior to the commencement of each match.

All competitions are played in accordance with the current “Laws of the Sport of Bowls”.

The Competitions Committee is responsible for administering the competitions. They will draw the competitions, set dates for the completion of each round and arbitrate any disputes. They are also responsible for organising the one-day competitions and Finals Day.

The following competitions run on a knockout basis. The draw for these competitions will be made at the beginning of the season and they will run throughout the season. The finals will be played on the club Finals Day usually in mid-September. You must withdraw from these club competitions if you are unable to attend on the Finals Day.

- Rose Bowl – Ladies’ Singles.
- Laura Richardson Trophy – Ladies’ Two Bowls Singles.
- Frank Hall Cup – Ladies’ Drawn Pairs.
- Donaldson Shield – Ladies’ Mixed Pairs.
- Taylor Cup – Men’s Singles.
- Fenn Cup – Men’s Handicap Singles.
- Tompkins Cup – Men’s Two Bowls Singles.
- Crawley Hall Shield – Men’s Drawn Pairs.
- Dick Woolcott Cup – Mixed Singles Sets.
- Novice Cup – Mixed Singles.
- Open Pairs – 3 Bowl pairs 2 sets.

There are also one-day and league competitions played on specific dates throughout the season. Dates for these competitions will be advised at the start of each season.

Arranging a game.

For each of the knockout competitions the first drawn name or team shall be the **challenger**, the second will be the **opponent**. In each round the **challenger** shall offer their **opponent** up to three dates spread over more than a seven-day period. Consideration should be given to the competitive commitments of all players, offer different sessions and be subject to rink availability when considering the dates to be offered, but the tie must be played by the round deadline. If the Challenger fails to offer dates prior to 7 days before the closing date, the Opponent may offer two dates to the Challenger. In this situation should the Challenger be unable to play on either of the two dates, and no mutual agreement is possible, the Challenger shall forfeit the game.

Once a date is agreed the challenger shall ensure a rink is booked and arrange a competent marker where applicable.

Once a tie has been arranged it shall only be altered with the agreement of both parties and no later than 24 hours beforehand, except in the case of ill health or green closure.

In all rounds up to and including the semi-final, a draw shall be made to decide on which rink the tie is to be played. **ALL available rinks shall be included in the draw**. Failure to comply shall result in disqualification of all players in the tie. Ties shall be played on the rink drawn. Any two members shall be able to make the draw and when more than one tie is to be played those members shall draw out rinks for all the ties to be played in that session. Those members shall sign and complete the rinks book to confirm they have made the draw.

When the green is set to play across the clubhouse and in the event not all rinks are required, rink 1 may be omitted from the draw.

The players/skips must sign the scorecard(s) at the end of the tie and deposit it in the competitions scorecard box. The winner is responsible for updating the relevant competitions sheet.

Extensions to the closing date can only be granted by the Competitions Committee. If an extension is granted the tie must be completed within the new deadline set by the Committee. Extensions will only be considered by the Committee under the following circumstances: -

- Ill Health
- Green closure.
- Unforeseen extenuating circumstances.

Claiming a match.

A player/team may claim a tie in the following circumstances. -

- The opponent declines the three dates offered by the challenger and no reasonable compromise can be found. The tie will be awarded to the Challenger.
- If the challenger fails to offer the three dates required and cannot make either of the two dates offered by the opponent, the tie will be awarded to the Opponent.
- A player/team is late for the start of the tie by more than 30 minutes without prior notification and agreement with the other team/player. The tie will be awarded to the on-time player/team.

Claims must be made to a member of the Competitions Committee on or before the closing date. Claims may be made in person, by electronic message or email. Failure to make a claim may result in both players/teams being excluded from the next round.

Dress code.

Players in club competitions should be dressed in “White” (or branded bowls shirts) above the waist and Grey below. Club shirts and Blues are also permitted. In team games players in the same team should be dressed in the same manner.

Finals day or other competition events members should be dressed in Club colours or as specified by the Competitions Committee.

Resolution of disputes.

All disputes shall be referred to the Competitions Committee. The Competitions Committee shall investigate and resolve disputes and other situations where there are indications of failure to adhere to the competition rules and or the spirit of the competition. Any member may appeal to the Club Committee for a final ruling. Such appeals must be made in writing to the Secretary within 24 hours of the original decision. The Club Committee decision shall be final.