

Bowls Algarve Inter-Club

Winter League Rules & Format 2020/21

1. Each club affiliated to Bowls Algarve may enter one or more sides in the League.
2. All bowlers in each Side must be bona fide members of their club. Players may only represent one club in the Winter League. Players who have played twice for a Side shall be ineligible to play for another Side.
3. Each Side will consist of three triples, each of which, preferably, will be mixed in composition, as the essence of this League is that it is mixed in nature. It is however, **COMPULSORY** that the Side contains at least two ladies and at least two men.
4. Each league match will consist of two trial ends and eighteen ends of play. Sides will toss for choice of jack and Dead Ends will be replayed. There will be two points awarded for each winning triple and one point each for a drawn triple. The Side with the highest total number of shots across the three triples shall, in addition, be awarded two (2) bonus points. In the event of a tie on total shots, each Side shall be awarded one (1) bonus point. Maximum points possible per fixture is eight (8). League Winners, at the end of the season, will be the Side with the most points awarded. In the event of a tied situation, shot difference will count. Where shot difference is also tied, total shots scored will count.
5. All fixtures should be played on the stipulated date unless exceptional circumstances prevent this. The League Director must be notified of these circumstances and authorise the fixture to be rearranged (exception to this bad weather or green unavailability). All matches should be played within fourteen (14) days excluding the Christmas break. In the event of the circumstances involving the League Director's club, the final decision shall be with the Management Committee Chairman. Each Club must ensure that they have sufficient squad members to fulfil all their fixture obligations on the specified dates.
6. Any Side unable to fulfil a fixture shall have five (5) points and ten (10) shots deducted from their totals to date and all points available will be awarded to the opposition. The opposition will also add ten (10) shots to their total shots to date.
7. If a Side is able to field only two (2) Triples, those Triples will play their games in the normal way, and the opposing Side will be awarded two (2) points and ten (10) shots in respect of the missing third Triple. The Side with only two (2) triples will, additionally, have two (2) points deducted from their total points to date and ten (10) shots deducted from their total shots to date.
8. If a Side is able to field two (2) full Triples and only a pair (two players) for the third Triple, then the pair may play four (4) bowls each and the opposing skip will play two (2) bowls and his/her other two players will play the usual three (3) bowls each. The pair will forfeit one quarter (25%) of their shots at the end of the game. Only one game may be played in this way, the other two games must be full triples.
9. If any Side fields an ineligible player then, irrespective of the actual result of the match, the Side will be disqualified and Rule 6 above will apply.
10. All fixtures will start at the time shown in the schedule published by the League Director, (unless afternoon matches are necessary due to lack of available rink space or fixture congestion dictates otherwise). Should a Side not be fully ready to play within thirty (30) minutes of the agreed start time, then they shall forfeit the match and the provisions of Rule 6 above shall apply. The idea is that all games take place at the same time. Should a game begin and a player suffers an injury or illness with no substitute available then Crystal Mark Law 33.6 and 39.2 (which decides how the game proceeds and the shots penalty) shall apply.

11. Players are asked to wear full whites or Club/Team colours for all League fixtures, however, white or Club/Team colours above the waist is acceptable. Bowls footwear must be worn by all players. Non-compliance in either respect may result in an official warning. Where such a warning has been issued, a subsequent contravention of this rule by the player will result in his/her disqualification. If he/she has played then the Triple will forfeit one third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of their score.
12. There will be a match fee of Seven (7) euros per player. The visiting Side will pay this amount to the home Club and will be responsible for fees from any players failing to arrive. The home Side may charge the match fee, or a proportion thereof, to their own players on a discretionary basis.
13. Rinks will be drawn from those available, by opposing Captains before play commences. The Home Side will lay down their three cards and the Opposition will place their cards at random on top of these. Rink numbers will be allocated also on a random basis. Where possible, the three rinks will play side by side.
14. If bad weather intervenes – and subject to the decision to cease play being made/agreed by the Home Club's Management – all three Triples must complete the minimum twelve (12) ends to constitute a completed fixture. If they have done so, scores for ALL ends played will stand. Otherwise the match shall be declared suspended and the two Sides shall agree a date to continue within fourteen (14) days or as otherwise agreed with the League Director. The resumed match should preferably be played on the same rinks but two (2) more trial ends will be permitted and any Triple which had not completed eighteen (18) ends before the stoppage, will play to the completion of eighteen (18) end. In the event that a player is not available for the resumed match, a substitute is allowed in accordance with Crystal Mark Laws 32.4 and 33.4.
15. The Skip of each Triple shall keep a scorecard for their game, which shall be agreed, time game completed and signed off by the two opposing Skips after the match. Each Side will retain their own scorecards in case of subsequent query. Both sets of scorecards **MUST** contain the **FULL GIVEN NAME AND SURNAME** of each player. If a Side are not satisfied or uncertain regarding a player's eligibility, they must raise a query with the League Director within twenty-four (24) hours as per Crystal Mark Law 36.2
16. The Home Side shall be responsible for advising the result of each fixture by email to the League Director within twenty-four (24) hours of the completed match. League result sheets and tables will be circulated to all clubs as soon as practicable.
17. The Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Crystal Mark Third Edition) shall govern all League matches. It is, however, hoped that the spirit of fair play and common sense will prevail, in the event that these Rules and the Crystal Laws do not cover a specific circumstance. The Home Side will provide an umpire, whose aim will be to resolve any dispute at the time. If no umpire is supplied the matter will be resolved by the Team Captains. Where, however, resolution is not possible, disputes should be referred firstly to Club Captains who will then refer if necessary, to the League Director, within twenty-four (24) hours, who shall make a binding decision.