

BIRMINGHAM BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Constitution (Amended November 2019)

1. TITLE

The Birmingham Bowling Association, herein after known as the Association.

2. OBJECTS

- a) The development of the game of Bowls as played outdoors, according to the Laws of the World Bowls Board, Bowls England, or as modified to meet Local Rules of the Warwickshire County Bowls Association or this Association.
- b) To hold Annually, Representative and President's Matches, League Championship and any Competitions that may be agreed at an Annual or Special Extraordinary Meeting of the Association.

3. CONSTITUTION

- a) The Association shall be governed by an Executive Committee which shall consist of a President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Competition Secretary, Honorary League Secretary, Honorary Match Secretary, Honorary Fixture Secretary, Honorary Publicity and Association Web Site Officer, Honorary Development and Youth Development Officer, Deputy President, and two members without portfolio.
- b) The retiring President shall become an Honorary Member of the Executive as Deputy President for as long as his successor shall remain in post.
- c) The President shall hold Office for up to one year but shall be eligible to continue for a second year subject to approval by the membership at the subsequent AGM and subject to the requirements of Clause 3d.

On completion of the President's term of office, he will be automatically succeeded by the Vice President, also subject to the provisions of Clause 3d.

The office of Vice President as well as all other positions shall be filled from nominations submitted by affiliated clubs, such nominations to reach the Honorary Secretary 21 days before the AGM.

All other Officers shall hold Office for one year, but shall be eligible for re-election; all shall be supported by nominations from their respective Clubs, such nominations to reach the Honorary Secretary 21 days before the AGM.

The Executive Committee shall have power to **appoint** until the next AGM, to any Office, including President and Vice President, not filled at the AGM or which may become vacant during the year.

- d) If, prior to an AGM, no **elected** Vice-President is available to take over as President, then Nominations shall be sought from the Affiliated Clubs for the position of President.

If the current Vice-President has been **appointed** by the Executive Committee, he is required to obtain and submit his club's nomination if he wishes to proceed to the position of President.

If the current President has been **appointed** by the Executive Committee, he will also be required to obtain and submit his club's nomination if he wishes to continue for a second year.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all clubs in the Area, who play the game of level green bowls, provided that such clubs possess a green that comply with the Association and are affiliated to the Warwickshire County Bowls Association and Bowls England.

5. MEETINGS

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association shall be held before the end of the calendar year.

It will be the duty of the Honorary Secretary to call a SPECIAL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the Association, within fourteen days of any requisition to that effect, signed by the Executive Committee or by Delegates from TWO or more clubs in Membership. Such requisition must be made in writing and must state in FULL the nature of the business to be discussed at such meeting. Only such business will be discussed.

It shall be the duty of the Honorary Secretary to call DELEGATES BUSINESS MEETINGS of the Association, at least TWICE annually, to consider any matters pertaining to the welfare or workings of the Association.

Each club within the Association may nominate TWO Delegates to attend and vote at these meetings. The Chair will have the casting vote if one is required.

The Executive Committee will meet at least three times each year. Five members shall form a quorum.

6. FEES and SUBSCRIPTIONS

Every club in Membership shall pay the Annual Subscription as proposed by the Executive and agreed at the Annual General Meeting. The subscription will cover a calendar year (i.e. January to December).

Each club entering the League Championship will pay an agreed fee for each team entered.

The Executive Committee will propose the level of entry fee for all Association competitions, to be agreed by the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

7. BLAZER BADGES

An Association Badge will be awarded to any player who has played FOUR representative games for the Association, over a period of at least TWO years, against other Associations. Any other games will not qualify towards the awarding of a Badge.

8. VOTING

At ANNUAL or SPECIAL EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS, the TWO nominated Club Delegates will each have a SINGLE VOTE.

In addition, the President, or in his absence the Vice President, shall have the casting vote if one is required.

A majority vote shall be sufficient to carry a proposal. However, if a proposal is made to alter the CONSTITUTION or OBJECTS of the Association, to become operative such a proposal shall require a TWO-THIRDS majority of the Delegate members present at the Annual or Special Extraordinary Meeting of the Association.

9. COMPETITIONS

All Competitions shall be played in accordance with the Laws of World Bowls Board, Bowls England, or Local Rules as determined by the County Association and this Association (sanctioned at a General Meeting).

An Entry Form will be issued in March of each year, returned to the Competition Secretary by the specified date with all entry fees. The draw will take place in May of each year and the Competition Programme will be published and issued prior to the commencement of the Championships to each club's point of contact.

Competitions will be played on or by the specified dates. Games can be played prior to the date, but not after the published date. Failure to comply with these conditions will mean that the entrant will be disqualified from that competition.

All players must be capable of playing in the Semi-Finals and Finals, on the dates specified by the Competition Secretary, or withdraw from the competition by the Quarter-Finals stages. Failure to comply with this requirement will lead to disqualification from that competition in the following year.

The venues for Semi-Finals rounds will be DRAWN prior to the competition draw. W.G. Walker Trophy Semi-Finals venues will be played on a selected NEUTRAL green once the participants are known.

The Finals of all Competitions will be played on a specified weekend in September of each year.

The Association Finals shall be played in ALTERNATIVE years at the President's Home Club and/or the Home Club of the BDWBA President, provided that the green is approved and suitable at the time of the Finals.

10. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The Association will confirm the grade of Honorary Life Membership, to:

- a) All Deputy Presidents upon completion of their duties
- b) Any Member of the Association who has served the Association over a period of time but does not qualify as described in a) above.

11. DISSOLUTION of the ASSOCIATION

- a) If at any general meeting of the Association, a resolution is passed calling for the dissolution of the Association, the Honorary Secretary shall convene a Special Extraordinary Meeting of the Association, to be held not less than one month thereafter, to discuss and vote on the resolution.
- b) If at that Special Extraordinary Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least TWO-THIRDS of the Delegate Members present at the Meeting, the Executive Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Association and discharge all of the Debts and Liabilities of the Association.
- c) After discharging all Debts and Liabilities of the Association, the remaining assets shall not be distributed to any Officer or club in Membership, but shall be donated or transferred to some Voluntary Organisation, having objectives similar to those of the Association (i.e. a Charity or Local Sports Bodies to further sport in general)

12. ALTERATION of the CONSTITUTION

The Constitution shall only be altered at an ANNUAL or SPECIAL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the Association and after FOURTEEN days notice of such proposed alterations or amendments shall have been circulated by the Honorary Secretary to all the clubs in Membership.

If any alteration or amendment of the Constitution is proposed by any club or any Officer or Delegate within the Association, 28 days notice and the full text of such proposed alteration or amendment must be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the Association

13. SAFE GUARDING CHILDREN and VULNERABLE ADULTS

The Association has adopted and agreed to abide by the Bowls England Regulation covering this subject. All clubs within the Association should also apply this regulation, if they do not already have their own regulation to cover.

14. MISCONDUCT and DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Bowls England has reviewed this area and have now made the Bowls England Regulation No. 9 a MANDATORY obligation on clubs and Associations affiliated or associated to Bowls England.

Changes from Previous Version (Sept 2015)

Clauses 3(a), 3(b), 5, 11(b)