



BRITISH CROWN GREEN BOWLING ASSOCIATION

RULES REVISION MEETING 2022

NOTICES OF MOTION

Unless specifically indicated, any changes to the Bye Laws and Rules of the Association passed at this meeting will take effect from the end of this meeting. Any changes to the Laws of the Game will take from the 1st March 2022.

MEMBERSHIP

1 Page 55 / Rule 3, Rule 4 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - To introduce an annual fee of £10 per registered League and Association.

Rationale - Each League and Association benefits from the savings on the purchase of Public Liability Insurance in the same manner as individual clubs do. Clubs have to pay an annual fee but currently Leagues and Associations do not. We feel that it is only right that they should also pay an annual fee.

If approved, the rule would read

3 League and Association Membership (4 would be deleted and all other rules re-numbered)

All Leagues and Associations affiliated to one or more counties shall pay, via the county of their primary affiliation, an annual BCGBA fee of £10.00. The sum to be paid before the 30th June each year. Counties shall retain 5% of all such monies collected on behalf of BCGBA as an administration fee. Any League or Association failing to comply by that date will, together with all its registered members, shall be suspended from playing any form of competitive Crown Green Bowls until the sum due is paid. League or Association in default from the previous year shall remain suspended until all past dues are paid.

SENIOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION RULES

2 Page 130 / Rule 1 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - Line 12 – After ‘Club.’ Insert ‘someone who represents a club in an official league / cup match.’

Rationale - To close a loop-hole in the existing rule which would allow a player to ‘guest’ for a club whilst not being a member of that club.

If approved, the revised section of the rule would read

Definition of a playing member ~ One who pays a subscription to a Bowling Club or to a Bowling Section of a Sports or Social Club, someone who represents a club in an official league / cup match or is a member of an organisation which utilises the green of such Club or Section.

3 Page 132 / Rule 4 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - Line 1 – Delete ‘21’ and Insert ‘14’
- Line 3 – Delete ‘21’ and Insert ‘14’
- Line 4 – Delete ‘14’ and Insert ‘7’

Rationale - As all teams are exchanged electronically the timescale can now be reduced

If approved, the revised section of the rule would read

County Associations shall select their team at least 14 days before the dates of their matches, except when County matches are due to be played within 14 days, when the County Associations shall select their teams at least 7 days before the date of the matches.

4 Page 133 / Rule 5 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - Line 1 – Delete ‘21’ and Insert ‘14’
- Line 4 – Delete ‘3’ and Insert ‘2’

Rationale - As all teams are exchanged electronically the timescale can now be reduced

If approved, the revised section of the rule would read

Counties shall give at least 14 days’ notice of their teams, reserves, venue and officials to their opponents and the National Administrator by entering all the details on the approved Bowling Results website before midnight on the Sunday 2 weeks prior to the match.

5 Page 133 / Rule 7 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - Line 1 – Delete ‘Neutral’ and Insert ‘Approved’

Rationale - The change will allow for the appointment of home-based county referees in group matches. Neutral referee appointments will still be made for the semi-final and final matches.

If approved, the revised section of the rule would read

Approved referees shall be appointed for all County Matches and they shall be paid agreed match expenses and a meal provided at the County venue.

6 Page 133 / Rule 7 (Proposed by Warwick & Worcester CBA)

Proposal – Delete existing Rule and Replace with ‘ The Referees are supplied by the home venue in all Championship matches except Finals and Semi-Final Stages where Neutral referees shall be appointed for all County Matches, and they will be paid appropriate match expenses as decided by the Referees Society and a meal provided at the County venue. All expenses for Home Referees to be paid by the Home County, All Neutral Referees to be paid by the Referees Society Secretary. The Home County shall appoint two Assistant Referees to assist the Referee. The Home County will be responsible for providing all measuring equipment likely to be required by the referee. All Referees to be dressed in accordance with the Dress Code of the British Crown Green Referees Society.

Rationale - During a Covid year some of the Men’s Championship games were rule with Home Referees without any issues whatsoever. The Women’s Championship is run using Home Referees without any major problems. This would help reduce the amount of travel and usage of the limited number of qualified referees to be appointed throughout the year.

JUNIOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

7 Page 138 / Rule 1 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - Line 15 – After ‘Club.’ Insert ‘someone who represents a club in an official league / cup match.’

Rationale - To close a loop-hole in the existing rule which would allow a player to ‘guest’ for a club whilst not being a member of that club.

If approved, the revised section of the rule would read

Definition of a playing member ~ One who pays a subscription to a Bowling Club or to a Bowling Section of a Sports or Social Club, someone who represents a club in an official league / cup match or is a member of an organisation which utilises the green of such Club or Section.

8 Page 140 / Rule 5 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - Line 1 – Delete ‘21’ and Insert ‘14’

- Line 3 – Delete ‘21’ and Insert ‘14’

- Line 4 – Delete ‘14’ and Insert ‘7’

Rationale - As all teams are exchanged electronically the timescale can now be reduced

If approved, the revised section of the rule would read

County Associations shall select their team at least 14 days before the dates of their matches, except when County matches are due to be played within 14 days, when the County Associations shall select their teams at least 7 days before the date of the matches.

9 Page 141 / Rule 6 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - Line 1 – Delete ‘21’ and Insert ‘14’

- Line 4 – Delete ‘3’ and Insert ‘2’

Rationale - As all teams are exchanged electronically the timescale can now be reduced

If approved, the revised section of the rule would read

Counties shall give at least 14 days’ notice of their teams, reserves, venue and officials to their opponents and the National Administrator by entering all the details on the approved Bowling Results website before midnight on the Sunday 2 weeks prior to the match.

10 Page 141 / Rule 7 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - Line 1 – Delete ‘Neutral’ and Insert ‘Approved’

Rationale - The change will allow for the appointment of home-based county referees in group matches. Neutral referee appointments will still be made for the semi-final and final matches.

If approved, the revised section of the rule would read

Approved referees shall be appointed for all County Matches and they shall be paid agreed match expenses and a meal provided at the County venue.

11 Page 141 / Rule 7 (Proposed by Warwick & Worcester CBA)

Proposal – Delete existing Rule and Replace with new rules 7a and 7b

Rule 7a

The Referees are supplied by the home venue in all Championship matches except Finals and Semi-Final Stages where Neutral referees shall be appointed for all County Matches, and they will be paid appropriate match expenses as decided by the Referees Society and a meal provided at the County venue. All expenses for Home Referees to be paid by the Home County, All Neutral Referees to be paid by the Referees Society Secretary. The Home County shall appoint two Assistant Referees to assist the Referee. The Home County will be responsible for providing all measuring equipment likely to be required by the referee. All Referees to be dressed in accordance with the Dress Code of the British Crown Green Referees Society.

Rule 7b

The Referee, a nominated Home Team Official and an Away Team Official form a committee of 3 to control any verbal abuse around the green with an announcement before the Match that Verbal Abuse of Juniors will not be acceptable and immediately reported to the Referee to avoid distress.

Rationale - To Align with the proposed changes of the Men's Senior County and to retain the principal of the rule, how any verbal abuse of Juniors shall be managed.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR INDIVIDUAL MERIT COMPETITIONS RULES

12 Page 145 / Rule 1 (Proposed by Shropshire CCGBA)

Proposal - Line 2 – After 'Management Committee' Insert a new sentence 'The number of competitors for the Junior Individual Merit shall be pro rata, all Counties will be automatically given one place with the remaining places allocated according to qualifying competition entries.'

Rationale - We feel in this current time that how the Junior Merit places are distributed is not really fair. As we know all counties are struggling to recruit Junior players and this in itself needs looking at by BCGBA. But with some counties having only 2-3 entries into their merit and other counties having 20 plus the pro rata option going forward will be the fairer option. Whilst we sympathise with counties that have no juniors or are going through a leaner time if their numbers grow in years to come they would have more spots. Its not the juniors who enters their counties merit fault if there is only 2 entries but common sense needs to prevail here.

Whilst we recommend that every county gets one place the others are distributed according to entries like the Senior merit. If the competition needs to grow in size to accommodate this let it be so. With Merit winners automatically into the last 32. Any other entries could go into the prelims.

The management of BCGBA would discuss the format at their next Management meeting but please let's grow the junior game and this is one way of us doing it by getting more juniors involved in a national finals day.

13 Page 145 / Rule 1 (Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposal - Line 10 – Delete 'the last Sunday in June' and Insert 'a date agreed by the Management Committee'

Rationale - To be able to allow more time for counties to play their qualifying rounds.

If approved, the revised section of the rule would read

Qualifying rounds of the Senior Individual Merit must be played by a date agreed by the Management Committee.

LAWS OF THE GAME

(Proposed by the Management Committee)

Proposals 1 to 7 could be voted en-block as they all modernise the language or clarify the existing Law.

1. Page 236, Definitions D.4

Proposal - Insert after 'counted and' and Insert ', if on the green,'.

Rationale - To clarify the existing Law

The new definition will read

A DEAD BOWL is a bowl that cannot be counted and, if on the green, shall be taken off the green so as not to interfere with play.

2. Page 236, Definitions D.5

Proposal - Leave wording as is but reformat to make Definition clearer

The new definition will read

'AN END:

- *commences when the leader first delivers the jack,*
- *is concluded when the last bowl comes to rest, and*
- *is completed when the score is agreed.'*

3. Page 238, The Game Law 2.3

Proposal - Delete 'make' and Insert 'win'

Rationale - Modernise the language

New Law will read

Before commencing play the number of points to be scored to win the game shall be fixed.

4. Page 240, Method of Play Law 5.3

Proposal - Add after the last sentence - 'The player must have a medical dispensation.'

Rationale - Law concerns the delivery of the bowl i.e., right hand / right foot on footer etc.

5. Page 242, Running Jack or Bowl Law 6.4

Proposal - Delete 'endeavour' and Insert 'attempt'.

Rationale - Modernise the wording

New Law first sentence will read

A player must not attempt to affect the running of any bowl,

6. Page 245, Referee, Measurers and Players Law 9.10

Proposal - Line 1 - Delete 'owing to the above clause' and Insert 'under Law 9.9' (Law 9.9 refers to suspension of game due to bad light)

Rationale - Clarifies to which law the sentence applies

New Law will read

In the event of a suspension under Law 9.9 or any other unforeseen circumstances, the points scored by each player shall stand and the position of the jack shall be marked. Ends should be completed, if possible, games being restarted from an agreed point as near as possible to where the jack lay at the last end played.

7. Page 245, Referee, Measurers and Players Law 9.10

Proposal - Line 3 - Delete the comma after 'possible' and Insert '.' (full stop)

- Start a new sentence with 'Games'

- Delete 'being' and Insert 'shall be'

Rationale - Modernises the language

New Law last two sentences will read

9.10 Ends should be completed if possible. Games shall be restarted from an agreed point as near as possible to where the jack lay at the last end played.

Proposals 8 to 10 could be voted en-block as they only add changes to Definitions

8. Page 236, Definitions D.5

Proposal - After 'footer' Insert 'remaining or'.

Rational - Clarifies what happens to the footer

The new definition will read

A VOID END is an end to be replayed with the footer remaining or placed as near as possible to where it originally lay during the void end.

9. Page 237, Definitions

Proposal - Add new Definition D.14

A MEDICAL DISPENSATION: can only be provided by the referee's society on the evidence of a medical practitioner. The Dispensation letter should be available for the Referee if requested prior to the commencement of a game.

10. Page 237, Definitions

Proposal - Add new Definition D.15 and alter as necessary any references to 'game' and 'match' anywhere within the bye laws to match these definitions.

'a) A GAME is a single contest between two/four players

b) A MATCH is an amalgamation of individual games.'

Rationale - To clarify what is a Game and what is a Match.

Proposals 11 to 13 could be voted en-block

11. PAGE 237, Equipment Law 1.3

Proposal - Round up/down the measurements to 125mm and 155 mm.

Rationale - To go fully metric, UK is officially metric, and only the USA. Liberia and Myanmar use imperial measurement. The metric dimensions would allow the continued use of existing commercially produce footers.

New Law will read

The FOOTER, which shall be round, shall have a diameter of not less than 125mm and not more than 155mm.

12. Page 237, Equipment Law 1.5

Proposal - Line 1 - Delete '(2lb)'

Rationale - To go fully metric.

13. Page 237, Equipment Law 1.6

Proposal - Delete existing Law and Insert 'BCGBA approved measuring devices, mechanical devices and artificial surfaces are listed in the Appendices.'

14. Page 238, The Game Law 2.5

Proposal – Line 1 - Delete 'may' and Insert 'must'

– Line 2 - Delete 'but must be'

Rationale - To clarify the fact that the leader must place the footer.

New Law will read

At the commencement of a game the footer must be placed by the leader within three metres of the entrance to the green, on either the left or right side and one metre from the edge.

15. Page 238, The Game Law 2.5

Proposal – Line 4 - After the word 'edge' Insert 'but no more than two metres from the edge.'

Rationale - To stop players from objecting to the placement of the footer when it isn't exactly one metre from the edge,

New Law will read (assuming both proposals 14 & 15 approved)

At the commencement of a game the footer must be placed by the leader, within three metres of the entrance to the green, on either the left or right side and at least one metre from the edge but no more than two metres from the edge.

16. Page 240, Setting a Mark Law 4.9 and 4.10

Page 242, Still Jack or Bowl Law 7.1.a

Proposal - Delete the last sentence in each Law and Insert 'Any dead bowls are reinstated for the new end. Any forfeited bowls are not reinstated for the replayed end.'

Rationale - The existing Laws reward a player who has forfeited a bowl(s) when the end has not been completed i.e., they get a second chance.

New sentences in each Law will read

Any dead bowls are reinstated for the new end. Any forfeited bowls are not reinstated for the replayed end.

17. Page 241/242, Method of Play Law 5.15

Proposal - Insert after the last sentence 'The footer must not be moved after the first attempt to set a mark by either the leader or the opponent until the end is concluded.'

Rationale - Clarifies that the footer cannot be moved.

New Law will read

After each end is concluded, the footer shall be placed at the jack by the last player. The footer may only be repositioned by the leader of the next end and before the first attempt to set a mark, anywhere within a space of one metre from where the jack lay at the conclusion of the last end but at least one metre in from the edge of the green. The footer must not be moved after the first attempt to set a mark by either the leader or the opponent until the end is concluded.

18. Page 243, Still Jack or Bowl Revamp Laws 7.5 and 7.6

Proposal - Change Law 7.6 to 7.5 a,

- Include the 'interpretation; into the Laws as Law 7.5 b)

- Change Law 7.5 to 7.6

Rationale - Place the Law on 'conclusion of the end' before the Law on 'completion of the end', as conclusion comes before completion.

New Law will read

7.5 b When an end is concluded i.e. all the bowls have come to rest, a player may remove their own non-counting bowl without incurring a penalty.

19. Page 243, Still Jack or Bowl Laws 7.5 (Will be withdrawn if proposal 17 approved)

Proposal - Renumber 7.5. to 7.5.a and

- Include the interpretation into the Laws as 7.5.b

New Law will read

7.5 b When an end is concluded i.e., all the bowls have come to rest, a player may remove their own non-counting bowl without incurring a penalty.

20. Page 244, Measuring Law 8.4

Proposal - Delete 'claimed' and Insert 'in question' in the last sentence

Rationale - Clarifies which point the player loses

New Law last sentence will read

8.4 If either the jack or a bowl being measured is displaced by a player, that player shall lose the point in question.

21. Page 245, Revamp Laws 10 and 11

Proposal - Delete Laws 10 and 11 and Insert 'Law 10 ELECTRONIC DEVICES and SMOKING

10.1 Electronic devices e.g., mobile phones, pagers, smart watches etc. in active mode are not allowed on the green. Should a player fail to comply, that player shall forfeit the game. The offender(s) to receive no further score and the opponent(s) to receive the maximum score.

10.2 Smoking: Smoking, vaping and the use of electronic cigarettes is not allowed whilst participating in the game of Crown Green Bowls. The offending player(s) shall receive no further score and the opponent(s) shall receive the maximum score.

22. Page 245, Add to New Law 10 as 10.3 (if proposal 21 is passed) or Add new Law 12

Proposal - If proposal 21 is passed then Change title of Law 10 and add 10.3 to read

Law 10 ELECTRONIC DEVICES, SMOKING AND FOOTWEAR

10.3 Footwear: Hard block-heeled or open-toed footwear must not be worn whilst on the green in any game played under the Association's jurisdiction. The offending player(s) shall receive no further score and the opponent(s) shall receive the maximum score.

Rationale - To amalgamate the existing Laws and introduce a new Law on Footwear, moving the latter out of the Dress Code byelaws into the Laws with an appropriate punishment.

23. If Proposal 22 fails, then add new Law

12. FOOTWEAR

Footwear: Hard block-heeled or open-toed footwear must not be worn whilst on the green in any game played under the Association's jurisdiction. The offending player(s) shall receive the minimum score and the opponent(s) shall receive the maximum score.

Rationale - To introduce a new Law on Footwear, moving the latter out of the Dress Code byelaws into the Laws with an appropriate punishment.

24. Page 245 Renumber remaining Laws accordingly

BYE LAWS

Note – This proposal should be discussed after the decision on the Laws of the Game Footwear proposal

25 Page 39, 15a Players Dress (Proposal will be withdrawn if Proposal 23 fails)

Proposal - Delete all of section 'a' and renumerate the following sections of Bye Law 15

Rationale and problem - If proposed changed to Law 10 is passed then this would duplicate Bye Law 15a), with the Law having a punishment and Bye-Law 15a) having no punishment. If proposal on Law 10 fails, then this proposal will need to be withdrawn as there would be no reference to the footwear bye law in the Laws or Bye Laws.