



SIDCUP RECREATION CLUB
Bowls Section
RULES
(Approved at AGM 9th November 2022)

1. Title.

The Club shall be called "Sidcup Bowls Club" (hereinafter called "The Club") as a section of Sidcup Recreation Club (hereinafter called "The Parent Club"). The Club shall be affiliated to the Bowls England, K.C.B.A. and L & S.C.B.A and additional Leagues or local bowls associations as deemed appropriate by the Bowls Committee.

2. Membership.

Eligibility for membership of the Club shall be in accordance with the Rules of The Parent Club.

The Club will comprise of a Men's section and Ladies Section. Each section shall have it's own managing committee but these rules shall apply equally across both sections.

3. Membership Fees.

(a) These shall be decided from time to time by the Parent Club, after consultation with the Bowls Committee, and will include a subscription for membership of The Parent Club and The Club and which will be payable on or before the 31st January each year.

(b) If the subscription is not paid within the specified time, the Member may forfeit all rights of membership of The Parent Club and The Club but can apply for re-election, at the discretion of the Committee of The Parent Club

4. Application for Membership.

Application for membership of The Club shall be considered by the Bowls Committee before being accepted. The Bowls Committee reserves the right to refuse any application at its sole discretion.

5. Rules

a) All members of The Club will be deemed to have received a copy of The Parent Club Rules and The Club rules and have understood and accepted them.

b) All external games and Club competitions shall be arranged and played in accordance with the Bowls England and K.C.B.A. laws of the game current at the time of play.

6. The Bowls Committee.

(a) This will consist of the Captain, Vice-Captain, Hon Secretary, Hon. Assistant Secretary, Match Secretary, Treasurer, K.C.B.A Delegate, a Green Ranger and four Playing members all to be elected at the AGM., together with the immediate past Captain. All members of the Bowls Committee shall have a vote. A quorum shall consist of seven Committee Members. The four Playing Members will serve for two years from the dates of their respective elections. The Committee will decide on a Chairman from the elected Committee. The Chairman of the meetings may exercise only a casting vote in the event of a tied Committee vote.

(b) No member of The Club shall stand for more than one position as an Officer on the Bowls Committee at any one time except where one of these nominations is for Captain or Vice-Captain.

(c) In the event of any vacancy occurring in the Bowls Committee during the year of office, the Bowls Committee shall be empowered to co-opt a member of The Club to fill such vacancy until the following AGM

(d) There will be no objection to any past Captain being nominated as Captain or Vice-Captain in a future year

7(a). Management

The Club shall be managed by the Bowls Committee in all matters affecting The Club whether or not provided for in these Rules, but subject always to

i) a decision at an Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary General Meeting called under the provisions of Rule 7b, to overturn such Committee decisions, or

ii) to any overriding decision by the General Committee of The Parent Club

7(b). Emergency Management

In the event that a Committee feels itself to be in an untenable position and tenders its complete resignation (or sufficient members resign so as to prevent the achievement of a quorum as detailed in clause 6a), any Member of the Club is empowered to volunteer via the Chairman of the outgoing committee to create an Emergency Committee without recourse to normal voting rules in order to continue the management of the Club, provided that the Emergency Committee does not hold office for more than thirteen calendar months without recourse to the normal democratic process and rules governing the Club. Should more than one person volunteer for the same office within the Emergency Committee then the Emergency Committee shall call an EGM to resolve the matter through a proper vote as soon as is practicable.

8(a). Annual General Meeting (AGM)

i) An Annual General Meeting of Members shall be held during the close season but before 31st December in each year. Twenty-eight days' notice of the meeting shall be given to each Member. Twenty Members to form a quorum.

ii) Items to be considered and voted on at an AGM should be submitted in writing at least 14 days prior to the meeting signed by a proposer and seconder in order that sufficient time may be allotted to discussing such item in the agenda.

'iii) In the event that an AGM is not attended by sufficient members to form a quorum, it will be deemed that the outgoing Committee, subject to the agreement of the individual officers and player members of the committee, will automatically be appointed for the coming year in order to continue the management of the Club.

8(b). Extra-Ordinary General Meeting (EGM)

An EGM may be convened by the Bowls Committee or at the request of no fewer than 20 Playing members who shall specify the proposed business for such a meeting. A minimum of fourteen days' notice of the meeting shall be given to each Member. Twenty Members to form a quorum. Only the business for which the EGM was called may be discussed and voted on.

9(a). Bowls Committee Meetings

Meetings shall take place at such times and as often as may be necessary for the efficient management of the Club but typically on the first Monday of each month. Fourteen days' notice of Bowls Committee Meetings shall be posted on The Club Notice Board and on The Club website to enable any members of The Club to submit in writing to the Hon. Secretary any matters, complaints or suggestions which the Member may wish the Bowls Committee to consider at its next meeting.

9(b). Minutes of Committee Meetings

Minutes of a Committee Meeting shall be posted on the notice board and website once they have been agreed as a fair and accurate record of the business conducted at that meeting. This will normally take place at the following meeting, hence there may be a delay in the publication of such minutes. The Committee will identify any matters requiring confidentiality and these will be redacted in the published versions e.g. legal matters or personal privacy

10. Administration

The Hon Secretary shall keep a record of all business transacted at all meetings and shall submit a report of the season's activities to each AGM.

11. Financial Statement

The Treasurer shall render at the AGM. a statement of Income and Expenditure for the past year, reviewed and signed by a Club Member who is not a member of the Bowls Committee and who is elected for this purpose at the previous year's AGM. If the position of Financial Reviewer is not filled at the AGM, then the provisions of rule 6c shall apply i.e. co-opting by the Committee. A copy of the Statement shall be available to all members at the AGM.

12. Notices

Except where these Rules otherwise require, any Notice posted on The Club Notice Boards/Club website shall be deemed to be sufficient notice to all members.

13. Team Selection

(a) A Selection Committee consisting of the Captain and Vice-Captain and one other committee member will be responsible for all team selections. They may delegate this responsibility for any reason e.g. to the responsible Team Captains. Handicapping and competition arrangements shall be carried out by a Sub-Committee appointed by the Bowls Committee. Not less than two members shall undertake these duties at any one time.

(b) **Team Selection Substitutions** The Club pursues a policy of playing in external leagues and competitions to win. This means that team selections will be based on choosing the best team possible to achieve that aim. Should a chosen member of a team entered into a league or competition be unable to play, a reserve or substitute will be asked to step in on a temporary basis until the prior selected player is able to resume their place in the team.

14. Club Competitions

(a) Club Competitions shall be arranged in accordance with the wishes of a majority of members at an AGM. Competitors shall be advised of final dates by which the various rounds of Club Competitions must be played by means of the Notice of the draws displayed on the Notice Board.

(b) The "Challengers" (be it a single competitor or a team) will be the competitors or team whose names appear first in the draw. They must offer opponents a choice of three reasonable dates for playing the fixture as early as possible after publication of the draw. Failure to do so may result in the elimination of the Challenger. If either Competitor or team fails to appear on the green within 30 minutes of the time mutually agreed, the competitor or team present may claim the game. In singles games, the Challenger shall be responsible for the provision of a marker and reservation of a rink in the reservation diary in the Pavilion.

(c) **Finals Weekend** shall be arranged at the discretion of the Bowls Committee and all finals shall be played on the days and times to be arranged by the Bowls Committee except that: -

(i) If a Member has qualified for more than two finals, it may be necessary to distribute the matches over the Saturday and the Sunday.

(ii) If the green is not fit for play, The Bowls Committee shall make alternative arrangements.

(iii) Any member who reaches a Club Final must accept a firm commitment to honour their obligation to The Club by making themselves available to play their matches on Finals Day at such times as may be decided by the Bowls Committee when preparing the programme for the day subject to (i) and (ii) above. If any member is unable to commit to attendance at the allocated Finals Weekend timing, then they must not enter the competition.

(d) Handicap Games

The Committee will from time to time decide on how the handicap competitions are devised and operated. The handicap rules will be notified at the start of each season.

(e) Roll ups.

(i) After a reasonable time e.g. 21 ends, players should leave the green if other members are waiting to play.

(ii) Members are requested at all times to help and advise new members on matters of protocol, etiquette, rules and game playing.

(f) Umbrellas/Drives

(i) Members must join the list at least 15 minutes before the advertised starting time. Members failing to do so will only be invited to play if required to make up equality of numbers

(ii) The format for play will be decided by a committee member or event organiser when the list is closed and the number of participants is known.

15. Outside Competitions Rink Reservations.

(a) Because of pressure on the Club's green due to increased membership, the only outside competitions for which rinks may be booked on the green involving play after 6:00pm during the months of May, June and July will be the National Competitions of Bowls England and those under the organisation of the K.C.B.A. (including the Cox Cup) and the L.& S.C.B.A. At the discretion of the Committee, other competitions may be permitted to be played if viewed as being of benefit to the Club's standing.

(b) A reservation Diary is kept in the Pavilion. No rinks additional to those shown available for reservation may be reserved without the authority of the Bowls Committee. As far as practicable, one rink will be available for roll-ups in the evenings, When the draw for the Kent County matches exceeds the number of home rinks available then the home rinks will be allocated by the Bowls Committee by ballot. These allocations shall not be varied except by consent of the Bowls Committee.

16. Club Matches

(a) Notices of all matches and other events available to members shall appear on the notice board. Names of members selected for play and other duties will appear on the notice board as early as possible before the date of play, those members selected shall initial the team sheet in acknowledgement.

(b) Members selected for games shall be ready to play not less than 15 minutes before the advertised start of play. Players not ready at this time will be substituted by the selected reserve player.

(c) Members will ensure that in all matches, competitions or other events arranged by and representing The Club, the bowls used by them in these games will bear the Sidcup Bowls Club identification sticker only, on each side of the bowls as appropriate.

17. The Green.

- (a) The Green Ranger, as part of the Club Bowls Committee, liaises with the Parent Club's Grounds Committee when required. Work in connection with the Green must not be carried out without the Green Ranger's express authority.
- (b) The decision of the Green Ranger or, in the event of his absence, a responsible member of the Bowls Committee, as to the fitness of the green for play and for the time at which play shall cease shall be final.
- (c) Members shall at all times take every care to avoid damage to the green. Members observed damaging the green consistently due to faulty delivery will, after due warning, be reported to the Bowls Committee and may be suspended from play until their delivery has been modified with the assistance from someone put forward by the Committee as able to provide coaching advice.
- (d) The preservation of a good playing surface is everyone's responsibility. Members can ensure this by:
 - i) Using nets provided when the need arises or when required by the Committee or Green Keeper
 - ii) Returning all equipment to the bowls equipment shed after use in good order
- (e) Utilisation of the Green.
 - (i) The green will be available for play from 10:00am each day unless the green is closed for general maintenance work.
 - (ii) All matches and drives will be played at times according to the fixture card.
 - (iii) To even out wear on the green the direction of play on the rinks will change weekly and moved to the different coloured rink markers daily as specified by the programme listed within the Bowls pavilion. It is the responsibility of the first player on the Green each day to move the rink markers as required.
 - (iv) The last player leaving the Green each day at any time of day is responsible for closing the gate of the anti-fox fence and switching on of the power to the fence. The first player on the Green each day will be responsible for switching the anti-fox fence off and opening the gate to the Green. Instructions on how to do this will be posted on the equipment shed.
 - (v) The last member to leave the Bowls Pavilion is responsible for ensuring that all lights are switched off, that the pavilion and visitor's hut are securely locked and that the keys are returned to their designated locations

18. Club Etiquette.

- (a) **Clothing.** When selected to represent the club in matches, all members will wear the club shirt with white or grey trousers/shorts/skirts as stipulated by the relevant governing organisation. For weekend matches, white trousers/shorts/skirts will be worn on the green. For weekday matches (unless otherwise stipulated) grey trousers/shorts/skirts may be worn. White shirts featuring a logo may be used provided it is of modest proportion and does not represent an overt brand advertisement. The committee retain the right to judge a shirt to be unacceptable within these rules.
- (b) **Footware.** While it is not now a BE requirement to wear branded bowling shoes, any shoes used for playing **must** have a totally flat sole, be appropriate for bowls use but can be of any colour. Casual street shoes and trainers are not acceptable. Shoes worn in the street must not be used on the Green. Any use of inappropriate footwear is done at the users own risk and will render the user personally liable for any injury or damage incurred.
- (c) **Behaviour** The Parent Club Rules apply equally to The Club and will be enforced by action of the Bowls Committee or the Parent Club as is deemed appropriate. This particularly applies to Foul language, Racism and Sexual Harassment. Smoking on the Green is not allowed but smokers may smoke in one of the four corners of the Green provided it does not affect players in the immediate vicinity when all rinks are in use. Drinking alcohol on the Green is not permitted.

19. Visitors

Members are requested to introduce non-Sidcup Bowls members only when the green is not in great demand and are reminded that they may only bowl once in every 7 days with a maximum of 6 visits in any one season. Details of each visitor should be entered in the visitor's book, available in the Pavilion. All visitors to the green must be accompanied by a Bowls Section member who will be directly responsible for the observance of the rules and the protection of the Green during play. The appropriate fees are to be collected by the introducing member as follows:

- (a) Members of Sidcup Recreation Club who are not members of the Bowls Section - No fee for first two bowls, thereafter £5.
- (b) Non-SRC members £5:00

Fees to be put into the Green Fees box located in the Pavilion. These charges do not apply to potential applicants for membership who are offered a free trial of bowling.

20. New members. New members accepted into The Club will:

- (a) Be subject to a formal induction process that informs them of the protocols and etiquette applying to the game and also guidance on the rules and advice on playing.
- (b) New members will be required to take part in at least two coaching sessions before taking part in umbrellas and roll ups. If additional coaching is deemed to be required the new player will be informed.

21. Revision of Rules.

No alteration or additions to these Rules shall be made except by a majority of members at an AGM. or at an EGM convened for the purpose. Notices of Motion or suggestions in connection with these Rules shall be given, in writing, to the Hon. Secretary not less than 28 days prior to the date of the AGM

22. Data Protection The Parent Club, and therefore The Club, is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). All data of members is held on file for membership and communication purposes only. Further information is available from www.ico.org.uk. In the case of The Club, member data is held securely by The Secretary.

23. Adoption.

These Rules supersede all Rules and Resolutions passed at previous meetings of The Club