

CLEVELAND BOWLS LEAGUE

FOUNDED 1921

Updated 11 January 2023

LEAGUE RULES

Evening Rules – 1982; Afternoon Rules 1984; **Last amended 2023**

1. This amalgamation of clubs shall be called the **Cleveland Bowls League** and shall consist of clubs in the Cleveland district. There is no Constitution for the League, only these set of League Rules.
2. General Meetings may be held when necessary. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held during November, when the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer for the year shall be elected.

The President shall have the casting vote. The three other Officers elected at the AGM, together with **four** representatives from various clubs shall constitute a Committee to manage the League business. This Committee shall therefore consist of **seven** people in addition to the President.

3. The Secretary shall convene Committee Meetings at any time it is deemed necessary. The Committee shall have the power to deal with any offending Club(s) or Player(s) as it thinks fit and shall also have the power to deal with all matters arising out of competitions connected with the League not provided in the rules. See Rule 14.
4. An entrance fee of £10.00 shall be paid by a Club on admission to the League. The Annual subscription payable by each Club shall be **£10.00 for the Evening League** and **£5.00 for the Afternoon League**, payable at the pre-season meeting.
5. For the purpose of the League Championship, match points shall be awarded as follows:
 - 2 points for each rink win
 - 1 point for each rink draw
 - 2 points for the long game
 - 1 point for each team for the long game being drawn
6. Clubs to play home and away matches.
7. In the case of a tie for the top position involving two or more clubs, the team with the higher shot difference will win.

8. **Evening League** (amended Rules for start of 2023)

- Evening League (Tuesday and Friday) – shall consist of 4 rinks of 3 players with **3 Woods** (with teams being Men, Ladies or Mixed)

All leagues shall be **one shot on the first 2 ends** (No practice), a centered jack, no touchers and **18 ends**. No recognized dead ends - other than driving the **jack** over the rink boundary, these ends are to be replayed. A jack driven in to the ditch and remaining within the rink boundary shall remain **“live”** in position for the rest of the end and be played to.

The lead player in the first and each subsequent end shall place the Mat on the Centre line of the rink with the front end in a position between **2 metres and 6 metres** forward of the rear edge of the rink.

The lead Player of the team which is first to play shall bowl the jack from the mat.

If the jack travels in to the ditch, stops outside the boundary of the rink, or is less than **23 metres** from the front end of the mat after being straightened, then the opposing side shall bowl the jack anew. But, **shall not** bowl first.

After both teams have attempted to cast the jack, the jack will be placed on the spot 2 metres from the edge of the ditch.

9. If any rink or rinks field only 2 players, then both players will play 4 woods. In this situation, if their opponents have a full team of 3 players, then player 1 and 2 will bowl their 3 woods but the skip only bowls 2 woods. Thereby each team will deliver a total of **8 woods** on an end but the team with only 2 players shall forfeit **25%** of their score at the **end** of the match (from the time they played as only 2 players).
10. Players may play for two different clubs in a season (one in the afternoon league and another different team in the evening league) but no player is to play for more than one team in any league in that one season.
11. **Afternoon League:** (Introduced 1984 – amended rules 2020)
- Afternoon League (Monday and Wednesday) – shall consist of 2 rinks of 3 players with **3 Woods** played over **18 ends**.
 - Team entries are open to members of Clubs affiliated to the Cleveland Bowls League. Entries limited to a maximum of 2 teams per club.
 - Each team shall consist of 6 players, comprising of 2 rinks of 3 players (Men, Ladies or Mixed). Rinks must compete with 3 players, each bowling 3 woods. If a rink fields only two players, that rink shall revert to Cleveland Bowls League Rule 9. Ie. 2 players play 3 woods each, but in this case shall forfeit **a third** of its shot score. Their opponents with 3 players, play 2 woods each.

- Matches will be on a home and away basis, played as afternoon games.
- Games will be played **over 18 ends**. Match points shall be as follows:
 - 2 points for each rink win
 - 1 point for each rink draw
 - 2 points for the long game
 - 1 point for each team for the long game being drawn
- With the above exceptions, Cleveland Bowl League rules apply.

12. **ALL LEAGUES**

- All games shall be played as arranged on the fixture list. If by reason of weather a fixture is not completed but 15 ends have been played, the score at 15 ends on all rinks shall constitute a game. If **15 ends** have not been completed, then the match shall be classed as 'void' and replayed.
- Any match which by reason of bad weather, Ground condition or other serious problems, cannot be played on the date fixed, it should be re-arranged, with both teams making every effort to re-arrange the game before the end of the Season.
- If a team fails to re-arrange the game by the end of the season, the opponents will receive an average for the date of the cancelled game.

13. **Postponed Games** – if a Cleveland League match (Afternoon or Evening) is postponed for any reason (or abandoned part way through), this **MUST** be notified to the Fixtures Secretary as soon as possible, using the input on the Cleveland League website (bit.ly/clevhome).

14. Customary Dress for all CBL League games and Competitions is **grey** below the waist, with predominantly white above the waist or coloured Club team shirts may be worn provided these are identical and worn by **ALL** Members of the team. Ladies may wear either grey skirts or grey trousers/shorts.

15. A match result card is to be completed by each team and signed by both captains.

- Rink score cards are to be filled in by the **2nd** Wood in each CBL rink.
- Return match results should be added by **both teams**, to the Cleveland League website by the Sunday evening following that weeks' Mon – Fri games.

Website link: **bit.ly/clevhome**

Any query or dispute arising in relation to CBL games and not covered by CBL Rules, shall, if possible, be dealt with and settled by skips / team captains. Otherwise, guidance should be sought by reference to Bowls England – Domestic Regulations. See also Rule 3 above.

16. **Voting** - At the Annual General Meeting (AGM), any voting that is required specifically, regarding the Afternoon or Evening League, can **only be made** by those Clubs who have participated in that league ie Teams who only play in the Afternoon League **cannot vote** on Evening League proposals and vice versa.
17. No alterations shall be made to these Rules except via agreement at an Annual General Meeting.
18. Any proposed alteration should be received by the Secretary **in writing** no later than **3 weeks** before the AGM.

Secretary: clevelandleague.sec@gmail.com