

OSSETT, HORBURY AND DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION Amended 2026

BYE LAW 1 TITLE

The Association shall be called the "Ossett, Horbury and District Bowling Association" The Headquarters shall be Horbury Working Men's Club

BYE LAW 2 AIMS

The object of the Association shall be to further the game of bowls in the district and to promote League, Individual Merits, Pairs Merit and Challenge Cup Competition amongst member clubs.

BYE LAW 3 ADMINISTRATION

a) The Association shall be governed by its own rules and where silent, those of the Yorkshire County CGBA.

b) **The Officers of the Association** shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting to be held in February each year. Officers shall comprise of President, 7 Vice Presidents, Secretary, Fixture Secretary, Competition Secretary, Treasurer and a Committee consisting of one representative from each team in the League. A quorum will be 7 persons present.

c) **The Presidents duties.** To ensure all business is conducted in a proper and efficient manner. He/she shall be authorised to act and make decisions in between meetings where it is deemed necessary. On occasions when there is a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote.

d) **Vice Presidents duties.** To deputise for the President in his absence and also support other Officers where necessary.

e) **Secretary.** To carry out secretarial duties including maintenance of all records.

f) **Fixture Secretary.** To plan fixtures, keep records of matches played and prepare league tables.

g) **Competition Secretary.** To run the Beverley Cup and John Salmon Competitions and to receive entries for and run the Merit Competitions including the Finals.

h) **Treasurer.** To make payments and receive monies on behalf of the Association. Preparation of and presentation of the annual Balance sheet.

i) **Auditors.** To audit income and expenditure each season and certify' where correct the balance sheet.

BYE LAW 4 FINANCE AND PAYMENT OF FEES.

a) The Secretary, Fixture Secretary, Competition Secretary, Treasurer and Auditors to receive **contractual expenses** for their services, the amount to be decided at each AGM.

b) **The financial year** shall close on the 31st December each year. Any Club failing to complete payments due to the Association by this date shall incur a 10 pound fine.

c) **The accounts of the Association** shall be audited annually by two auditors elected at the Annual General Meeting.

d) **The League fees and League Levies** decided at an AGM shall be paid not later than 1st of May each year; failure to pay by the due date shall incur a 5 pound fine, Contributions to include any overdue fines.

e) After one week's grace if the fees and fine are not paid, the team is to be expelled.

BYE LAW 5 MEETINGS.

a) An Annual General Meeting should be held in February each year.

b) The Secretary will decide dates of League Meetings in accordance with the requirements of the League and Challenge Competitions.

c) The Secretary shall convene a Special General Meeting at any time on receiving a request signed by the President of the Association or by the Secretaries of at least two Clubs in the Association.

BYE LAW 6 ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS.

a) Any Club not represented at the Annual General meeting shall incur a 5 pound fine.

b) Any Club not represented at a League Meeting shall incur a 5 pound fine.

BYE LAW 7 ALTERATIONS TO RULES.

No Bye Law or League Rule shall be altered or rescinded or added to without the consent of the Committee; such notice of any proposed change to be notified to the Secretary in writing signed by the Secretaries of at least two Clubs in the Association at least 14 days before the Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting. At least two thirds of those present and entitled to vote are required to alter, rescind or add to the Constitution. League Rules simple majority required.

BYE LAW 8 MEMBERSHIPS.

a) Membership for existing clubs to be considered at every Annual General Meeting along with any new applications. New applicants must be using a green within a seven mile radius of Horbury WM Club, the headquarters of the Association.

b) A condition of membership is observance of the rules of the Association.

c) Applications for membership and resignations must be submitted to the Secretary not later than 31st January each year.

d) Life members may be elected at an Annual General Meeting.

e) It is a condition of membership that a Club makes their green available if required by the Association for Competitions that require a neutral green even if that Club has no entries in that Competition.

Any Club failing to make their green and facilities available for use when selected shall incur a £10 fine.

f) Any club not represented at the prize giving presentation, will forfeit any moneys won which shall be donated to a local charity to be agreed upon at a committee meeting.

BYE LAW 9 CESSATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Should it become evident that the Association can no longer function in accordance with its aims, the Secretary shall convene a Special General Meeting of Member Clubs. If two thirds of those present and eligible to vote, decide to dissolve the Association, any assets remaining after all liabilities have been met, shall be distributed amongst member Clubs. The formula for

distribution to be decided at that meeting. Any funds not distributed amongst member Clubs shall be forwarded to the Yorkshire County Crown Green Bowling Association for

FORMATION AND MANAGEMENT OF LEAGUES.

- 1) The League shall be managed by a Committee of the Association consisting of the Officers plus one representative from each team competing in the League, each one to have a vote.
- 2) The League shall consist of up to 10 teams per division in the Premier to Division 4, if there are not enough teams to make an additional division up to 12 teams will be allowed in Division 5 & 6. However the association will only consist of up to a maximum of 8 divisions.
- 3) All teams entering the League shall be divided into divisions. On completion of each season the two bottom teams in each division shall be relegated to the next lower division and the two top teams in each division shall be promoted to the next higher division.
- 4) New teams wishing to join the league must give an assurance that they will regularly fulfil their fixtures on the scheduled dates; if not, they shall not be accepted.
- 5) The League games shall be 8 players per side and the games 21 up.
- 6) A and B team matches to be played on Thursdays. 'C' and 'D' team home matches shall be played on Tuesdays. C& D team home green must be available every Tuesday if club only has one bowling green. From the start of 2023 season **new** C & D will only be accepted if they play their home matches on a Thursday.
- 7) Matches to commence at 6.30 pm until 30th April and after 15th August. Matches played between 30th April and 15th August to commence at 6-45pm, with the exception that teams with lights may with the agreement of the away team arrange for the games to commence at 6-45pm.
- 8) No practice is allowed by the visiting team who shall have the jack. 10 minutes grace only will be given to an absent player from the time a jack becomes available.
- 9) ORDER OF PLAY A representative of each team shall decide the order of play for his players and number their cards from 1 to 8. The draw for each game is made by exchanging names in that sequence. Where a team has 7 players, their cards will be numbered from 1 to 7 and the walk over (21-0) will appear at number 8.

REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS.

- 10) Each Club must send in a list at least 7 days prior to the start of the season of players who will represent their club in the new season. The list should include the relevant BCGBA identity number.
- 11) Any new additions throughout the season should be notified to the Secretary 7 days before they play in their first match.
- 12) Each player must be a paid member of the Club and be included on the registration form sent each year to the Yorkshire County Registrar.
- 13) The Association can reject the registration of a player if it has good reason to do so.
- 14) No player shall be allowed to bowl for more than one League Club in any one season.
- 15) Any Player suspended by a Club shall not be allowed to play in any match or competition run by the Association until the period of suspension has expired.
- 16) Ladies are eligible to bowl in any competition promoted by the Association.
- 17) No players to be registered after 31st July in each year except in exceptional circumstances, the Management to have the final decision.

STARRED PLAYERS

18) Starred players to be decided on the previous year player averages by the secretary. In acceptable circumstances a club may request to change certain players before the start of the season.

Where a Club has two teams - The A team must have 4 players starred who may only play for the A team, the rest of the players may play for either the A or B team.

Where a Club has three teams- The A team must have 4 players starred who may only play for the A team (Mark, Josh, Jack & Chris.), the rest of the A team may only play for the A or B team. **Once a player has played for the A team they cannot play for the C team** The B team must have 4 players starred who may not play for the C team. (Liz, Lee, Graham & Sam.)

Where a Club has four teams - The A team must have 4 players starred who may only play for the A team, the rest of the A team may only play for the A or B team. **Once a player has played for the A team they cannot play for the C or D teams.**

The B team must have 4 players starred who may not play for the C team. **Once a player has played for the B team they cannot play for the D team.**

The C team must have 4 players starred who may not play for the D team.

19) Where a Club enters 2 or more teams into the Leagues, the A team cannot postpone any matches except for inclement weather. Pulling up players from the B team may mean that the B has to postpone their match and their opponents must be notified of any such change more than 24 hours before their fixture date. The non-postponement rule also applies to a B team where they can draw players from a C team and similarly where there is a C and a D team.

20) Club Outings and Internal Competitions are not valid reasons for postponing a scheduled league match. Holidays and certain players not being available are also not valid reasons.

21) None of the above prevents a team from bringing forward a fixture if the opponents are in agreement.

22) Where a match is postponed, the Home Team must, within 7 days of the scheduled date, notify the Secretary of the postponement. Failure to do so, a fine of £5 will be levied.

23) The non-offending Club (the team able to play) MUST offer 3 separate dates on varying days within a 28 day period of the fixture date for completion of the game. Failure to do so, a fine of £5 will be levied.

24) If the Club who postponed the fixture cannot agree on a date and the match is not played within the 28 days, they shall be fined £10.

25) A match not played within 28 days of the original fixture date, becomes null and void (for clarification the responsibility rests with the team that failed to fulfil the original fixture to ensure the game can be played). The team who could have completed to receive points based on their home and away average at the time (whichever applies). The offending team to receive 84 points

26) At the end of the season all games must be completed within 7 days after the last fixtures date set by the Secretary.

27) Where a match is postponed because of weather conditions, the home team becomes the non-offending team for the purposes of re-arranging the fixture.

28) That all fixtures once started, should be completed in full (8 games) on the night and not split into different days. Unless inclement weather prevents the fixture being completed in which case the teams concerned should agree to play on a different date bearing in mind the rules governing postponements.

SUBMISSION OF RESULTS AND COMPILATION OF LEAGUE TABLES.

- 1) The home team shall be responsible for ensuring that the results are recorded accurately on Bowlsnet within 48 hours of completion of the match. The away team is responsible for verifying the score within 7 days of the of the match
- 2) Objections to the result of a match shall be made in writing to the Secretary within 3 days after the fixed date of the match. The Disputes Committee shall adjudicate after the objection.
- 3) The method of compiling the League Table shall be as follows:-
 - i) All matches shall be decided on aggregate points.
 - ii) Where a match not played is awarded to a team, the number of points for inclusion in the League Table shall be decided by the Disputes Committee.
 - iii) Where teams finish with equal points 'for' in the league, to decide which team is placed highest the following shall apply;
 - iv) The Team with the lowest points 'against' shall be highest if still equal
 - v) The team winning most league games shall be the highest. If still equal
 - vi) The team winning most individual games shall be the highest.

COMPETITION AND CHALLENGE CUP RULES.

- 1) Matches shall be played on neutral greens on dates nominated by the Committee. Matches must be played on the nominated dates. Matches commence at 6.30 pm
- 2) Matches shall be played on a handicap basis, Handicap to be determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- 3) The entrance fee shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting.
- 4) Rule 3 of the Yorkshire County Green Bowling Association Competition Rules are amended to provide for situations that arise where a bowler is a registered player/member of more than one Club. In the Beverley Cup and John Salmon Trophy, one player only can play in a match where his/her Ossett, Horbury team is drawn on a neutral green where he/she also happens to be a registered player/member. This would apply where the Club has a team playing in another local League. Where there is more than one player with dual membership, the Club where this applies must apply to the organiser of the competition for a change of venue if they cannot otherwise field a team from their normal playing strength.
- 5) No practice or play shall be permitted on the drawn green by any player in the 7 days prior to the Cup match (including immediately prior to the commencement of the match) except where he is required to play in a scheduled League match of this Association or another local League, or is drawn to play on that green in a bona fide competition run by this Association or other local League.
- 6) A representative of each team shall decide the order of play for his players and number their cards from 1 to 8. The draw for each game is made by exchanging names in that sequence. Where a team has 7 players, their cards will be numbered from 1 to 7 and the walk over (2 1-0) will appear at number 8.
- 7) Alternate jack rule to apply. As soon as a jack becomes available, the next game according to the draw shall commence. For the purposes of this rule, five minutes grace is allowed for the nominated player or a reserve to take his place on the green. After five minutes has elapsed from when the jack is made available, the player not at the Start forfeits his game.
- 8) Result of the match is decided on aggregate score.

9) If the match ends in a tie, Captains must nominate 4 players from each side who have already taken part to play again off half the handicap. The 4 games, on completion, shall stand as a definite result. If the match is still a tie, light permitting, the remaining four players who have taken part in the match to play receiving the other half of the handicap. Captains to make arrangements if completion is not possible on the night to revisit the green and complete the fixture.

10) The results of each match to be entered by the winning team on Bowlsnet and verified by the losing team

11) Any Club failing to make their green and facilities available for use when selected shall incur a £10 fine.

12) Squads for a Cup Team should be based on the League Team members for whom the handicap is given. A player must be a bowling member of the entered club and must not have played a League Match for another Club in a current League run by this Association.

A player shall not be allowed to bowl for more than one team during a season in the cup competition, except that a member who is a regular B, C or D player may play for a higher team in a later round; but having played up cannot revert to the lower team. No player can play for two club cup teams on the same night. No doubling up.

For the semi-finals and the Final of the Cup competitions, a player must have played 5 or more League Matches.

13) Any team found to have played an ineligible player shall be disqualified from the Competition.

14) All qualifiers for a Final shall be smartly dressed in accordance with Rule 25 of the British Crown Green Bowling Association and Rule 13 of the Yorkshire Crown Green Bowling Association Competition Rules.

15) Any competitor not attending on a Finals Day will forfeit any prize monies he / she may be entitled to for reaching the Final. Any Player not present on the Finals Day of a competition shall be automatically barred from taking part in that competition in the following year unless such absence has been accepted by the Committee.

MERIT AND HANDICAP

1) Bona fide registered playing members of Clubs in membership of the Association shall be eligible to compete in Merits organised by the Ossett, Horbury and District Bowling Association.

2) They must be in possession of a BCGBA membership card and be able to produce their unique membership number.

3) Where a player is a member of more than 1 Club in membership of the Association, he/she can enter from either provided that he/she is a registered player of one of the Clubs.

4) Entrants must declare all Clubs that they are members of indicating whether they are a playing member (in any League run by a bona fide League/Association) or just a social member, not playing on the green.

5) In the Individual Merit no player can be substituted or added after a Draw has been made.

6) No practising is allowed on any green chosen as a venue for the preliminaries and final of the competition. Any player found to have contravened this rule will be disqualified and if already played, his/her score amended to 0-21.

7) A player called upon to play in a Match fixed by the Association or any other recognised Bowling League/ Association shall not be considered to be practising by taking part in that Match.

8) Competitors having a bye and due to play an opponent who has already played on the day, shall be allowed to practice for up to 10 minutes with 1 set of bowls.

9) In the Pairs, 1 substitute before the start of the competition will be allowed. Should the sub and partner win they must continue throughout the competition as a Pair.

10) Pairs entrants should be from the same Club. The only exception to this is husband and wife, both playing members of the Association, siblings, long term partner. These exceptions have to be considered by the President and Vice Presidents before the draws are made.

11) Where these rules are silent, Yorkshire County Crown Green Bowling Association Rules apply.