



St Albans and District Ladies Bowling Association  
GENERAL COMPETITION RULES - effective from 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025

1.	The Officers' Singles is open to each club's Secretary, Treasurer, President, Captain, Competition Secretary, Fixture/Match Secretary, Vice-Captain, SADLBA Officers, Executive Delegates & Selection Delegates.
2.	The time for commencing a match shall be mutually agreed, but no player/team/side shall be compelled to accept a time earlier than 6.00 pm Monday to Friday or 9.30am on a Saturday or Sunday, nor later than 6.30pm on any day.
3.	Competitors may refuse to accept a date for the next round if it is prior to the closing date of the previous round.
4.	A draw for the rink(s) to be played on shall be made in accordance with Bowls England Regulations and the latest edition of the Laws of the Sport Crystal Mark produced by World Bowls, i.e. for all competitions requiring one rink at a venue ( <b>Singles, Pairs, Aussie Pairs, Triples, Triples League, Rinks League and Double Rink</b> ) a minimum of 2 rinks must be offered in the draw. The draw must involve tokens representing the rinks on offer and be 'blind'.
5.	All results ( <b>including walkovers</b> ) must be emailed or texted to the appropriate Competition Secretary as soon as possible.
6.	<b>Play by Date competitions:</b> Championship Singles, Champion of Champions, Officers' Singles & Pairs: The player whose name is printed first on the list of competitors is the Challenger and must contact her opponent within 2 days of the closing date of the previous round and offer 3 dates. <u>One of these dates must be accepted or the opponent forfeits the game.</u> Dates offered must not include Bank Holidays (unless by mutual agreement), a St Albans and District Match Day, a County Match Day, or a County Fixed Date Competition Day if <u>any</u> of the competitors have made themselves available for the District/County match, or are still involved in a County Fixed Date competition. Opponents must reply within three days.
7.	<b>Fixed Date Competitions:</b> Australian Pairs, Triples, Double Rink: Matches are to be played on fixed dates, but may be played earlier by mutual agreement. The Challenger must contact the opponent within 1 day of the previous round to offer and agree a time for the next round.
8.	<b>It is a condition of entry that competitors are available for the published dates of both semi-final days, finals day and finals reserve day.</b> In competitions with more than a single player, the players who play in the first round constitute the team. Substitutions to be allowed providing they are not already part of a team entered for that competition. They can sub for more than one team, but for one round only in any position. Should they be required to sub for more than one round then they become part of that team and remain in the competition. <b>The team that wins the semi-final will play in the final, including any substitute that played in the semi-final. In the event of a substitute being used the Competition Secretary must be informed before the game.</b>
9.	If a player leaves the green for any reason for more than 10 minutes, the game is conceded.
10.	A game given is a game played and no member from the team that gives the game may substitute in any other team.
11.	All disputes to be settled by the Competition Secretary, whose decision is final.

### Australian Pairs

1.	As Rule 7 and 8. in GENERAL COMPETITION RULES.
2.	<p><u>How to Play</u> - Say Team A are playing Team B. The rotation of bowls is as follows:-            First End - Player A1 bowls his first 2 bowls in turn with Player B1. Players A1 &amp; B1 then go to the head whilst their partners A2 &amp; B2 go to the mat and bowl their 4 bowls in turn. Players A2 &amp; B2 then go back to the head while A1 &amp; B1 return to the mat and complete the end bowling their last 2 bowls in turn.            Second End - the roles are reversed whereby players A2 &amp; B2 (depending on who won the end) start the end with their first 2 bowls.</p>
3.	<p><u>Structure of the Game</u> - Matches are 2 sets of a maximum 7 ends (9 ends played in the Finals). If each team wins one set, a tie-break will be played. Tie-breaks are the best of 3 ends in which winning the end counts, not shots, i.e. 2 ends to nil or two ends to one. In the case of one end being won by each pair and a tied end occurring, an extra end should be played to give a clear winner in the tie break set. (Toss again).</p>
4.	<p><u>Scoring</u> - two points for winning a set, one point for drawing a set and one point for winning a tie-break end.</p>
5.	<p><u>Rules</u> - no visiting the head (except for the finals)            - no trial ends (except for the finals)            - one shot on first end (except for the finals)            - the team losing the toss at the start of the match may keep or give away the mat at the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> set.            - if a tie break is necessary teams will toss (opponents toss - challenger calls) for control of the mat. The winner of the toss can choose whether to keep or give away the mat in the first tie-break end. Subsequent ends follow normal sequence of play.            - once the match starts the order of players and play sequence must not be changed. The match includes tie-break ends.</p>

### Inter-Club Triples League

1.	The Competition will consist of triples matches, 16 ends, played between all entered Clubs. All ends to be played. Each club will be allocated to one of two sections. A play off between the winners of the two sections will take place on Finals Day.
2.	Matches will consist of two Triples, one home and one away on fixed date Fridays. Start time to be 5.30pm or by mutual agreement between participating clubs with regard to General Rule 2. <b>SCORING:</b> 2 points for a home win and 2 points for an away win, plus 2 points for an overall win. Ties in each case will be 1 point each. A total of 6 points for each match.
3.	Teams will be by Club selection for each round.
4.	After each round, final scores for both rinks (home and away) must be emailed or texted to the Assistant Competition Secretary by one person from each Club. Photos of score cards sent by email or WhatsApp are acceptable. Both Clubs should retain their own score cards, signed by both skips, which will be used for reference if there is a discrepancy in the reported results.
5.	If it is known beforehand that a green is unavailable, or not fit for play both triples may play at the same venue otherwise the whole match, home and away, must be rearranged. If a game is abandoned due to weather conditions, it should be restarted where the original game was finished. Trial ends allowed. A date for a rearranged or abandoned match must be by mutual agreement and <b>the Assistant Competition Secretary must be informed of the revised date.</b> The final date for completing all rearranged matches is at the discretion of the Assistant Competition Secretary. If the original players are not available, substitutes are allowed and may play in any position.
6.	If either team fails to attend a match, or rearrange an unplayed match before the final date as decided by the Assistant Competition Secretary, then the other will be declared the winner and will receive 6 points and 6 shots and the defaulting team will receive zero points and lose 6 shots.

### **Inter Club Double Rink**

1.	As Rule 7. in GENERAL COMPETITION RULES.
2.	This competition will be played on a straight knock-out basis.
3.	The competition to be drawn from entered Clubs.
4.	Teams to be chosen by Club selection for each round and will consist of two teams of four players playing 18 ends, one team at home and one away at the same time. All ends to be played.
5.	The first named club to play an extra end at home to count in the event of a tie.
6.	Each round shall be played on a fixed date. Start times to be by mutual agreement between participating clubs. Rounds can be played earlier by mutual agreement. After each round, the final scores for both rinks (home and away) to be emailed, texted, to the Competition Secretary. Both Clubs should retain their own score cards, signed by both skips, which will be used for reference if there is a discrepancy in the reported results.
7.	If the closing of the green at either venue prevents play, both rinks may play at the same venue. If a game is abandoned due to weather conditions, it should be restarted where the original game was finished. Trial ends allowed. A date for a rearranged or abandoned match must be by mutual agreement and before the next fixed date round. <b>The Assistant Competition Secretary must be informed of the revised date.</b> If the original players are not available, substitutes are allowed and may play in any position.
8.	In rounds leading up to the final, players whose match is still in progress, must not be informed of the match situation at the other venue.

**ANY DEVIATION FROM THESE RULES MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE COMPETITION**  
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