



NL&F County League Rules



1. The name of the League shall be the 'NL&F County League'.
2. The objective of the 'NL&F County League' (hereby known as the League) shall be to promote and organise competitive play within the sport of Crown Green Bowling, for the members of all Districts who have been admitted to membership.
3. The League shall be governed, in its first year, by David Worthington, Steve Clamp and Peter Harris. Following a successful trial, the League shall appoint a governing Management Committee which shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, League/Fixture Secretary, Treasurer, Competition Secretary and one Representative from each member District.
4. At Management meetings, five members shall constitute a quorum, but must represent a minimum of three Districts.
5. The Committee shall at any time it deems necessary, delegate any business to a Sub-Committee of the Management Committee.
6. Any recognised, NL&F affiliated Club may apply to the League for entry. The conditions of membership, once approved, shall be the payment of an annual subscription for each team and/or any match levies, which shall be decided annually at an Annual General Meeting.
7. The League shall organise bowling for all members of affiliated Clubs, in membership, and will be a fully inclusive League without restrictions.
8. Subscriptions, where applicable, to be paid at the time of entry. All match levies must be paid to the League Treasurer within seven days of invoicing (June and September). Any Clubs not paying levies by this time will be subject to a fine of £20, or a sum deemed appropriate by the Management Committee. For 2024, the match fees have been approved at £3 per player, per match.
9. Two General Meetings shall take place annually. One will be held in February for the confirmation of memberships, and this will also form the Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting is where the rules shall be considered, the balance sheet for the year will be presented and the election of Officers for the following year shall take place. The other, to be held at the Committee's behest will be to review the season and deal with any other matters arising.
10. Nomination sheets shall be issued to Clubs at least 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting and nominations shall be returned prior to the meeting.
11. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, League/Fixture Secretary, Treasurer and Competition Secretary shall be elected for two years. A Management Committee Representative shall be co-opted by Districts prior to each meeting to ensure attendance.

12. Each Club in membership shall be entitled to send two Representatives to each General Meeting, in addition to any Representatives on the Management Committee. Each Club shall have one vote. At General Meetings, eight members shall constitute a quorum, but must represent a minimum of three Districts.
13. The accounts of the League shall be audited annually by three Management Committee appointed persons and a printed copy shall be sent to all Clubs at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting.
14. Club Representatives shall be presented with an agenda of a General Meeting at least fourteen days prior to the date of the meeting. The League Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting at any time on receiving requisition to that effect signed by Representatives of not less than one third of the Clubs in membership.
15. Any Club in membership, or any Management Committee member, may give proposal notice of amendment or alteration to the Rules, or Match Rules, provided it be seconded by another Club or Management Committee member, and be received in writing by the League Secretary at least 21 days prior to the date it is to be brought forward, where upon notice shall be given to all Clubs in membership.
16. The Chairperson at an Annual General Meeting at which alterations to rules are considered, shall allow an amendment to the notified amendment, provided it be seconded. A clear majority shall decide which shall be considered the notified amendment.
17. Any amendment or alteration to League or Match Rules brought before an Annual General Meeting shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting to be considered carried.
18. No Rule shall be altered except at the Annual General Meeting.
19. At Management Committee Meetings, all members of the Committee, as defined by Rule 3, shall be allowed to vote, with the exception of the Chairperson (or Vice-Chairperson if applicable) who shall be allowed a casting vote only.
20. Names and email addresses of all Club Representatives shall be sent to the League Secretary and any changes notified. This is to enable acceptable communication as per these rules.
21. All Clubs in dispute must contact the League Secretary where upon a meeting shall be convened to discuss and decide the issue. For any matters of disciplinary, the rules and processes set out by British Crown Green Bowling Association will be adopted as good practice.
22. Each Club in membership shall be furnished with a copy of these Rules and 'Match Rules', which must be circulated to all participants. It is the liability of the member Clubs to ensure that this is done.
23. All prize monies paid out will be subject to the payment of all match levies and/or annual subscriptions by each Club. League prizes will be paid, where membership permits, to the Clubs finishing in the top 3 positions at the end of the season. All Clubs outside of these positions, will also receive a payment based upon total points achieved.
24. The Management Committee shall decide any point not covered by the above rules.



NL&F County League

Match Rules



Match Format

1. All matches will take place on Friday evenings with a 7.15pm start time. This can only be amended if agreed by the Captains of both Clubs and the League Secretary.
2. Each match day team shall consist of six players.
3. The order of play will be determined by the 'Home' Captain listing their team in order and sheets being paired using merit order. The only exception to this is that the first match of the season shall be done by pairing team orders.
4. Home teams can practice until 7.00pm. Away teams will then be allowed to practice until 7.15pm and will be provided with match jacks for this.
5. 3 games shall commence at 7.15pm (with a 15-minute scratch time). Once a game is completed, it is at the discretion of the home team Captain to either wait for all 3 games to conclude or to continue to invite games to the green. If any scratch times become applicable, a reserve may play, if available immediately. If no reserve is available, the game shall be awarded 21-0.
6. All players shall either be a fully paid member of their Club, or, at the discretion of their Club, they must be a fully paid member of an affiliated NL&FCBA Club. The Management Committee asks Clubs to conduct themselves in the spirit of the game for these registration purposes. If any Club has a dispute over eligibility, the matter should be directed to the League Secretary to enable the Management Committee to make judgement. Breaches of this rule will result in the game being awarded 21-0 and all subsequent match points to be recalculated.
7. Once a player has represented a Club, they are tied to that Club throughout the season. Where a Club has multiple teams within the League, a Club must confirm 4 players who will be their regular 'A' team players and these players will be tied to that team. All other players can have flexibility between that Club's teams. If it becomes apparent that any of the 'fixed' players are not playing the majority of matches, the Management Committee reserves the right to amend such player names to ensure fairness.
8. Any Club not playing a full team may be liable to a fine of £10.00. This fine will be at the discretion of the Management Committee.
9. Any Club failing to fulfil a fixture on the date arranged, unless prior arrangements have been made and the League Secretary notified, will be fined at the discretion of the Management Committee. The maximum fine for a breach of fixtures will be £36.00 and reviewed annually with levies.

10. Postponed or re-arranged matches shall be played on a date fixed by mutual agreement between the Districts concerned and notification of the re-arranged date must be given to the League Secretary. All outstanding matches shall be played before the date of the last match of the season, unless in exceptional circumstances and with prior agreement with the Management Committee, and then within 7 days after the last match of the season. If the last match of the season is postponed, the match must be played within 7 days. The 'Home' Club shall be responsible for notifying the League Secretary of postponed or re-arranged matches.
11. Any matches that have commenced and then subsequently postponed, due to weather or other event, should be rescheduled within 7 days. All completed game results will stand and, wherever possible, players in all other games should remain the same. Scores for non-completed games will not stand and will re-start at 0-0. All situations where this occurs must be reported to the League Secretary and guidance will be given for the completion of the match.
12. Failure of any Clubs to comply with the conditions laid down in Rule 10, or to complete all fixtures, will be fined a maximum of £50.00, and these actions may prejudice a Clubs continued membership of the League.
13. The home team Captain is responsible for submitting the results onto the online provider, no later than 1pm on the day after the match. Match results are to be verified by the opposing Captain no later than 48 hours after the match. Errors identified after this time will be rejected and the result will stand.

Scoring Format

1. All games shall be 21 up. Visiting players receive the jack at start of play.
 2. The laws of the game, as interpreted by the B.C.G.B.A., shall govern all League matches.
 3. All match jacks should be clearly stamped and legal for play.
 4. League points shall be awarded as follows:
 - a. 1 point for each home win
 - b. 1.5 points for each away win
 - c. 2 additional points for the match aggregate
 5. If the overall match aggregate is level, then the points for that aspect of the scoring will be shared.
 6. If two or more Clubs are tied on points at the end of the season then firstly, the number of match wins will determine position. If this is level, the number of individual game wins will be used. If this is still level, the head-to-head results between Clubs concerned will be used. As a final option, a play-off between Clubs will be arranged to determine the final position.
14. The Management Committee shall decide any point not covered by the above.