

Gildredge Park Bowls Club Club competition rules 2026

1. Before entering any competition check your diary for your availability to play on specified dates.
2. All matches are played under the general Laws of Bowls (World Bowls)
3. The first name(s) drawn are the challenger(s) and the second name(s) are the opponent(s). The Challenger(s) must give the opponent(s) three dates, one must be a weekend. Please check whether your opponent(s) still work and be mindful of their requirements when arranging dates, (within the period allowed for completion of the round shown on the draw schedule). Challengers should be prompt in offering potential dates to the opponents and within three days of the end date of the previous round. If the challenger does not offer dates, the opponent(s) should offer dates before the play-by date. The challenger will remain the same person and will still be required to supply a marker for a singles match.

Please remember we are a friendly club. Please be cooperative with your opponents when fixing a date for your match.

4. No extensions will be allowed except for exceptional circumstances. Holidays, family events and similar predictable circumstances are not acceptable since each round had several weeks during which a match can be arranged. In exceptional circumstances such as sudden illness or major personal circumstances the competition secretaries must be notified immediately. The competitions secretaries will then decide on the outcome.
5. All matches should be played as arranged whatever the weather unless it is extreme and the greens are closed by the Green Ranger as unplayable, or by mutual agreement between the players. In which case the match may be delayed or rearranged for another day.
6. A substitute must not have a handicap higher than the substituted player. All substitutes must be agreed with the competition secretaries before the match is played. The substitute can only play for one team in any competition. Only one substitute will be allowed throughout any competition up to and including the final. Substitutes cannot skip a game. The players in a first game will constitute a team.

7. Singles. All matches must have a marker. The challenger will be responsible for arranging a marker (consult the volunteer marker list). The marker's name must be put on the score card.

Game duration

21 shots

Championships

Senior singles

Jack Butcher/Coronation Cup

Handicap singles

(+ difference)

Foundation Cup

18 ends

Triples

Pairs

16 ends or 81 shots

Fixed Jack

21 ends

Two bowl singles (game must be ended once it is mathematically impossible for the losing bowler to catch-up)

8. In the event of a tie where there are a specified number of ends, an extra end must be played, a coin to be tossed to decide the mat.
9. Rink availability will follow an order of precedence: National, County, Town, Club competitions, roll-ups/other events. Club competition matches can take place at the same time as inter-club fixtures if rinks are available. The club competition rink selection on such occasions will be restricted to allow the club match to have their rinks next to each other.
10. Rink selection is by drawing cards numbered according to the available rinks at the time of the match. The colour within the rink must adhere to the schedule issued by the green steward and must not be changed.

Rinks are NOT chosen by the green steward of the day. They are drawn at random from all the rinks available.

Neither the challenger nor the opponent may choose a rink in advance

11. On finals day the competition secretaries will allocate rinks to ensure players in more than one final do not play on the same rink more than once.
12. Special circumstances. The competition secretaries have the discretion to vary or interpret the rules. Any member dissatisfied with the ruling should complain using the club's complaints procedure.