

SOUTH DEVON LADIES BOWLS LEAGUE

RULES

1. The league will be known as the SOUTH DEVON LADIES BOWLS LEAGUE and will be played on flat greens within approximately a 15 mile radius of Paignton.
2. The management committee will consist of the President, Vice President, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, Hon. Results Secretary and 4-3-2-1 secretary. The President and Vice President shall serve no more than two years in office, all other committee members will be elected annually at the AGM.
3. FINANCE
 - a. The funds of the league will be deposited in an account with a bank or building society in the name of SOUTH DEVON LADIES BOWLS LEAGUE. All monies in such account are non-transferable into any other Association or Organisation.
 - b. The financial year end of the league will be 31st October each year.
 - c. Withdrawals shall require the joint signature of the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer.
 - d. The Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be jointly responsible for the purchase of administrative requirements of the league.
 - e. In the event of the league being disbanded, an EGM shall be called at which the Honorary Treasurer will be asked to realise the assets, pay any outstanding debts and distribute the balance equally between the member clubs who have been registered for a minimum of five years.
4. The Annual General Meeting will be held in November each year.
5. Proposed new rules or amendments for consideration at the AGM must be forwarded to the secretary before the end of season meeting in September. Proposals for consideration at the AGM should be submitted on club headed paper, must clearly state which rule is affected (unless a new rule is proposed), signed by the club/ladies' secretary and seconded by another officer of the same club.
6. Representative meetings will be held 3 times per season in March, June and September, no more than 2 members from each club may attend and only one vote **per club** is permitted.
7. All registered teams shall pay the agreed fee by 1st April. Application for membership of the league will only be accepted at the AGM. Such applications must be received by the secretary by October 1st. Successful applicants will pay the appropriate fee on or before 1st April following.
8. Each registered club must submit to the results secretary a list of players who will represent their club in each team for the following season by 30th April. Any player

registered for one club shall not play for any other club in the league during the season. Where a club has two teams in the same division players may play for only ONE of those teams in that season and can only be registered for ONE TEAM. This includes any reserves that are registered. Both home and away fixtures between the two teams must be played by May 31st.

9. Registered players in a lower division can play up no more than four times and in any higher ranking team. Infringement of this rule will result in all points and shots earned in the offending match becoming null and void.
10. If a player is registered for the A team but, because of illness or other mitigating circumstances would not be able to play all season then a substitute may be registered after the initial registration date providing they have not already played in another team or division.
11. Any club with 12 or less members may amalgamate with another club of 12 or less members to enter a team for the league. The Mother Club will be chosen by mutual agreement and all home games will be played at the mother club.
12. The Divisions will usually consist of not less than 6 teams. At the conclusion of the season the top two teams in each division (apart from Division 1) will be promoted to the division above and the bottom two teams of each division (apart from the last division) will be relegated to the division below. This may be subject to alteration where a club or team withdraws from the League. The winners and runners-up of each division and the 4-3-2-1 will be presented with a perpetual trophy and framed certificate at the end of the season.
13. Matches will be played on a home and away basis in the following format:
 - a. 3 rinks of three players
 - b. 18 ends
 - c. Winning rinks - 2 pts each
 - d. Losing rinks - 0 pts each
 - e. Drawn rinks - 1 pt each
 - f. Overall shot difference - winners 4pts
 - g. Overall shot difference - drawn 2 pts each team.
 - h. Results cards to be completed by the captain of the home side and signed by the captain of the away side and sent to the results secretary as soon as possible. In the event of an error in the completion of the results card leading to incorrect distribution of points, correction can only be made after written agreement is received by the results secretary from both team captains and within 7 days of being notified of the error, otherwise no points or shots will be awarded to either team.
 - i. Abandoned Matches:
 1. A match abandoned before the conclusion of the fifth end shall be declared null and void and shall be replayed as a re-arranged fixture.

2. If all rinks have played at least 15 ends this will be deemed to be complete but only the scores at 15 ends will count.
 3. If a match is abandoned after the fifth end and before 15 ends have been played by each rink it must be resumed on a date mutually agreed by both teams. Only one substitute per rink may be permitted from the original team.
 - j. Substitutes are not permitted. If a player is taken ill during the match and is unable to continue the shots on that rink will stand, 2 points are forfeited for the incomplete team.
 - k. Final date for fixtures to be played is 7th September. No extensions will be granted.
 - l. Score boards to be changed at every end.
 - m. If a team arrives with one player short the match will still be played but only 2 rinks will play. The defaulting team will forfeit 2 points for the un-played rink. 2 points for each winning rink will be awarded as usual. If the defaulting team wins the match on overall score NO POINTS will be awarded to either side. If the non-defaulting team wins the match on overall score then 4 points will be awarded as usual. In the case of a draw the non-defaulting team will receive 2 points as normal.
14. Each player of a team to be ready to play within 30 minutes after the scheduled start time unless captains decide otherwise.
15. Fixtures may be re-arranged amicably between clubs if a good reason is given, at least 5 days prior to the fixture date if possible, twice maximum. In the event of two teams being unable to fulfil their fixture the management committee will set a date for the fixture to be played, if necessary, on a neutral green. If not played, 10 points will be awarded to the team willing to play, plus 9 shots.
16. The visiting club will not be charged rink fees. The home team will pay for tea. Home club to decide when tea will be taken. Ladies will be expected to stay if tea is after the match.
17. Dress code will be in line with Bowls England and Bowls Devon Rules, i.e. whites, greys or club colours. If registered club colours are worn, they must be worn by ALL team players.
- 18.4-3-2-1:
- Each year a 4-3-2-1 competition will be held on a knock out basis. All clubs will be entered unless they inform the secretary otherwise by 1st April. A random draw will then take place and the matches will be arranged on play-by dates. The challenger shall offer the opponent three dates, at least one of which must be an evening or weekend if required. Results to be sent to the 4-3-2-1 secretary immediately after each match. The match will consist of 4 wood Singles - 21 ENDS; Pairs - 21 ENDS;

Triples - 18 ENDS; Fours - 21 Ends. The winner will be the club with most overall SHOTS. If the scores are equal ALL disciplines will play an extra end. The semi-final will be played on a neutral green, arranged by the clubs involved and at their expense. The final will be played on the 1st Friday in September, venue and time to be arranged by the league Secretary, cost to be met by the League. One substitute will be allowed during the match in case of sickness or injury. Any club not fulfilling a commitment to play will be fined £10. All other league rules will apply.