

# Oxfordshire County Short Mat Bowling Association

[www.osmba.org.uk](http://www.osmba.org.uk)

## Competition Rules

Amended at 2024 AGM



### 1. Rules of Play

- a) The rules of play will be those laid down by the Competition Secretary for the Competition.

### 2. Competition Day Registration

- a) Any player in the County Competitions who does not register 15 minutes prior to their programmed playing time, or does not notify the Competition Secretary of their withdrawal prior to the competition without good cause will not be allowed to enter any County Competitions in the following Year.
- b) All players are required to be on the allocated mat and ready to play either at the time stated for the commencement of their game or whenever the mat becomes available for use, unless a player(s) of your opponents are still playing in a game on another mat.
- c) If a team does not take the mat within 10 minutes of being called to the mat, [unless exceptional circumstances prevail of which the Competition Secretary or Organiser have been made aware, and are in a position to delay the game while not affecting overall competition], then the game will be forfeited and the following action will be taken:
  - i) During Round Robin Stage(s) the 2 points for the game will be awarded to the opposition - and 1 shot per end will be awarded to the opposition - and 1 additional point will be deducted from the team's points tally.
  - ii) During Knock-out Stage, the opponent(s) will progress to the next round.
- d) If players are missing from a team then the following will apply:
 

**Singles** - if the player is missing the game will be forfeited and the above will apply.

**Pairs** - if a player is missing the game will be forfeited and the above will apply.

**Triples & Fours** - if one player is missing the standard ESMBA Rules will apply. If two players are missing the game will be forfeited as per part c).

### 3. Contravention of Constitution Rule 23 Dress

- a) For the first offence the player will be warned. This will be backed by a letter to the players Club, informing of the warning, and requiring the player to be properly dressed at future competitions.

- b) On the second offence the player will be allowed to play, but will be banned from all future competitions until an assurance is given by the player's Club, that the rule will be observed in future. These circumstances will also be communicated to the player's Club by letter.

#### 4. Competition Fees

- a) Competition fees will be set by The Committee to cover all costs involved in running the Competition.
- b) This fee to be paid at the time of entering the competition.
- c) When players withdraw from competitions no later than 14 days prior to the date of the competition the Association will refund the whole of the Competition Fee.

#### 5. Jack off the Mat

- a) In County Competitions (except League) teams and players be allowed one dead end for knocking jack off mat, thereafter, incur a penalty of 2 shots and end played.

#### 6. Competition Draws - Method of Draw for County Competitions

- a) The draw will be supervised by the Competition Secretary who will have previously numbered the entries on the original entry forms received.
- b) Two additional members of the Association will assist with the draw
- c) The format of the round robin stage and knockout stages will be determined by the Competition Secretary prior to the draw taking place, with a blank draw sheet being created.
- d) One of the draw assistants will proceed to draw the numbers, with the second member converting the numbers to the names on the original entry form, with the third writing them down on the prepared draw sheet. The Competition Secretary will supervise the process and can if necessary substitute for one of the assistants.
- e) Each team will be placed in the groups in the order of the draw.
- f) Should it be necessary to equalise the groups after publication, the teams in groups of four will be moved with the 4th team in each group moving until the draw is complete. The same system will apply in reverse should whole or part groups not be available.

#### 7. Player Substitution

##### ***Initial Stages of Competitions:***

- a) A team is defined as being formed when the Competition Draw takes places.
- b) Replacement players will be permitted within a team, as per ESMBA National Championship Rules for Substitution.
- c) The replacement of an entire team will not usually be permitted, unless agreed by the Competitions Committee. A Singles player is classed as team.
- d) If a group is reduced to two teams they will play each other twice as the 1st and 3rd game on the schedule of play.

##### ***Final Stages of Competitions:***

- a) Replacement players at the final stages will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances. All requests for replacements will be considered by the Competition Sub Committee."

## 8. Competition awards

- a) Presentations shall be made to County Competition Winners & Runners Up in the form of Certificates, and the relevant trophy where applicable.
- b) Competition winners shall have their names added to the OSMBA honours list(s)
- c) Should there be a plate competition, the winner shall receive a Presentation Certificate.

# Club Championship Competition Rules

- 1) Competition fees will be set by The Committee to cover all costs involved in running the Competition.
- 2) Each Team will consist of six players; one Single, one Pair and one Triple. Each Team will appoint a Team Captain who must register his Team at least 15 minutes before play is due to begin.
- 3) All players must come from the same club.
- 4) Any changes to the entered Team must be registered at least 15 minutes before play commences.
- 5) If on the day of the competition the team is a player short; they may play with five players. The missing player must be from the team of Triples.
- 6) Substitutes [ESMBA Rule E9]. The players taking part in the first game shall constitute the Team and will normally play together throughout the Competition. One additional player – and the same player – may be used as a substitute at any time provided that he/she has not already played in the Competition.  
*Note: Rule 2 must not be broken.*
- 7) Players may change disciplines between games but no one may play on the same mat twice, otherwise that game is conceded to the opposition, with points for the mat win, and one shot per end.
- 8) Four points will be awarded for each game won, with two points each for a drawn game, there will be three additional points for the Team with the highest plus shots difference.
- 9) The Singles game will be 10 ends 4 bowls, the Pairs 10 ends 2 bowls, and the Triples 8 ends 2 bowls.
- 10) At the beginning of each game the Team Captains will toss a coin, the winner has the option to play first or second on all mats. The Team playing first will be the home team on all scoreboards.
- 11) In the knockout stages, should the points and shot difference be the same for both Teams the winning Team will be the Team winning the greatest number of ends. In the event of the two Teams being drawn on points, shots difference and ends won, the Captains or a nominated player from the Team will play a one end four wood play off and the winner of this play off will go through to the next round.
- 12) The Competition will be completed [including finals] in one day, if possible.

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13) The winner of the competition shall be awarded 6 medals. Additional medals may be purchased by the winning club on request.