



## Dorking Bowling Club Internal Competitions Rules 2023

The competitions are open to all playing members, regardless of age or ability, by completion of the Entry Form and payment of the fee by the due date. All competitions (except the Mixed Triples) will conclude on Finals Weekend in September. Please be sure you are available to compete on that weekend (see Club Calendar of Fixtures).

For the preliminary rounds of all Singles competitions and the Nominated Pairs, the contestants must arrange the date and time of their match. The 'play-by' dates for each round will be published on the draw sheets. **In the draw, the 'first-named' or 'first-drawn' entrant(s) is called the 'Challenger', who is responsible for arranging the match. They are also responsible for booking a rink and, in a singles game, arranging a 'Marker'. The 'second named' is called the Opponent.**

Early communication between contestants is important. Contact information for all club members is available in the Members Login Area of the club website and in a folder on the Captains' desk.

### Detailed Rules for Scheduling a Preliminary Round Match

1. The Challenger should as early as possible, **but at least 10 days before the published play-by date**, try to agree a date and time with their Opponent. The Challenger should offer at least three different dates/times for the match, with at least a week between the first and last, and must include evenings or weekends if the Opponent is only available then.
2. The Opponent must agree a proposed date/time. They should try to respond to the Challenger within 4 days after being offered dates, but at least 6 days before the play-by date. If the Opponent is unable to do this, they must concede the match.
3. **The Challenger is responsible for booking a rink for the agreed time. If on the day one is not available the Opponent may claim the match.**
4. **The Challenger in a singles competition is also responsible for arranging a Marker. The Opponent may refuse to play without a Marker and claim the match.**
5. If the Challenger fails to contact the Opponent with proposed dates at least 10 days before the play-by date, the Opponent must, within 3 days, offer the Challenger at least one date/time before the play-by date (including evenings or weekends if the Challenger is only able to play then), which the Challenger must accept or concede the match.
6. If a player knows they are going on holiday, they should contact their opponent as soon as possible, whether they are the Challenger or Opponent.

## Club Competitions 2023

<b>Singles Competitions</b>	<b>Description</b>
Ladies' and Men's Championship	4 woods, first to 21 shots. Final will be held on Sunday afternoon of Finals Weekend. Winners should be willing to represent the Club in the Surrey Champion of Champions competition in the following year.
Challenge Cup	Mixed competition, 4 woods, first to 21 shots Entry limited to those Ladies or Men that have not previously won a 4-wood singles competition at this or any other Club.
Handicap Cup	Mixed competition, 4 woods, first to 21 shots. Handicaps in range 0-10. Handicaps assigned by the match selectors. Lower handicapped player starts with difference on scorecard.
2-woods	Mixed competition, 2 woods, 21 ends. Shot(s) must be within one yard of jack to score.
Millennium (or 100 up)	Mixed competition, 4 woods, first to 100 points. The closest 4 woods always count, irrespective of player, and score 4-3-2-1 points respectively. Nearest to jack plays first on next end. All woods to be played and count on last end(s). Extra end(s) if drawn (see Tied Game Rule).
Grandmothers and Grandfathers	4 woods, first to 21 shots. Entrant must have or care for a grandchild.
<b>Team Competitions</b>	<b>Description</b>
Ladies' and Men's Drawn Pairs	4 woods, 18 ends. Preliminary round(s) held on the dates in the Club Calendar. Teams balanced by the match selectors. If insufficient entries, entrants will be offered the opportunity to compete as pairs in the other group (Ladies or Men).
Nominated Mixed Pairs	4 woods, 18 ends. Mutually consenting Lady & Man (you choose your partner).
Ladies' and Men's Drawn Triples	3 woods, 18 ends. Entry by sign-up sheet posted ahead of the event. Preliminary round(s) held on the dates in the Club Calendar. Teams balanced by the match selectors. Final will be held on Saturday afternoon of Finals Weekend.
Mixed Drawn Triples	3 woods, number of ends/format decided ahead of event. Entry by sign-up sheet posted ahead of the event. One day competition held on the date in the Club Calendar. Teams balanced by the match selectors.

## The Small Print

1. Insufficient Entrants - A singles or pairs competition will not be played if there are insufficient entries to hold a quarter-final round with a maximum of 2 byes.
2. Match Markers – a list of Markers that can be contacted will be on the Club noticeboard and website although you are not restricted to use one of these. A family member of either player may however not mark a semi-final match. The Competition Secretaries shall appoint Markers for the singles finals.
3. Dress Code – the dress code for preliminary rounds is the same as normal club roll-ups. Dress code for Finals Weekend, including the trophy presentations, is whites.
4. Unable to Schedule - A Competition Secretary must be notified as soon as it is known that a match cannot be played by the play-by date. Failure to do so may result in disqualification of both players.
5. Team Balance - For the team competitions, except the Nominated Pairs (where you agree your team partner), the match selectors will attempt to balance the teams.
6. Trial Ends - Two trials ends allowed at the start of every game. Players may go straight in if all players agree. Players to agree how many woods.
7. Playing Order – In team competitions, the players on a team may decide their playing order, which may change between rounds.
8. Tied Game – For a game where the scores are tied after the regular number of ends, an extra end shall be played to determine the winner. Coin toss to determine who gets to choose whether to take the mat or play second.
9. Rink Markers – Players are not allowed to move rink markers or change the normal direction of play.
10. Substitutions in pairs and triples: the Competition Secretaries shall be notified if a substitute is needed and they shall endeavour to arrange a substitute. A substitute may play in the final.
11. Substitutions in singles competitions: should an entrant have to drop out of a singles competition before the play-by date of the first round, the Competition Secretaries shall endeavour to arrange a substitute so that a match is still played.
12. Abandonment – If a game in play needs to be abandoned then it should be rescheduled for completion by the play-by date (the Exceptional Circumstances Rule may apply). The game shall be restarted from it's abandoned point but trial ends may be taken. If, however, it cannot be rescheduled then: (a.) if at least 5 ends have been played, the game is considered complete and the score stands as the result; or (b.) in the event of a tie or less than 5 ends played, a coin toss will decide the winner.
13. Exceptional Circumstances - Under exceptional circumstances effecting a scheduled match (such as illness or weather) and at the sole discretion of the Competition Secretaries, the players may be allowed a short extension to the play-by date.