**WEST LOTHIAN BOWLING ASSOCIATION**

**COUNTY COMPETITITION-GENERAL CONDITIONS OF PLAY (W.E.F. 2024 SEASON)**

The following general Conditions of Play are applicable to all W.L.B.A. County Competitions:-

* All participating players must be members of a fully paid up member of a W.L.B.A. Member Club.
* All players must be members of the Club for which they play in any W.L.B.A. Competition.
* There shall be no minimum or maximum age limit for participation unless otherwise stated in the specific Conditions of Play of any individual W.L.B.A. Competition.
* Players are eligible to represent their Club in W.L.B.A. Seniors Competitions as soon as they reach the age of 60.
* W.L.B.A. shall be entitled to the use of greens of Member Clubs for all W.L.B.A. Competitions
* W.L.B.A. shall have the power to make a levy on Member Clubs for all W.L.B.A. Competitions to provide a prize fund for each Competition.
* The W.L.B.A. Management Committee shall have the power to decide the prize fund applicable to each W.L.B.A. Competition.
* No player is, under any circumstances, eligible to play for more than one Club in any of the Competitions. Any Club infringing this Condition of Play will be disqualified from the Competition.
* The respective W.L.B.A. trophies shall be played for annually and all fully paid up Member Clubs shall be eligible to enter each Competition on completion of the relevant entry form and upon payment of any applicable entry fee.
* The Clubs whose player(s) win the Competition(s) will be entitled to the custody of the respective trophies for one year and shall be responsible for their return in good order to the relevant Competition Convener or Secretary when called upon. Such Clubs will be responsible for the appropriate engraving of trophies and for their safe-keeping.
* Dress Code-In relation to dress standards, all players participating in a W.L.B.A. Competition must conform to their own Club’s dress code as registered with the W.L.B.A. Secretary. A Club’s dress code allows for the use of a coloured shirt rather than a white shirt and, where required, as an alternative to a white warmer garment, e.g. pullover, bodywarmer or jacket. It is also permissible for a player to use bowling gear provided by a sponsor and approved by the Management Committee. Tailored shorts meeting the relevant Club’s dress code of minimum knee-length are permissible in all W.L.B.A. Competitions. Additionally, where a Club is represented by more than one player in a W.L.B.A. Competition all players must abide by the same dress code. Responsibility for adhering to dress codes will rest with Clubs. Breaches of the dress code noted by umpires (Club or W.L.B.A.) or by an Officer of W.L.B.A. must be reported to the W.L.B.A. Secretary for consideration of the application of sanctions ranging from a warning to a Club fine and possible disqualification from the appropriate Competition.
* For all W.L.B.A. Men’s, Ladies & Senior Competitions for rounds up until the final stages rinks of play allocated by the host club require to be randomly drawn when competing Singles players/teams or sides are present.
* All matches require to be conducted in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport.
* One trial end in each direction (2 in total) shall be allowed in all matches in all W.L.B.A. Competitions including in matches which are required to be started on another day following abandonment. Matches that started on one day and are subsequently rearranged to be played to a finish on another day must be recommenced from the point where the match finished when it was abandoned in accordance with the Laws of the Sport.
* Dead ends to be replayed in all W.L.B.A. Competitions.
* Sets of bowls used in W.L.B.A. Competitions must bear a legible stamp of I.B.B., W.B.B. or W.B.
* Wherever possible, in the absence of an available qualified Club Umpire, the Club on whose green a Competition is to be played shall appoint a competent member of the club to act as umpire who will act as final arbiter on any dispute arising during the game relating to the Laws of the Sport. W.L.B.A. shall appoint qualified umpires for latter stages of all W.L.B.A. Competitions.
* The relevant Competitions Convener shall be responsible for the draws and allocation of venues for W.L.B.A. Competitions and shall consult with the Management Committee before deciding on the venue for latter stages of the Competitions the conduct of which is the responsibility of the relevant Competitions Convener.
* All ties must be played on the greens and on the dates and times decided by the relevant Competitions Convener or the Management Committee.
* When a tie has been played, the host Club is responsible for immediately communicating the result to the relevant W.L.B.A. Competitions Convener. Fully completed scorecards require to be retained by the host club for 7 days.
* In the event of any Club failing to appear within 30 minutes of the scheduled start time of a Competition tie, the tie shall be awarded to the opponent. The Management Committee shall also decide whether any further penalty including a financial penalty, is appropriate where no prior notice was given by the defaulting Club to the opposing Club, the Club hosting the tie and the relevant Competitions Convenor/ W.L.B.A. Secretary.
* The Management Committee shall decide on the venue for the final of all W.L.B.A. Competitions.
* The Management Committee in consultation with the relevant Competitions Convener shall decide all disputes that may occur in connection with any of the W.L.B.A. Competitions and their decision shall be binding on all parties. No protest or appeal by a Club shall be entertained unless notice in writing is received by the W.L.B.A. Secretary not later than 3 days following the occurrence.
* The Management Committee shall consider any breaches in these Conditions of Play and decide upon any applicable level of disciplinary action including any financial penalty.
* The Management Committee shall be entitled to amend any of these Conditions of Play.