

# 2025 PAST TIMES TROPHY RULES

## PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL SKIPS RECEIVE A COPY OF THESE RULES

1. The Men's and Ladies competitions shall be played in accordance with these Rules. Additionally, and except where otherwise specifically stated herein, the requirements of the current edition of the 'Laws of the Sport of Bowls' published by World Bowls Ltd (Bowls England version) shall be adhered to.
2. Each match will consist of 2 rinks playing 18 ends starting at the same time, one rink playing Home and the other Away. Teams in the Men's competition shall be all-male and the teams in the Ladies competition shall be all-female.
- 2a In line with other non-BE or Surrey Competitions and to enable smaller clubs to participate we have decided that each rink shall consist of no more than 1 badged player.**
3. Clubs are entitled to enter a maximum of 2 teams of 8 players in each competition. When entering teams in the competitions the players need not be named but a player having played for one team is not eligible to play for another team entered by that or any other club.
4. All communications between the Competition Secretary and the entrant clubs will be exclusively by e-mail. It is therefore an essential requirement that all clubs provide on their entry forms at least 2 reliable club e-mail contacts with their e-mail addresses and phone numbers via whom all correspondence will be routed.
5. Competition Secretaries duties include e-mailing the draw sheets and competitor contact details to all entrant clubs, compiling and updating the competition draw sheets and competitor contact details, preparing the competition draw sheets for posting on the S&DBA website, and resolving all queries relating to the competitions. The names and contact details of the Competition Secretaries will be included on the competition entry forms and draw sheets.
6. Any queries, problems, disputes, or extension requests relating to the Competitions shall be referred for resolution to the applicable Competition Secretary whose decision shall be final.
7. The closing dates by which the various rounds are to be played will be set by the Competition Secretaries and shall be strictly adhered to. Requests for extensions to the published closing dates will be considered in exceptional circumstances only. All dates shown on the competition draw sheets are 'play on or before' dates, except the Final which will be at a fixed date and start time.
8. The Initial competition draw sheets and competitor contact details for all clubs will be e-mailed to the club nominated contacts as soon as possible after the closing date for entries. After each subsequent round the updated draw sheets will be e-mailed to the club contacts as soon as possible after the closing date of the preceding round. The Initial and updated draw sheets will also be promptly posted on the S&DBA Past Times web page.
9. The first named team in each match shown on the draw sheets is termed the 'Challenger' and the second named team the 'Opponent.'
  1. Within **14 days** of the Initial Round draw sheets being e-mailed to the competing clubs, the Challenger shall contact their Opponent offering 3 alternative dates with

start times upon which the match is to take place. At least one of these dates shall be on a weekend, and at least two dates on a weekday. The Opponent shall, within 3 days, reply accepting one of the offered dates and start time.

2. The Challenger must make every effort to contact the Opponent to arrange the match. If the Challenger fails to contact the Opponent to offer dates in compliance with the above timings the Opponent shall immediately refer to the Competition Secretary for a decision. In all but exceptional circumstances the Competition Secretary's decision will be that the Opponent takes over the rights of the Challenger who must then immediately offer 3 choices of dates with start times for the match.
3. If insufficient action is taken by either team to arrange a match by the closing date of the round, then the Competition Secretary may exclude both teams from the competition.
4. The same procedure as stated above shall be adopted for all subsequent rounds except that the Challenger shall offer the 3 dates and start times within 5 days of the closing date of the previous round.

**5. Reserves, whilst playing shall only be allowed if the said player is taken ill whilst playing.**

10. If a team is incomplete more than half an hour after the agreed start time their opposing team shall be awarded a walkover.
11. The winner shall be the team with the highest aggregate Home and Away score. In the event of an aggregate draw after 18 ends an extra end will be played on the Challenger's green.
12. The Skips of each rink shall sign-off the completed scorecards as correct. The winning team shall retain all their signed match scorecards until finals day.
13. Immediately following the competition of each match, the winning team shall text or email confirmation of the result and score to the applicable Competition Secretary, within 24 hours.
14. In the event of inclement weather such that the Green is unfit to commence play, the teams shall mutually arrange another date and start time within the time limit for that particular round.
15. In the event of inclement weather conditions severely affecting a match in progress, and with the agreement of both teams, the match will be considered complete if both the Home and Away rinks have completed a minimum of 14 ends. In this situation the match score will be that recorded at the completion of the last end jointly completed by both the Home and Away rinks, e.g., if the Home rink has completed 16 ends but the Away rink has completed 17 ends the match result shall be that recorded when both rinks had completed 16 ends.
16. If a match is abandoned before a minimum of 14 ends have been played it shall be resumed at the point and with the same score as when it was abandoned, any incomplete ends being ignored. Any substitutes during the course of play and after a temporary stoppage shall comply with the 'Laws of the Sport of Bowls,' Rules 32.4 and 33.
17. If it is known that there is no reasonable chance of continuing an abandoned match at another time to comply with the round closing date, then the winner will be determined as follows:
  - a) the team with the highest score based on the number of completed ends,

- or*, if the scores are equal, then.
- b) the team having won the most completed ends,  
*or*, if scores are equal and winning ends are equal, then.
- c) the team with the winning guess on the toss of a coin
18. Any team responsible for failing to complete a match by the specified closing date of a round without obtaining prior approval of an extension from the Competition Secretary will be immediately excluded from the competition.
19. Any team conceding a match shall immediately notify the Competition Secretary.
20. The use of mobile phones is *not* allowed on the green during a match. However, they may be used discreetly off the green, although their use should be kept to a minimum. Before the start of the match and in the spirit of fair play both teams should establish whether they wish to share any information obtained.
21. The Finals will be played in '**Club shirts and whites or club colours below the waist**'. All rounds prior to the Finals shall be played in Greys with white or club shirts. When club shirts are worn, they shall be worn by the whole team. All Finalists must use their club stickers on their bowls.

**Note:** These Rules, the competition draws sheets, and the contact details of each team will be posted on the 'Past Times Competitions' page of the S&DBA website. Noting that this is not a S&D BA competition.

[www.suttonanddistrictba.co.uk](http://www.suttonanddistrictba.co.uk)

Amended May 2023 (Rule 13)

Amended April 2024 (Rule 2, 9.1 & 9.4, 11, 12, 13, 21)

Amended/Additional April 2025 (Rule 2a, 9.1, 9.5, 21)