

Mid-Sussex Bowls League

TOM FRANCIS (DOUBLE FOURS) COMPETITION (General Rules - Revised January 2017)

1. This competition will be played in Double Fours Knockout format over 21 ends on Sundays at 10.00 commencing on the first Sunday in June. One four will play at home & one four will play away, except in the Final when the match will be played on a neutral green. Any club unable to start the match at 10.00 due to local council opening times shall inform the visiting team of this as soon as their opponents are known.
2. The draw for the competition will normally be made at a meeting of delegates in January.
3. All games shall be played on the stated date as long as the greens are available. If a game is not possible in any round due to a prearranged event or due to adverse green conditions, it shall be re-arranged for any mutually acceptable date up to and including the following Sunday. Any pre-arranged event must be notified to the organiser by 30th April. Failure to do so may result in the offending club playing both rinks on their opponent's green.
4. Teams may be selected afresh by clubs for each round but every four must include at least one member of the opposite sex. Failure to comply will result in the forfeiture of the game to the opponents.
5. No player may play in this competition for more than one club in any one season and all players must be bona fide members of the club. Failure to comply will result in the forfeiture of the game to the opponents.
6. Clubs may use a telephone or mobile phone during the match to find out the score on the other green. This information must be shared verbally at the same time with both skips. Mobile phones may not be used on the green. Under no circumstances, should play on one rink be delayed in order to find out the score at the other venue. Failure to comply will result in the forfeiture of the game to the opponents.
7. On the day of the game, the results are to be telephoned or e-mailed to the organiser by the winning club. The scorecards shall be posted or sent as an attachment to the organiser within twenty-four hours of the match being played.
8. In case the scores are level at the end of a match, in all rounds except the Final, an extra end will be played on the green of the first-named club, the rink to be chosen by the first named club prior to the match starting.
9. In the event of the umpire and/or green-keeper or team captains deciding that no play or no further play is possible, matches in which the total number of ends played equals or exceeds 32 will be deemed to have been completed and the score will stand. In matches where the total number of ends played is less than 32, the tie will be deemed to be void and the match will be replayed at a later date. When a match is stopped by the Umpire and/or the Green keeper and/or the team captains, play will cease on all rinks simultaneously. Ends started but not completed shall be declared null and void.
10. Immediately before the Final match the two captains will determine, by the toss of a coin, on which rink the extra end will be played should it become necessary.
11. In the Final whites shall be worn. However, club shirts may be worn provided all members of the team wear identical shirts.
12. The presentation of trophies will be made immediately after the Final. Both clubs receive an additional trophy to keep.
13. In the event of a complaint by either Club to the organiser of the Tom Francis Competition, the organiser shall determine the outcome and his/her findings shall be final.

**CLUBS ARE ASKED TO DISPLAY THESE RULES
WITHIN THE CLUB WHERE THEY WILL BE READILY SEEN**