

**RULES of the KNOCK-OUT CUP & SHIELD COMPETITIONS**  
**HINCKLEY & DISTRICT TRIPLES LEAGUE (H & D TL)**  
Affiliated to Bowls Leicestershire and Bowls England

- 1 The Knock-Out Cup and Knock-Out Shield Competitions shall be limited to Teams from Clubs and players that are affiliated and registered to their relevant County and have paid to enter the H & D TL. All players in a Team must be fully paid-up Men or Women Bowling Members of their Club. Players registered with two Clubs as a playing member shall only play for one Club in the Competition. They shall not play for another Team within their own Club in any one season. If a player moves to another Club during the Season they are not eligible to play for their new Club. A Team playing an unregistered player, or a player registered to another Team, shall be disqualified from the relevant Competition. The Competition Secretary manages both Competitions.  
Matches shall be played in accordance with the current Crystal Mark Edition - Laws of the Sport of Bowls, issued by World Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Bowls England.  
The H & D TL Management Committee is the Controlling Body, see Rule 57.2 – Conditions of Play, Laws of the Sport of Bowls – World Bowls.
  - a The Competition is divided into two sections: Teams in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 play for the KO Cup; Teams in Divisions 4, 5 and 6 play for the KO Shield. The Competition Secretary will conduct a random draw for each Competition and will determine the PLAY BY DATES for each Round, and the FIXED DATE for the Finals.  
The venue for the Finals will be decided by the Competition Secretary in liaison with the Management Committee.
  - b The first named Team in the draw shall be the Home Team. The Competition is played in Knock-Out Rounds and the winning Team will progress to the next Round. The Rounds will be displayed on the H & D TL website.

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- 2 The Home Team shall offer the Away Team 3 separate dates to play the Match. Disputes will be settled by the Competition Secretary and/or the Management Committee and their decision is final.

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- 3 Prior to each Match commencing, the Home Captain will offer three Rinks to the Away Captain. To avoid the Home Team favouring specific Rinks, the cards shall be placed face down with the opposing Captain's cards placed randomly on top. Rink numbers will then be randomly allocated by the Away Captain before the cards are turned over.

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- 4 Matches to consist of 3 Rinks per Team, 3 bowls each player, played over 18 ends. The Captains to spin a coin to determine which Team has the jack at the commencement of the Match. The Captains to spin a coin again if an extra end is necessary. The scoring will be as the League Matches, 2 points for a winning Rink, 1 point for a **tied** Rink. If after all 3 Rinks have played 18 Ends the overall result is a draw, the tied Rink will play an extra End(s) until a result is established. A result is established from the number of Rinks won and not the number of shots won. All result sheets shall be sent to the Secretary within two days of the match being played.

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- 5 If a player leaves the Green during the Match due to illness or other reasonable cause and cannot return within ten minutes, an eligible substitute may be introduced providing both Team Captains agree. The substitute cannot play as skip but can play in any other position. Other members of the Team can re-arrange their positions as necessary. If no eligible substitute is available the remaining two players shall play at lead and skip and the order of play will be Lead A, Lead B, Two A, or Lead B, Lead A, Two A, as appropriate, in turn until all three players have played three bowls each. The two Skips will then play three bowls each in turn as normal. The Match score will continue to be calculated in the usual manner without adjustment for the reduced number of bowls used each end.

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- 6 Green Fees **will not** be levied by individual Clubs. Meals are not required; however, Clubs may provide food and refreshments for sale if they so wish.

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- 7 **Inclement Weather:** In obvious cases of inclement weather, or a Club's Green Ranger/Green Keeper decides that the Green is unsafe or unfit for play, a Match may be postponed. It is the responsibility of the Home Team to notify the Away Team, and the Match must be re-arranged without delay.

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- 8 The H & D TL, as the Controlling Body, has decided that if a Match is rained off and 33 ends have been played over all Rinks, the score at that time will count as a result. If a Match is rained off with **less than 33 ends** played over all Rinks, the Match must be replayed from the beginning on a re-arranged date, at the earliest opportunity. The Competition Secretary is to be informed of the situation. Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Law 57.2 & Appendix A1 refers.

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- 9 Bowls cannot be changed during a Match; Law 29.3 Changing Bowls.

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- 10 **Misconduct & Discipline:** Foul language or disruptive conduct on the Green will not be tolerated. Should a match be interrupted due to misconduct, the Captains shall attempt to resolve the issue, so the Match can be completed. If the issue results in the Match being abandoned or the result compromised, each Captain shall submit a written report to the Competition Secretary. An enquiry will be conducted before taking appropriate action against the Club and player(s) in breach of this Rule. Bowls England Regulation 9 details the appropriate action to be taken by a Controlling Body.

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- 11 **Dress:** Teams shall play in bowling shoes, grey trousers, approved BE shorts, or skirts as appropriate and white shirts. Official Club shirts may be worn as an alternative to white shirts providing all nine members of the Team wear them.

Competition Secretary: Doug Chandler

Email: df.chandler@yahoo.co.uk

Mob: 07944 473930