



## **KENT INVICTA TRIPLES LEAGUE**

### **LEAGUES & RULES**

Bowls has traditionally been one of those sports where the practice of an acceptable level of etiquette features strongly in any game situation. The KITL hopes that member Clubs will have regard to the statement in the preface to the latest edition of the Laws of the Game, “*that the Laws have been framed in the belief that true sportsmanship will prevail.*”

#### **KITL Leagues**

There will be three leagues, Men’s, Ladies and Mixed. Clubs are eligible to enter each league and can choose which leagues to participate in annually. The men’s and mixed leagues must comprise a minimum of six clubs and the ladies league five clubs. During the formative year of KITL, the maximum number of participating clubs will be eight. Beyond that the maximum will be set by the Management Committee.

In order to enable clubs to fulfil a match they may adopt any of these flexible arrangements:

- A club unable to field the minimum number of male and female players in the Men’s and Ladies league can substitute one player of the opposite sex to play as Lead - *to a maximum of three*. See Rule 10.
- Catering arrangements are at the discretion of each club. Both clubs can agree on the most appropriate arrangements for their matches - see Rule 17.
- Match start times can be negotiated with other clubs - see Rule 18.

#### **KITL Rules**

1. The League shall be run in accordance with current EIBA regulations.
2. The Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark Fourth Edition shall apply in all circumstances, not covered by these KITL Rules.
3. All Registered Clubs shall be eligible to take part in a League Competition consisting of matches of 6 Ladies, 6 Mixed and 6 Men’s Triples between the clubs taking part. Any four-rink club granted KITL membership will play 4 games at home and will play their remaining match(es) at the away club.
4. Each Registered Club shall send a copy of its Fixture Card and a list of matches to the League Secretary and League Results Officer, prior to the start of the season.
5. Players may only represent one club in any one season unless an application to move clubs is granted by the League Secretary.
6. All Clubs shall play against each other on the basis of one home and one away match each season. This is the minimum number of matches. In the formative year this may increase to two home and away matches depending on the number of participating clubs in the league(s).
7. Matches will be 18 ends. No trial ends. The first two ends to count one shot only per end. The visitors will have the right to the jack at the start of all matches. Skips may only have one visit to the head - per end. No dead ends – the jack must be re-spotted. In the event of a tie on either a rink, or in an overall match score, the points will be divided equally. Points will be awarded as follows:

Match	Each Winning Team	Overall Win	Total possible points
Ladies, Men’s, Mixed	2 points	4 points	16 points

8. Only the Home Club Captain/representative need convey the result, preferably within 24 hours of each Match being played, to the League Results Officer on the approved form, (*which must be signed by each Club Captain of the day as results being agreed*). Results must be sent by e-mail or text to the details shown on the approved form.
9. Any Club failing to field the agreed number of rinks shall forfeit 2 points to the other Club and suffer a penalty of 10 shots from the overall score. *Only one (1) rink may be dropped, from any match, in this situation.*

10. All teams shall consist of three players per side. However, one member of the opposite sex, *to a maximum of three*, may be used to field a shortage in any team. This person must play Lead, (and this should not happen on a regular basis, with details recorded on results sheet). Similarly, one travelling substitute will be permitted, but if used they must also play Lead. Mixed Teams must always be so, with no exception. The team can be comprised of two ladies one man, or vice versa.
11. The Club with the highest aggregate points at the close of the Competition will be deemed to be the League Champions and will receive a Winner's Trophy to be held for one year and receive a prize. The Clubs with the second and third highest aggregate points may also receive a prize. In the case of a points tie, the winning position will be determined by the highest aggregate shot difference. Such prizes, cash or non-cash, will be agreed by the Management Committee prior to the start of all league competitions.
12. Dress Code. Clubs must wear clothing registered with EIBA – club shirts with black/grey below.
13. Should any match have to be cancelled for whatever reason, the defaulting club should inform their opponent club at least 7 days in advance (as some clubs have a catering franchise), otherwise, (if it is the away team), they may be charged both the rink fees and the cost of food - if it has been purchased. The Club at which the match should have been played must endeavor to offer alternate dates for the completion of a fixture within the season. The opponents club shall agree a suitable date as soon as possible.
14. Any Clubs which fail to fulfil a fixture shall immediately advise the League Secretary and the League Results Officer of the reasons why the fixture cannot be fulfilled. If, in the opinion of the Management Committee, the reasons are considered unacceptable and there has been no real attempt by both clubs to find an alternative date to replay the match, then NIL points will be awarded to each club. The clubs involved will need to provide written evidence to demonstrate that they have been trying to re-arrange the fixture. However, if the reasons for cancellation are upheld, then the Defaulting Club will be awarded Nil points and their opponents will be awarded 10 points.
15. The Defaulting Club shall be responsible for advising the League Secretary and League Competition Results Officer(s) of any re-arrangement of a fixture.
16. Any Club which cancels and fails to re-arrange two or more fixtures in any one season will be reviewed by the Management Committee and any recommended action with reasons given at the AGM.
17. Arrangements for catering shall be decided between the two playing clubs, and agreed on a reciprocal basis prior to the start of the playing season. However, in line with the emphasis on flexibility, catering arrangements may / can change during the playing season if clubs catering circumstances or preference change. The cost per match will be dependent upon the agreed catering arrangements. In the event the two clubs cannot agree on the catering arrangements then the **Home** club decision will prevail. Where a post-match meal has been agreed the Home club should inform the Away club of the menu 7 days in advance, and the Away club should inform the Home club of any dietary requirements a minimum of 3 days in advance of the match.
18. Clubs can negotiate their match start times prior to the start of the playing season but must be agreed with other clubs and not just imposed by one club. In the event of no agreement between the clubs - the Management Committee may rule. However, in line with the emphasis on flexibility, match times may / can change during the playing season if club's circumstance's or preferences change.
19. In the case where a visiting club, who had already played their opponents at home, have to cancel an away match and fail to agree an alternate playing date within the league season they will be required to compensate the opponent club for appropriate loss of income. Compensation details to be agreed by both clubs. In the failure to do so the Management Committee will rule.
20. Each club joining KITL will pay a one-off £100 membership fee to fund set up and operational costs (including a dedicated website). Thereafter clubs will pay a maximum fee of £50 annually, at the discretion of the Management Committee, to fund ongoing operational costs. These fee arrangements apply to both the league formative clubs and any future clubs who join KITL.
21. The fee for registration to the KITL will be £20 per league, per club, annually. The match fee for every league game will be the club's normal rinks fee with the agreed cost of catering between clubs added to this.