



Diamond & Sapphire Leagues Conditions of Play 2026/27

All League matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls. [Ref: World Bowls - Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark Fourth Edition] and the conditions of play as set out below.

Constitution of the League

All players in league matches must be paid-up members of Banbury Cross Indoor Bowls Club (including substitutes).

The League Programme will be organised and administered by the committee of Banbury Cross Indoor Bowls Club.

No running, smoking, drinking, or eating is allowed on or over the Green.

Players will at all times abide by the notices displayed by Woodgreen Leisure Centre and/or Banbury Cross Indoor Bowls Club.

Constitution of Teams

Teams will be seeded and drawn by the League Co Ordinator before the league commences.

Any of the named players may play in any position throughout the duration of the league.

Score Cards

Rink fees must be paid before play commences and the full names (first name and last name) of all players must be entered on the scorecard. The names of substitutes will be underlined.

At the completion of the game, both cards will be countersigned by both skips and handed to the League organiser before leaving the bowls hall.

Reserves

All reserves must be fully paid-up members of Banbury Cross Indoor Bowls Club or members of staff of Woodgreen Leisure Centre.

Reserves will be selected and placed by the League Co Ordinator to maintain the seeded balance of teams as far as it is possible on any given match week.

Reserves can play in any position, including that of skip. Team positions are determined by those playing for the team at the commencement of each match week.

Incomplete Teams

If there are insufficient players available and a team is only one player short, the game will start on time and the team with only 2 players shall use **8** woods, each player having **4** woods.

If the third player arrives and is ready to bowl before the jack of the second end is delivered, the third player may join the game in any position without penalty.

Otherwise, the offending team shall forfeit **one quarter** of its final score, rounded up to the next whole number.

[EXAMPLE: Team with **2** players, has scored 10 shots by the end of the game, so loses 2.5 shots rounded up to 3, So has a **final score** of 7 on the card]

Teams with only 2 players should only pay for two players.

The team winning the toss, or the previous end, shall roll the jack, however, the team with 3 Players shall **always** play the first wood.

This will ensure alternate bowls play over the whole game.

It is the responsibility of the skips, to complete the scorecards and such cards should show the points scored, and the points deducted from the team with only 2 players.

Play and Scoring

The jack shall be delivered in compliance with Law 9 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

Should the jack in any end be improperly delivered, or if it ends its original course in the ditch or outside the boundary of the rink, or less than 23 metres in a straight line of play from the mat, the jack shall be placed on the tee, by the opposing skip, who will determine, with his lead player the position in which the mat shall be placed, within the required regulations, for the resumption of the end.

The Sapphire League will start at 6pm on the sounding of the bell. The match will consist of 14 ends which will be played in full.

The Diamond League will be a timed league and will be played for 2 hours. Commencement at 10am and the signal for the last end will be defined by session alarm, or 14 ends if this occurs first.

The final end will be played out providing the jack is in motion, having been legally delivered (from the mat), before the end of session alarm is given.

During the game, no member of any team will visit the head, other than to relieve the skips, as a matter of necessity.

All players should stay at the delivery end of the rink until it becomes the turn of the skips to take possession of the mat.

Skips must leave the head together and not revisit it after taking charge of the mat. Players should not stop and have lengthy discussions in the middle of the green, as this can be distracting to players on adjacent rinks.

ONE shot only will be scored on the first TWO ends.

Re Spotting

If the jack is driven completely outside the side boundaries of the rink of play or rebounds to a distance of less than 20 metres from the mat line it shall be re-spotted to the nearest re-spot mark. If that position is obstructed then the jack is to be placed as near as possible to it along the line joining the re-spot and the marked T.

If the jack passes above the face of the bank that is within the side boundaries of the rink of play, or comes to rest in any hollow in the face of the bank, it must be placed on the T.

League Changeover

Competitors preparing to play in any following league or casual bowls session, shall not take up position at the end of the rinks before the end of session alarm has sounded or been given for the completion of the previous league.

After the end of session alarm, the players will be mindful of the last end in progress and refrain from moving about when preceding players are still in possession of the mat.

Members of following teams, shall refrain from intruding onto the green, readjusting scoreboards etc, until the preceding players have vacated the rink.

Also, as a courtesy, players arriving for a league that commences after a casual session shall not take up position at the end of the rinks until 5 minutes before the league start time.

Dress

League Dress Code:

Men: Club shirt or a plain white shirt with no logo and navy trousers or shorts

Women: Club shirt or a plain white shirt with no logo and navy shorts, skirt, or trousers

Conduct

All competitors must conform to the regulations currently in force at Woodgreen Leisure Centre.

Members will be expected to conduct themselves in a sporting manner, in keeping with the standards of the club at all times.

Section 13 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls regarding possession of the rink will be adhered to at all times. [i.e. possession of the rink belongs to the team whose bowl is being played until it comes to rest, so should not be distracted in any shape or form.]

Members practising on vacant rinks will be aware of the matches in progress around them and refrain from playing shots that may interfere with games being played on adjacent rinks.

Bowls Bags and other equipment must not be left at either end of the rink, thus preventing a free passage to the fire doors.

Complaints

All complaints or disputes must be given in writing to the Club Secretary of the Banbury Cross Indoor Bowls Club Committee. No verbal complaints or disputes can be accepted for discussion by the Committee.

Reviewed and approved on 7th September 2026