



## OXFORDSHIRE INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

### OXFORDSHIRE MEN'S INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION COMPETITION RULES 2025-2026

1. For the season of 2025 – 2026 Oxfordshire Indoor Bowling Association will hold the following County Competitions:
  - Singles for the Brian M Standen Trophy
  - Over 60's Singles
  - Pairs for the Cooper Autos Trophy
  - Australian Pairs for the Mike Andrew Trophy
  - Over 60's Pairs
  - Triples for the Tom Stewart Memorial Trophy
  - Mixed Pairs
2. In all Pairs competitions and the Triples competition, notwithstanding any names shown in the draw, the competitors taking part in their initial round in that competition constitute the original team. Only one (and the same) additional competitor of the same Club may be used as a substitute for any other competitor in the team at any other time afterwards provided the substitute has not already played in that competition for another team and providing, they are eligible competitors. A substitute or the substituted competitor can therefore play in more than one round and plays as a substitute for the team rather than for an individual competitor & may also play in any position.
3. Rink fees are to be shared between the competitors
4. The draw will be random and will determine which competitors are "challengers" and which competitors are the "opponents" in each round. The competitors whose names appear above those of their opponents in each round will be the "challengers".
5. The first-mentioned player in the draw is the challenger. On receipt of notification from the Competition Secretary of his opponent, or by reference to the website he must arrange with him to play the tie on his home green on or before the play by date. The only exception is the Finals, which will be played on the dates stated and on a green nominated by the O.I.B.A. If the "challenger" has not made contact 2 weeks prior to the play by date, then the "opponent" should then contact the "challenger". Best attempts must be made to play the match.
6. **No extension of the closing dates for each round will be granted for any reason whatsoever. Holidays are not accepted as a reason for non-attendance.**

- 7.** If the player/team (opponents) fails to appear and be ready to play within 30 minutes after the agreed time for the tie, the player/team (challengers) may claim a 'walk over'
- 8.** All competitors in the O.I.B.A. competitions must belong to an Oxfordshire indoor club affiliated to the English Indoor Bowling Associations, for the current year.
- 9.** For all singles the challengers will be responsible for arranging that a marker is available.
- 10.** The O.I.B.A. Committee reserves the right to alter any of the dates if, from any cause, it is found necessary.
- 11.** Game stoppages: If a game is stopped because of illness or any other valid reason; the game must be continued by mutual agreement either on the same day or on a different day before the next scheduled round. If a team or player in a singles game is unable to offer any dates, the defaulting team/player will forfeit the game. Scores will be as they were when the game was stopped. Winners must inform their next opponent and the Competition Secretary immediately after the completion of the game. If an end has started but all the required bowls have not been played, it must be declared dead. (The end must be declared dead even if one or more players choose to remain on the green during the stoppage). If all the required bowls in an end have been played but the process of deciding the number of shots scored has not been completed, the number of shots scored must be decided before the game stops.
- 12.** In a game that is being continued after a stoppage, if any one of the original players in a team is not available, one substitute will be allowed and can play in any position other than skip.  
If no eligible substitute is available, the defaulting team will forfeit the game to their opponents.  
Two trial ends may be played when the match is resumed on another day.
- 13.** Score cards must contain the surnames of all players of both teams. Substitutes should be clearly marked on the scorecard. Winners must keep all their scorecards, duly signed and timed by both skips, and bring them to the finals.
- 14.** Results must be notified to the O.I.B.A. competition secretary by email or text within 24 hours after the match has been played.  
Competition Secretary is: Dave Lattimore, email address [davidlattimore@btinternet.com](mailto:davidlattimore@btinternet.com) or on 07795 174886.  
If that fails ring 01608 684540.
- 15.** All bowls used in the County Championships must bear a legible stamp, which has an expiry date of 1985 or later. When no umpire is present the onus of checking the date stamp on bowls rests with the opposing player or players concerned.

- 16.** In all rounds leading up to the finals, dress shall be grey trousers and club registered shirt or club colours with flat-soled bowling shoes. Dress for finals is as above with the exception of grey trousers which shall be replaced by white trousers. In addition single players and teams may comply with the following:
- a. Club apparel may be worn provided that all members of the side or team wear the same and provided the design of such apparel has been registered to the County.
  - b. County approved apparel (e.g. shorts) may be worn provided that all members of a side or team wear the same colour above and/or below the waist.
  - c. Tracksuits, cargo trousers, shell suits and jeans are not acceptable.
- 17.** Any dispute arising during a Competition should be sent, in writing, to the O.I.B.A. Competition Secretary immediately after the close of the game. The O.I.B.A. Committee reserves the right of full powers of decision, which must be final.

### **O.I.B.A. County Competitions Format**

#### **Singles (Singles and Over 60's Singles)**

Each game shall consist of 21 shots – four bowls each player. Two trial ends may be played. All dead ends will be replayed.

#### **Pairs - for the Cooper Autos Trophy, Over 60's pairs & Mixed Pairs**

PAIRS = 4 bowls each player 18 ends or 3hr 30 min.

Two players must be from the same club. Each game shall consist of 18 ends four bowls each player. Two trial ends may be played. The Lead's to play their four bowls before the skips. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, and extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached. All dead ends will be replayed.

#### **Australian Pairs for the Mike Andrew Trophy**

PAIRS = 4 bowls each player 18 ends or 4 hours.

Two players must be from the same club. Each game shall consist of 18 ends four bowls each player. Two trial ends may be played.

The format for Australian Pairs is 2 – 4 – 2. Australian Pairs allows both people on a team to play Lead and Skip. In the first end of the game the Leads start off with 2 bowls each. Then the Skips play their 4 bowls. Then the Leads complete the end with their final 2 bowls. Thus, the Leads act as Lead and Skip in the same end. In the Next End the roles are reversed. The Skips playing first with their 2 bowls then the Leads play their 4 bowls. Then the Skips complete the End with their final 2 bowls. This alternating pattern continues throughout the game. "Aside from the extra walking, in the Australian Pairs, the rules are the same as a normal Pairs Game apart from the extra 30 minutes on the game." All dead ends will be replayed.

### **Triples for the Tom Stewart Memorial Trophy**

TRIPLES = 3 bowls each player 18 ends or 3hr 30 min

Three players must be from the same club. Each game shall consist of 18 ends – three bowls each player. Two trial ends may be played. In the event of the scores being equal when all ends have been played, and extra end or ends shall be played until a decision is reached. All dead ends will be replayed.