

NORFOLK COUNTY INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION

President: John Mason

Annual General Meeting – Sunday 5th July 2026

No motions or proposals were received from Fully Affiliated or Associate member clubs by 29th May for consideration at the AGM.

Motions below are proposed by the Executive Officers as part of the annual review of the rules governing the association and changes discussed at the SGM in February 2026.

Chris Taylor
Hon. Secretary
30th May 2026

1. County Rules and Objects

Amend Rule 5d as follows:

Nominations for the Team Managers may be submitted by affiliated clubs from their own membership to the Hon Secretary by 1st June on the official form provided.

Rationale: nominees must come from their own club and from a fully affiliated club.

Amend Rule 5d as follows and renumber to 5d.ii:

The Liberty Trophy team to be selected by a Team Manager appointed, for a term of three seasons, by the Executive Committee at the June Executive Council meeting. There is no restriction on the Manager playing in the Liberty Trophy team.

Rationale: To extend the term of office to 3 years.

Amend Rule 5f as follows and renumber to 5d.iii:

A Manager shall be appointed, for a term of three seasons, by the Executive Committee at the June Executive Council meeting, to select County Under 25 teams. There is no restriction on the Manager playing in the Under 25 teams if eligible.

Rationale: To extend the term of office to 3 years and bring the Under 25 teams Managers role in line with the Liberty Trophy teams.

Amend Rule 5g as follows and renumber to 5d.iv:

A Manager shall be appointed, for a term of three seasons, by the Executive Committee at the June Executive Council meeting to select Over 60 Inter-County teams. There is no restriction on the Manager playing in the Over 60 team if eligible.

Rationale: To extend the term of office to 3 years and bring the Over 60 Inter-County Managers role in line with the Liberty Trophy teams.

Delete Rule 9g and renumber rules 9h to 9j accordingly to 9g to 9i

Officers of the Association shall be awarded a FULL County Badge

Rationale: County badges are no longer awarded in any circumstances with the gradual change in the wearing of blazers.

2. County Match Rules

Amend Rule 2 to read as follows:

Inter County Friendly and President's Invitation games will be open to female members of fully affiliated clubs at the discretion of the President and Hon. Match Secretary.

Rationale: To enable Inter-County Friendly games to continue by not restricting these to males only.

Remove Rule 6

The Inter-County Friendly pocket badge may be worn by members who have played in five Inter-County matches. The recipient shall pay for the pocket badge. Note: President's Invitation matches do not count.

Rationale: Inter-County Friendly badges have been discontinued due to cost.

3. County League

Remove Rules 4b i) to 4b v) - Eligibility Rules and re-number Rules 4b vi) and vii) to Rules 4b i) and ii) and amending new Rule 4b iii) to read as follows:

No player can play for more than one club in the Men's County League's.

Any team found to have broken the above rule shall have 7 points deducted for each occasion they have defaulted. In addition for each game in which this rule has been broken the offending team will lose any points won in that game and all points for that game will be awarded to the opposing team.

Rationale: Allow Clubs flexibility to field teams in the County League without restriction.

4. Over 60 Inter-Club Double Rink Competition

Add the following paragraph to Rule 4iii):

Any team found to have broken the above rule shall have 7 points deducted for each occasion they have defaulted. In addition, for each game in which this rule has been broken the offending team will lose any points won in that game and all points for that game will be awarded to the opposing team.

Rationale: To bring Over 60's Competition in line with County League.

Amend Rule 4iv) as follows:

Change the number of ends to be played to 18 from 21.

Rationale: To bring Over 60's Competition in line with County League.

Amend Rule 4xi) as follows:

Change the number of points for the overall win to three from two.

Rationale: To bring Over 60's Competition in line with County League.

Amend Rule 4xiii) as follows:

Delete – The format of the Over 60 Inter-Club Double Rink Competition will be decided by the Hon. League Secretary at the start of each season and may vary from year to year.

And replace with:

The format of the Over 60 Inter Club Double Rink Competition together with the number of Divisions, number of teams within those Divisions and promotion and relegation to / from Divisions will be decided annually and will be presented by the Hon. League Secretary to the County Executive February meeting for formal agreement. This may vary from year to year.

Rationale: To bring Over 60's Competition in line with County League.

Delete - The Final will be held at a venue and date to be set by the Hon. League Secretary.

In the event of a tie in the Final an extra end will be played to determine the overall winners. Prior to the start of the Final the appointed umpire or an Official nominated by the Norfolk CIBA will designate one rink number to play the extra end before the draw is made for the rinks. The extra end shall be played by the nominated rink after play has been completed on all rinks.

Rationale: No longer required.

Amend Championship Pennant as follows:

Delete - The Over 60 Inter-Club Double Rink Competition Champions and Runners-Up will each receive a pennant.

The overall winners of the Over 60 Inter-Club Double Rink Competition will receive the Taylor-Trossell Trophy.

And replace with:

The winners of each Division will receive an appropriate trophy and a winner's pennant.

Rationale: To bring Over 60's Competition in line with County League

5. County Championship Rules (see draft rules below)

a. Submission of Entries in Club and County Competition Entries

Agreed all clubs should submit their entries to the County Competition Secretary by 30th September each year.

Standardising Entry Procedures

After discussion it was felt that Rule 7b) of the current County Competition rules should apply as follows: The competitors playing in the first match of any championship shall constitute the team which must consist of one player in the original entry.

This means only 1 name is required for each entry and once the first round has been played in the club competition the names must be submitted to the County Competition Secretary.

b. Qualification for County Play-Offs

In order to qualify for the County Competitions, Clubs must hold a club competition (between 1st October and 31st January of the current season) in the respective disciplines to determine their qualifiers. They cannot just nominate a player / team to represent them in the County Play-offs. Change from last season where each club received 2 entries for each competition regardless of entries. It was deemed to not be fair and some teams qualified for county playoffs without playing a game in their club.

The following rule change will mean everyone has to play (win) at least 1 match in their club.

If a club has less than 8 entries in a club competition they will receive a single qualifier for the county playoffs - The club winner/s qualify only. If a club has more than 8 entries in a club competition they will receive 2 qualifiers for the county playoffs – Both Finalists with Qualifier 'A' being from the top half of the club competition and Qualifier 'B' being from the bottom half of the club competition.

c. Rules for Club Competitions.

Clubs are allowed to run their club competitions with their own rules. The County Rules only come into effect when the County Playoffs start. Once qualified those playing in the County Competitions would be governed by the County Competition rules (as agreed by the County Executive) in place at the time and which may differ from their Club Competition rules.

d. Matchplay Singles and Under 25 Singles

Change to 2 sets of 9 ends followed by a 3 end tie break (with the winner being the first to win two ends, no shots in tie break only ends won).

Note: Use of respots

Although discussed at the SGM with the intention to remove the use of respots from the play-offs with the EIBA changes to introduce respots to all competitions this proposal is not being pursued and respot rules remain.

6. PROPOSED COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

Governing the Singles, Under-25 Singles, Matchplay Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours County Championships

1. The County Competition Championships are open to full male members of affiliated clubs with no age restriction, except for the Under-25 Singles Championship which will be open to both male and female competitors who are under the age of 25 on 1st October.

2. With the exception of the Under-25 Singles Championship and the Matchplay Singles Championship, the current season club competitions will be used to run the County Championships Play-offs.

3. Clubs must hold a club competition (between 1st October and 31st January of the current season) in the respective disciplines to determine their qualifiers which must have at least 2 entries. A club cannot nominate a player / team to represent them in the County Play-offs.

4. Clubs are permitted to run and organise their club competitions applying their own rules on format of matches as they feel appropriate.

5. All play-off games to be played as set out in these rules other than the Under 25 Singles & Matchplay Singles which are defined in Appendix A. Singles 21 up, Pairs, Triples and Fours 18 ends or 3 hours 30 minutes.

6. If a club has more than 2 but less than 8 entries in a club competition, they will receive a single qualifier for the county playoffs with the club winner(s) qualifying only for the play-offs.

7. If a club has 8 or more entries in a club competition they will receive 2 qualifiers for the county playoffs. Both club finalists will qualify for the

play-offs with Qualifier 'A' being from the top half of the club competition and Qualifier 'B' being from the bottom half of the club competition.

8. The County Competition Secretary, or Executive, shall have the authority to implement any new rule or amend an existing rule for a situation or scenario that is not covered by these rules and to raise this as a formal change for consideration at the AGM.

9. The Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark Fourth Edition will apply unless otherwise stated in these rules

10. Eligibility

a. A competitor entering a team in the Pairs, Triples and Fours Championships is not permitted to be a member of any other team in the same championship.

b. The competitors playing in the first match of any championship shall constitute the team which must consist of one player in the original entry.

c. A competitor who has entered a championship team in his name cannot afterwards play in another team in the same championship irrespective of whether or not he has actually played in his original entry. One additional (and the same) player may, however, be used as a substitute at any time provided, he has not already played in the championship.

d. A player may only represent one and the same club in any one season in the County Singles, Under 25 Singles, Matchplay Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours Championships.

e. A player competing in the Club Competitions leading to the Norfolk CIBA County Competition play-offs can only play from the same Club that that competitor plays for in the Norfolk CIBA County League.

11. Respots

a. In all competitions if a jack in motion passes completely outside the boundaries of the rink of play or rebounds to a distance of less than 20 metres from the mat line, the jack shall be re-spotted. If the jack passes outside the side boundary of the rink it should be placed on a pre-arranged spot on the rink which is 2 metres from the front ditch and a minimum of 1 metre and maximum of 1.5 metres to the left or right of the centre line, being positioned the same distance on both sides of the centre line, on the side that it left the rink of play. This rule ONLY applies to an end in play and not in relation to a jack being cast to start an end where the Laws of Sport rules 9 & 10 will apply.

b. If a bowl is on the re-spot, the jack will be placed as near as possible to the bowl without touching it, between the spot and the centre of the rink. If any other bowls are in the way the jack will be placed as near to that without touching it and the centre of the rink. In other words, directly between the 2 spots without touching a bowl.

12. *DRESS. Plain white shirt with tailored collar, club necktie/registered coloured shirt, grey, black or white trousers, registered coloured trousers or EIBA / Bowls Manufacturer shorts of any colour and any coloured flat soled regulation bowling shoes for matches up to and including the Finals*

13. *Club Representatives*

a. *The Hon Competition Secretary will before the start of the season confirm to all clubs a schedule of deadlines and match dates.*

b. *Club secretaries must notify the Hon Competition Secretary & Hon Treasurer the number of entries, and the name under which the entry has been made, from their club in each of the County Championship not later than 30th September.*

c. *The entry fee to each County Competition, determined by the Executive Council, is payable at the time of entry and to be sent to the Hon Treasurer by 20th November.*

d. *First round club competition results with names of the players to be sent to the Hon Competition Secretary immediately after the first round has been completed which defines who constitutes the team.*

e. *Club secretaries must notify the Hon Competition Secretary who the entries are from their club in each of the County Championship play-offs not later than 31st January.*

f. *Any competition entrant qualifying for the 'County' Championships who does not wish to participate in the 'County' Championships must notify the Competition Secretary by 31st January that they are withdrawing.*

g. *Any competitor who has not notified the Competition Secretary by 31st January that they do not wish to participate in the 'County' Championships and later concedes the Preliminary Round or any subsequent Round, unless due to illness or extenuating circumstances, shall be banned from participation in the 'County' Championships for up to three years. Competitors will also be liable for any rink fees should they concede at any time during any of the Competitions they have qualified for.*

14. *Competition play-off games must be played on the date(s) specified by the Hon. Competition Secretary unless prior agreement to play on a different date has been given.*

15. *The finals will be played on a green at the choice of the County President or the County Executive Council. With the exception of National events under the auspices of the EIBA Ltd, no event staged by any other organisation shall take precedence over the dates determined for the Norfolk County I.B.A. Championships.*

16. *Singles Champion will receive the R G Moore Cup and pennant Under 25 Singles Champion will receive the Frank Edge Cup and pennant Under 25 Singles Runner Up will receive the George Lingwood Plate Pairs Champions will receive the Bob Savage Cup and pennant Triples*

*Champions will receive the John Bakewell Cup and pennant Fours
Champions will receive the Ken Gooch Bowl and pennant. All trophies to
be returned to the Competition Secretary by 1st March. Engraving will be
the responsibility of the Association.*

Appendix A - Under-25 Singles & Matchplay Singles

- 1. The Under 25 Singles Championships and Matchplay Singles
Championship will be played in sets. Each match will consist of two sets,
each set being played over 9 ends. A set will be decided if at any point it
becomes impossible for one player to draw, or win, the set given the
number of ends remaining.*
- 2. If the game is tied after 2 sets, by either player having won 1 set or
both sets being drawn, a 3 end "tie breaker" will be played to determine
the winner.*
- 3. In the "tie breaker" the winner will be determined by the player being
the first to win 2 ends as during the "tie breaker" the number of shots are
not taken into account, only who wins the end.*
- 4. The winner of the toss prior to the start of the match shall have the
option to either take the mat or give it to the opponent on the first end
only. The loser of the toss shall have the option of taking the mat or
giving it away on the first end only of the second set.*
- 5. In a match tie breaker, the player winning the toss shall have the
choice of starting or giving away the jack.*
- 6. After the first end of any set or during the "tie breaker", the player who
wins an end will start the next end.*
- 7. If a jack in motion passes completely outside the boundaries of the rink
of play or rebounds to less than 20 metres from the mat line, the jack
shall be re-spotted. If the jack passes outside the side boundary of the
rink it should be placed on a pre-arranged spot on the rink which is 2
metres from the front ditch and a minimum of 1 metre and maximum of
1.5 metres to the left or right of the centre line, being positioned the same
distance on both sides of the centre line, on the side that it left the rink of
play. This rule ONLY applies to an end in play and not in relation to a jack
being cast to start an end where the Laws of Sport rules 9 & 10 will apply.*
- 8. If a bowl is on the re-spot, the jack will be placed as near as possible to
the bowl without touching it, between the spot and the centre of the rink.
If any other bowls are in the way the jack will be placed as near to that
without touching it and the centre of the rink. In other words, directly
between the 2 spots without touching a bowl.*

END