

COMPETITIONS ORGANISED BY WEST SUSSEX

Eligibility: All players who are registered with the ESMBA through their Club in West Sussex are eligible to enter all Competitions organised by West Sussex - other than those players who may currently have been suspended for any reason.

National Qualifying Competitions – Players may enter these competitions playing in conjunction with any other players who are registered with the ESMBA through this county.

County Closed Competitions: The County Championship Competitions for Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours together with the Champion of Champions and any Unbadged Competitions are closed competitions for which entry forms must be submitted by the club. Players may only enter these competitions playing in conjunction with members who are registered with the ESMBA through the same club in this county. These Competitions do not have a limited entry.

Champion of Champion – A club may only submit an entry in respect of a player who was registered with the County Association through that Club at the time of becoming the club Singles Champion. The person submitted for entry must have become the club Singles Champion in a competition held during the preceding season (1 Sep – 31 Aug). The final result sheet giving details of the Players, Date and Result must be forwarded with the entry form. A club may at their discretion still enter a player who has subsequently left their club, providing the player is still an ESMBA registered player, but no substitutes or alternatives are permitted.

County Unbadged Competitions – These competitions are only open to players who have never received a County Badge or who have not played for the County during three complete seasons (Sep to Aug) prior to the closing date of the competition.

County Open Competitions: (Over 60's, Mixed Pairs, etc) These Competitions are only open to member registered with the ESMBA through this county but either the club or players may submit an entry form and players may play with any other players whose are registered with the ESMBA through this county. These Competitions may have a limited entry.

Open Competitions: Any player may submit an entry form for these competitions playing in conjunction with any ESMBA registered player from any club or county. These Competitions may have a limited entry.

Entry Forms: Entry forms will state the closing date for entry to each competition. This closing date is to be 10 days prior to the date of the Competition. No entries will be accepted after the closing date. It is the responsibility of the Club or player submitting the entry to ensure that it is in the hands of the County Competition Secretary by the closing date. Proof of postage will not be sufficient.

Competition Fees: The competition fee will be fixed in agreement with the Management Committee to cover all costs incurred in running the competition.

This fee is to be paid at the time of entering.

When a team withdraws from the competition after the closing date no refund will be given.

If a team withdraws before the closing date the Association will refund the competition fee provided an acceptable reason has been given.

Competition Day Registration: All players should arrive 30 minutes before the published starting time. Any player who has not registered 10 minutes prior to the starting time will not normally be allowed to enter the competition and will also not be allowed to enter that competition in the following year. This will not apply if a player has informed the Competition Secretary of their likely late arrival and given a valid reason for their lateness.

Any player who fails to turn up for a competition will automatically be banned from the corresponding competition next year unless an acceptable reason is provided to the Management Committee.

Rules of Play: The rules of play will be those laid down by the Competition Secretary.

County Championships and National Qualifiers follow ESMBA rules and there shall be a round robin stage with groups of three, four or five, followed by a knockout stage. The knockout stage to be the best four, eight or sixteen from the round robin stages.

All other competitions, dependant on numbers entered, may be played in groups and organised similar to as above - OR - may be by random selection with all teams playing the same number of games against random opponents with if feasible four teams going through to the knockout stage. The maximum numbers of mats are to be used as required, in order to attempt to ensure that players do not sit out for too long or have too many games in a row.

Roll Ups: Provided that all equipment has been laid out and is in place for the start of the competition, all entrants will be permitted to roll up on the mats between the times of 09:10 and 09:20, prior to the draw taking place.

Finishing times: Provided the number of entries allow this, all competitions will normally be scheduled to be finished by 6 pm apart from the County Singles and Pairs which may need to be scheduled to finish later. This information will be included on the entry form so that players are aware of a possible late finish.

Competition Draws: All competitions will have the draw taking place on the day of the competition. Each skip will draw a number and that will determine their position in the pre arranged format for the round robin stage of the competition. One person will supervise the drawing of the numbers and the Competition Secretary will write down the information on the blank draw sheet.

The format for the competition shall have been prepared prior to the draw having taken place and each team shall receive a copy of the format of the competition when they have drawn their number. This draw to take place at 09:20 and play to commence at 09:30.

Results: Results of matches should be displayed on the board in the foyer and any of the committee members present should if necessary and where possible, assist the organizer in recording these results on the board.

Dress Code: All competitions follow the ESMBA dress code. All members of any team entered must be in the same uniform. Player must wear either plain white or Club shirts – county shirts and jumpers may NOT be worn.

Should a player contravene the dress code they will get a warning for the first offence. This will be backed by a letter to the player and their club. On the second offence the player will be allowed to play but will be banned from all future county competitions until an assurance is given from the player's club that the rule will be observed in future. These circumstances will also be communicated to the player's club by letter.

Bowls Stickers: All members of a team must have the same stickers on their woods or none at all. County stickers must not be used in County competitions or National Qualifier rounds - other than in a Singles competition - when two woods may contain county stickers and the other two club stickers.