

BERKSHIRE COUNTY KENNET LEAGUE – KL

Rules for 2024

1. Each team shall consist of Four Rinks. Each game to be played over 18 ends. Two points to each rink for a win. One point to each rink for a draw. Six points to the team with the highest aggregate of shots. Three points for each team if the match is tied. Total number of points available is 14.
2. (a) A draw for rinks to take place 15 minutes before start time after which the players may commence their trial ends.
(b) All matches (except (d) under) to commence not later than 6.30pm, the start of the game being when the jack is delivered after the trial ends. Late players may join the game up to this point.
(c) Green fees are to be paid by the home club.
(d) Games played in May & August to commence at 6.15pm instead of 6.30pm, the start of the game being when the jack is delivered after the trial ends.
3. (a) All competitors to wear the same regulation dress for all matches. White shirts, or coloured shirts that have been approved by the RCBBA above the waist, grey trousers and regulation bowling shoes for all games played in a league format. For those clubs who have an RCBBA approved matching shirt/trousers or shorts, then this kit/uniform may be worn but only if all players in the team do so.
(b) Dress code for the Semi finals and Finals shall be decided by the Management Committee.
(c) It is expected that competitors in league matches would have their bowls identified by their club stickers.
4. (a) The league will be divided into two sections - East with 3 divisions, West with 2. Promotion and relegation between the 3/2 divisions will be two up and two down each season. Each team will play each other home and away during the season.
(b) All matches including all those re-arranged under rule 11 must be completed to allow at least 7 days before the relevant finals stages commence unless there are exceptional circumstances and approval has been granted by the management committee.
(c) Any new teams joining the league will be placed into division three of their section, subject to review by the Management Committee taking into account all factors including geographical locations.
5. All matches will be played on Tuesday evenings and all matches must be completed before the last day of the fixture programme. The fixtures to be compiled by the League Management Committee.
6. (a) Both captains must agree on the details of the result, and retain their own rink cards for the remainder of the season in case of any future dispute.
(b) Any results submitted with incorrect information are liable to the imposition of penalty points
(c) The home team captain will be responsible for emailing the result to the Results Officer. The away team captain should not email the result, to avoid duplication/confusion.
7. If the Match Result is received later than noon on the Thursday of the week when the match was played then the home side may have two points deducted from its total.
8. In the event of teams tied for any position in the League the higher placed will be the team with the greater shots difference or if still tied the greater total of shots scored.
9. If a club that has more than one KL team, any player can play for any team with the proviso that if they play more than four times for a higher team they may not then play for a lower team for the remainder of the season. For example, playing more than four matches for Team B makes a player ineligible to play for Team C. Players aged 18 and under may play an unlimited number of matches for their club in any team during the season.

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10. In the event of a team fielding an ineligible player the points of the rink in which he played shall be conceded to the opposing side plus ten shots along with the six points for the match result.
11. (a) In the event of a match being abandoned due to adverse weather, if a minimum of 36 ends have been completed irrespective of the number of ends played on individual rinks, then the result will stand on the scores of each rink at the time the match was abandoned and the end completed.
(b) In the event of a KL league game not being concluded due to a green being unplayable as a result of inclement weather, and the necessary 36 ends not completed in a shortened game, then the match will be deemed a draw and 7 points awarded to each team, 40 shots each. The decision regarding a green being unplayable or not to be decided by home club.
(d) Matches rearranged to be played within the last three weeks of the season, must be referred to the Management Committee for approval. The Results Officer to be notified of the replay date.
(e) If a team does not fulfil a fixture the defaulting team shall forfeit the match and concede 14 points and 40 shots to their opponents. In this event the League Management Committee will consider the circumstances of the default to decide whether further action, including exclusion, should be taken against the offending team.
12. (a) If a side arrives one player short one rink will play three against the opposing four players in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls. If a side arrives one rink short (i.e. two or more players short) the two rinks points plus 20 shots shall be conceded to the opposing side.
(b) In the event of a player being injured or falling sick during a match, whereby he is unable to continue, an eligible substitute player shall be allowed to take his place (in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls).
(c) If there is no substitute player available then the rink will continue as permitted under the Laws of the Sport of Bowls. In doing so one fourth of their shots will be deducted from the last completed end (before the player left the green) to the end of the match.
13. (a) In division one the winners of east shall play runner up in west and vice versa in two semi finals, the two winning teams to play in the final. In division two the winner of east will play a final against their counterparts from the west.
(b) The matches will be played on a date and venue to be decided by the Management Committee.
(c) At no stage will a team be allowed to commence a final with less than four full rinks.
(d) The results of the finals will be decided by aggregate shots. In the event of a tie each rink will play an extra end or ends until a result is determined.
14. The winning team will receive a trophy at the end of the season to be held for one year.