

North Sheen Bowling Club Rules

2025

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1. Name

The club shall be called The North Sheen Bowling Club, with bowling green Headquarters at Marksbury Avenue. Lower Richmond Road. Richmond. Surrey. TW9 4JA.

2. Objectives

- a. The objective of the club shall be to provide facilities for and to promote participation in, the amateur sport of outdoor flat green bowls. To provide to members and their guests facilities for refreshment, companionship and entertainment. To arrange matches against other bowling clubs and Associations and play competitions maintaining the spirit of sportsmanship with the fraternity of bowlers.
- b. The club shall be affiliated to the Bowls England Association and the Bowls Surrey County Bowling Association and ensure that the rules are not in contradiction to the Bowls England Rules and Regulations or Articles of Association or the Constitution of Bowls Surrey and shall be instrumental in enforcing the rules of the game as laid down by these associations. The club may also affiliate to any other association connected with the game as may be decided at a general meeting or committee meeting.
- c. The Club as a member of Bowls England shall be bound by and shall comply with the Rules & Regulations and Policies of Bowls England, as amended from time to time.
- d. The Club shall as a qualification of membership to Bowls England adopt and follow:
 - (A) All policies and guidelines approved by Bowls England, including but not limited to, safeguarding policies, inclusion policies and anti-doping policies.
 - (B) All procedures set out in Bowls England Regulations 9, 9A and 9B when dealing with any disciplinary/misconduct issues.
 - (C) All members shall be deemed to have made themselves familiar with, and agreed to be bound by, the UK Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to the authority of UK Anti-Doping in the application and enforcement of the Anti-Doping Rules.
 - (D) All sanctions, recommendations and/or decisions from the Safeguarding Case Management Panel or National Disciplinary Panel.

3. Classes of membership.

- a) There shall be five Membership types open to persons in the following categories:
 - (1) Full Bowling: Over 18 on 30th April
 - (2) Colt Bowling: Under 18 on 30th April
 - (3) Social :Over 18 on 30th April
 - (4) Life Members
 - (5) Temporary

- b) A person otherwise eligible for membership may be elected a temporary member for any period up to a total of four weeks in any one year, on such terms and condition as the committee may from time to time determine.
- c) No member shall be made an honorary or life member except by the decision of a general meeting and unless they have been a Full Bowling member for at least 5 years.

4. Membership.

- a) Membership of the club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of bowls on application
- b) Different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis.
- c) The rights and privileges of a member shall not be transferable.
- d) The club committee may refuse membership, or remove it, at its absolute and unfettered discretion and only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or sport into disrepute.
- e) A member shall cease to be a member if:
 - I. They resign in writing to the club committee.
 - II. Their membership is terminated by the committee.
 - III. Their annual subscription remains unpaid at the expiration of one calendar month from due date.
- f) Any Applicant for membership shall provide particulars specified below. The particulars and the names of the proposer and secondary (Full Bowling or honorary members of the club) shall be posted on the club notice board for at least 48 hours before any ballot is held for the purpose of electing the candidate.
- g) Candidates may be elected or refused membership by the committee.
- h) ALL MEMBERSHIP IS SUBJECT TO 12 MONTHS PROBATION and the application process is as follows:
 - a. An Applicant provides Name, address, email, age if under 18, occupation, bowling experience and previous club. They must date and sign to agree to rules.
 - b. The form must be given to a committee member who will place on the notice board.
 - c. For at least 48 hours and no more than 21 days at the next committee meeting the forms are removed.
 - d. The applications will be discussed, checked for any objections and it is at the committee's discretion as to whether any new applicant will be invited before the committee. (Ie a bowler from another club well known to North Sheen and committee members.)
 - e. A Committee member is to invite the applicants to the next committee meeting or to meet the committee at a social event to confirm and pay their membership. The Proposer should attend with the new member.
 - f. The Committee will induct the new member as follows: Give a brief history of the club that it is run on volunteer basis etc. Direct to the rules, how things work, teas, keys, how much the membership is, playing months where to find information and how to get training. The applicant will agree to club rules and Code of conduct and be directed to Safeguarding information.
- i) The proportion of Bowling to social membership is set at 60/40 ratio of full membership total.
- j) Social members must use the facility of the club at least 6 times a year or will be refused renewal of membership.

5. Purchases by members

Any members making a purchase or paying any charges for amenities shall pay on demand and no member shall obtain on credit any refreshments or amenities for which a charge is made.

6. Member's guests.

Any member may introduce guest into the club premises subject to the following condition,

- a) No guest shall be introduced who has been refused membership of the club, has been expelled from the membership of the club, or is less than 18 years of age.
- b) No guest shall be introduced for more than six days in any one year or for more than two days in any one month if they are eligible for membership.
- c) Children admitted only with strict supervision of the parents.

7. Entrance fee and subscriptions.

- a) Before any candidate for membership is considered to be a member they must pay an entrance fee and every member shall pay an annual subscription as the members decide in a general meeting which shall be due on the 30th April for the current season.
- b) A candidate admitted to membership after the due date stated above shall pay at the same time as they pay their entrance fee such reasonable proportion of a full year's subscription as the committee shall determine.
- c) Social members elected subject to the condition of rule 4 shall pay an annual fee that has been decided by a general meeting. Social members shall be entitled to what social amenities the club house has to offer, but shall not be permitted to take part in any activities whatsoever on the bowling green, except by invitation of a full member and they observe the regulations and conditions laid down by the club they also are not entitled to any voting rights.

8. Members in arrears.

- a) Any candidate who fails to pay their entrance fee and subscription within 15 days of a notice of their election being posted to them by the secretary of the club shall be deemed to have forfeited their right to membership.
- b) Any member who fails to pay his annual subscription by the 30th April of the current season shall be reported to the committee who have the right to suspend such member.

9. Expulsion of members.

A Complaint of misconduct of a member by any person must be made in writing to Club Chair or President.

- a) The Chair/President will conduct a preliminary investigation and consider whether there is sufficient evidence to justify disciplinary proceedings. The committee at any time and in its absolute discretion following a preliminary investigation, can invite the resignation or suspend any member who is in its opinion has acted and contrary to the interests of the club.
- b) In the case of serious offences the club may suspend the accused pending the outcome of disciplinary proceedings.

Bowls England Regulation 9 or 9A will be used when dealing with any disciplinary, breach of code of conduct/misconduct. <https://www.bowlsengland.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Regulation-9.pdf>

- c) If the member fails to resign within 15 days the committee shall arrange a Club Disciplinary Hearing. See Club Disciplinary Proceedings (Regulation 9)

10. Annual General Meeting, General Meetings.

- a) The annual general meeting shall be held in December of each year (or as soon as possible prior to the start of the season) at the club headquarters. All members of the club shall receive notice of this meeting together with the agenda at least fourteen days prior to the date chosen.
- b) An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called upon receipt of a requisition signed by a minimum of ten members of the club requesting same, by the Hon Secretary; the requisition must state the nature of the business to be discussed. A Special General Meeting or a club disciplinary meeting may be called at any time at the discretion of the committee.
- c) The Hon Secretary shall circulate all members giving at least ten days' notice of any meeting coming under the heading of paragraph B) of this rule.
- d) The agenda of the Annual General Meeting shall include among its items the minutes of the last general meeting the Hon Secretary's report, the presentation of the audited balance sheet, and the elections of officers for the ensuing year.

11. Election of officers and general business.

- a) The officers and committee of the club shall hold office for one year and shall retire from office on the 1st December annually. They may stand for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.
- b) The Annual General Meeting shall also appoint two Hon Auditors from the membership.
- c) Notice of motion must be given by members in writing to the Hon Secretary and must reach them not later than the 1st December where such motion affects the rules.
- d) The adoption or rejection of a motion shall be decided by a majority vote or failing this by the Chairman's casting vote. Except in the case of a motion affecting the rules, in this later case the motion must be passed by a 51% majority of those present.
- e) The Hon Secretary shall be responsible for the posting of all announcements upon the clubs notice boards.

12. Officers and Management.

- a) The officers of the club shall consist of President, vice President, Captain, Vice-Captain, Hon Treasurer, Hon Secretary and Hon Match Secretary.
- b) The management of the clubs business shall be vested in a committee of ten members which shall consist of all the members listed in paragraph A) of this rule, excepting vice Presidents unless the latter are elected members of the committee.

13. Bye laws.

The committee may make, vary or rescind bye-laws for regulating the affairs of the club provided that such bye-laws are not contrary to the provisions contained in these rules. Such bye-laws will be recorded in committee minutes and posted on the club notice board. All members and visitors of the club must abide to these bye-laws.

14. Interpretation of the rules.

The committee shall be the sole authority of the interpretation of these rules or any part of them, but any member may call for an interpretation to be confirmed at the next general meeting.

15. Opening of club premises.

The club shall be open to members and their guests from 09.00am to 11.00pm Mon to Sat, and from 09.00am to 10.30pm on each Sunday, Good Friday and Christmas day. The committee shall have the power to extend these times if opening for special occasions.

16. Permitted hours.

The hours during which intoxicating liquor may be supplied and consumed on the club premises shall be from 11.00 am to 11.00 pm from Mondays to Thursday. Fridays and Saturdays shall be from 11.00 am until 01.00am (01.30 on special occasions). On Sundays, Christmas day and Good Friday the times will be from 12.00 noon to 10.30 pm. The bar will be open at these hours or at such other hours as may be decided by the Committee subject to any restrictions imposed from time to time by the Licensing Authority.

17. Visitors.

- a) Visitors from affiliated or association clubs and members of visiting bowling clubs when attending the club premises will be given the facilities of the club.
- b) Visitors attending the club in the event of a celebration event shall be given the facilities of the clubhouse and bar.

18. Bar committee.

The purchase for the club and the supply of the club of intoxicating liquor (so far as not managed by the club in general meeting or otherwise by the general body of members) is managed by a committee of at least four members. Members of the committee and those serving behind the bar shall hold office for one year and shall retire on the 1st December annually. They may stand for re-election at the annual general meeting. They must have been members of the club for not less than two years.

19. Alteration of the rules.

No alteration or addition to these rules shall be made except by a resolution carried by at least 90% of the members present at a general meeting, notice of which shall have been given 21 days in advance and have contained particulars of the proposed alteration or addition.

20. Trustees.

The club shall have the power to appoint trustees to hold assets of the club i.e. freehold or leasehold of the property. There shall be three trustees of the club who shall be appointed by the club at a general meeting. Trustee responsibilities include, having the power to hold and purchase freehold or leasehold property. Holding assets of the club including land shall be by the trustees in their own names so far as necessary for the use and benefits of the club. The Trustees shall in all respects act with regard to any property of the club held by them as directed by the management committee and shall have the power to sign all documents on behalf of the club and to charge the property to any loans to the club.

21. Sale of the club.

Should the occasion ever arise whereby a proposition is made to sell the clubhouse and the land of North Sheen Bowling Club, that at least 90% of the eligible voting members must be in favour of the proposition.

Should that proposition be carried, then, when all debts have been paid, the balance will be shared amongst fully paid up members of the following categories: Bowling members, life members, honorary members. Such payments would be pro-rata on length of current membership, as per the example:

Example	Total of all full members years	=	TAFMY	
	Sale value	=	SV	
	Total of Individual full members years	=	TIFMY	
	One years full membership value	=	1YFMV	
	Individuals total full years	=	ITFY	
	FORMULA	SV	divide by	TAFMY = 1YFMV
	Individual entitlement	1YFMV	X	TIFMY = INDIVIDUAL SALE VALUE

22. Appointment of Sub-Committees

The Committee may appoint such sub-committees as it may deem necessary and may delegate such of its powers as it may think fit upon such terms and conditions as shall be deemed expedient and/or required by the law.

23. List of policies/Byelaws

1. Membership application form
2. Code of conduct
3. Privacy policy
4. Contact details for safeguarding referrals
5. Safeguarding children in Bowls Policy
6. Safeguarding Adults in Bowls Policy
7. Anti-Bullying Policy
8. Social Media Guidelines
9. Photography in Bowls Guidelines
10. Whistleblowing Policy
11. Health and safety
12. Competition rules
13. Suggested donation for exclusive use of venue for private event