



Bowls Scotland

COVID-19 Getting Back on the

Green Phase Three:

Open Competitions Guidance

Effective from: 14th August 2020



INTRODUCTION

After consultation with the Scottish Government and **sportscotland**, further restrictions have been eased regarding outdoor open competitions. This document has been developed with guidance from Scottish Government and **sportscotland** to support clubs deliver open competitions during phase 3 and should be considered in conjunction with current Bowls Scotland COVID-19 Getting Back on the Green Phase Three and Scottish Government guidance.

People who are symptomatic should self-isolate for 10 days: household members for 14 days as per info on NHS guidance. No one who is self-isolating should attend a bowling club or play in competitions.

Open Competition Guidance

- Open singles competitions can now take place provided they are in line with the bowling activity for phase 3
- Open pairs, triples, and fours in the traditional sense, **MUST NOT** take place at this time (except for household pairs, triples and fours)
- All rinks can be used for Open singles competitions
- Clubs must risk assess to determine whether they could host an open competition in line with all guidance
- Clubs must maintain a register/booking system for everyone attending the club to comply with Test and Protect
- Players should only travel to/from competition with their own household, and not mix households i.e. car sharing
- Competition organisers may consider where appropriate different formats of competition or staggered starts
- Players, coaches, officials, and others involved in the competitions should always follow physical distancing and good hygiene
- Spectating should be in line with Phase 3 guidance
- Formal presentations should only take place outside but only if social distancing and hygiene measures can be adhered to
- All open competitions must be licenced by Bowls Scotland prior to the competition taking place

Open Singles Competition Example

This below scenario demonstrates how a competition could be run within the current guidance; however, clubs should adapt it to best suit their needs. Any competitions must be in line with bowling activity guidance, physical distancing, and good hygiene.

- An open singles competition has 20 entries
- Only 4 matches maximum can be played by any one player in one day
- Sections of 5 players, each player playing against the other players in their section (this is to ensure players do not exceed the maximum number of households allowed as per Scottish Government guidance)
- No markers are allowed, players should set the jack for their opposition during the match



- Matches last 9 ends or 45 minutes
- There would be a winner for each section, and a winner overall declared
- Formal presentations should only take place outside but only if social distancing and hygiene measures can be adhered to

Alternatively, the competition could be done over 2 days with 4 matches taking place on day one, then inviting the winners of sections to the second day of the tournament, for final knockout stages.

Open Singles Competitions Restrictions

- An all-in singles draw is not permitted in one day as a player could only play 4 matches and then would not be able to play anymore having met the maximum number of households a person can play with in one day.
 - For example, 4 section matches and potentially a semifinal and final all in one day, would be players playing against 6 other households which exceeds what is permitted at this phase of bowling activity.
- Open pairs, triples and fours in the traditional sense, must not take place at this time as a player would be exceeding the 4 other households in a day that is permitted.

Junior Open Competition Guidance

- While children and young people 17 and under are exempt from household and physical distancing rules during sporting activity, competition organisers should still seek to reduce risk by minimising the numbers of children taking part in competition where possible
- Junior (Under 17) Singles, Pairs, Triples or Fours Open competitions can now take place providing all other guidance is followed:
 - Clubs must risk assess to determine whether they could host an open Junior competition in line with all guidance
 - Clubs must maintain a register/booking system for everyone attending the club to comply with Test and Protect
 - Players should only travel to/from competition with their own household, and not mix households i.e. car sharing
 - Competition organisers may consider where appropriate different formats of competition or staggered starts
 - Players, coaches, officials, and others involved in the competitions should always follow physical distancing and good hygiene
 - Spectating should be in line with Phase 3 guidance
 - Formal presentations should only take place outside but only if hygiene measures can be adhered to

Tournament Licence

All open/invitation tournaments held in Scotland **must** be licensed by Bowls Scotland. An open tournament is any tournament open to members out with your club. Notices advertising open events should clearly indicate that the event is “licensed by Bowls Scotland”.



All open competitions must have a Tournament Licence approved prior to the competition taking place. To complete a Tournament Licence Application, please visit our website here - <https://www.bowlsscotland.com/clubs/club-support-covid-19>.

Internal Club Competitions

- Internal competitions **must** fall in line with bowling activity guidance, physical distancing and good hygiene
- Internal pairs, triples, and fours in the traditional sense, **MUST NOT** take place at this time
- Please refer to the current Bowls Scotland COVID-19 Getting Back on the Green Phase Three and Scottish Government guidance - <https://www.bowlsscotland.com/clubs/club-support-covid-19>

General FAQ enquiries should be directed to info@bowlsscotland.com

Our National Development Officers are here to help:

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Please refer to the Bowls Scotland website and social media for further updates.