



COMPETITIONS ORGANISED BY WEST SUSSEX

- 1. 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 be suspended for any reason.
- 2. County Competitions (incorporating National Qualifiers):** Players may enter the Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours, Mixed Fours and Over 55 Pairs in conjunction with any other players who are registered with the ESMBA through this county. These competitions may have a limited entry for 'county only' entrants.
- 3. Entry Forms:** Entry forms will state a closing date for national qualification, further entries can be accepted after this date and up to ten days before the competition date. These will be 'county only' entries. It is the responsibility of the club or player submitting the entry, to ensure that it is the hands of the Competition Secretary by the closing date.
- 4. National Qualification:** The four semi-finalists will be the West Sussex applicants for the National Finals. If a 'County only' entry reaches the semi finals we must fill out their place on the Result sheet with 'Non-National' entered on the form.
- 5. Open and Summer Competitions:** Any player may submit an entry form for these competitions. Playing in conjunction with any ESMBA with any registered player from any club or county. Non registered players are permitted in charity competitions. These competitions may have a limited entry. Entry forms for these competitions will have a closing date of ten days before the competition date.
- 6. Competition Fees:** The competition fee will be fixed in agreement with the Management Committee to cover all costs incurred in running the competition whenever possible. This fee is to be paid at the time of entering. When a team withdraws from a competition, after the closing date, no refund will be given. If a team withdraws before the closing date, a full refund of the competition fee will be issued providing an acceptable reason has been given.
- 7. Competition Day Registration:** All players should arrive thirty minutes before the published starting time. Any player who has not registered ten minutes prior to the start time may not be allowed to enter the competition. This will not apply if a player has informed the competition organiser 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 excluded from the corresponding competition the next year unless an acceptable reason is provided to the County Management Committee.
- 8. Rules of Play:** The rules of play will be those laid down by the Competition Secretary. County Championships and National Qualifiers follow ESMBA rules. There shall be a round robin stage with groups, followed by a knockout stage. All other competitions dependent on numbers entered may be played in groups or may be by random selection with all teams playing the same number of games against random opponents. Every effort with these competitions will be made to minimise the time for players sitting out or having too many games in a row.
- 9. 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.

- 10. Finishing Times:** County Competitions/National Qualifiers will be scheduled to finish by 6pm. Open competitions will be scheduled to finish by 5pm.
- 11. Competition Draws:** Competition draws will be held prior to day and will be displayed through our tv screen for everyone to follow. Each entry will be supplied with their own scorecards on arrival. Score cards are to be handed in to the results desk upon completion of each round played.
- 12. Dress Code:** All competitions follow the ESMBA dress code. All members of any team entered must be in the same shirts. Plain shorts are permitted for the summer competitions only. 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 competitions until an assurance is given from the player's club that the rule will be observed in the future. These circumstances will also be communicated to the player's club by letter.
- 13. 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 or national qualifier competitions other than in a singles competition when two woods may contain county stickers and the other two should be club stickers.
- 14. Disputes:** In the event of any disputes, or eventualities not covered by the above, the competition organiser's decision is final.