



# THE WORTHING UNIFIED OPEN BOWLS TOURNAMENT CONSTITUTION

## Article 1.

### Section A.

The name of the Tournament shall be 'The Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament'.

The Tournament will be managed under the patronage of The Mayor of Worthing.

The Tournament will be run by an Association of Officers and Committee members on a voluntary basis with the only remuneration paid being justifiable expenses.

The Tournament will be a recognised licenced event as described by the sport's National Governing Body, Bowls England. The Tournament will be played in accordance with the Rules of the sport as laid down by World Bowls except where local lawn bowls bye-laws over rides any such rule for the purpose of the Tournament.

### Section B.

The primary purpose of the Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament is to offer a competitive lawn bowls event open to any player irrespective of their gender, ethnicity or individual ability as long as they conform to the rules and regulations as may be in force temporarily for the Tournament. The Tournament shall encourage the ideals of the sport of lawn bowls and afford the opportunity for both men and women to take part in a competitive game, sustain the ideals of lawn bowls, improve the standard of their game, enhance community social interaction and succeed largely on their own playing ability and skill. The Tournament will consist of competition events as decided by the Tournament organising committee and will attract prize money, the total and distribution of which will be decided by the organising committee.

## Article II.

### Qualifying Entrants.

#### Section A.

Competitors in the Worthing Unified open Bowls Tournament shall be members of an officially recognised and affiliated lawn bowls club but notwithstanding that requirement any person whether a member of a bowls club affiliated or otherwise will have the right of entry with the agreement of a simple majority of the organising committee. The organising committee will however also have the right to refuse entry to any person without giving a reason again by way of a simple majority.



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## **Section B.**

Entrants under the age of 18 years at the commencement of the Tournament must be accompanied by a responsible and suitable adult in order to play in the Tournament.

## **Section C.**

The Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament shall not discriminate or prejudice any prospective entrant for the purpose of competing in the Tournament. Competitors in the Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament are free to withdraw or dissociate themselves from the Tournament without fear of retribution or harassment. The Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament shall not discriminate based on race, creed, colour, sex, age, national origin, disability or sexual orientation.

## **Article III.**

### **Officers.**

#### **Section A.**

The Patron of the Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament shall be the standing Mayor of Worthing.

The Officers of the Association of the Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament shall be The President, The Chairman, The Secretary and The Treasurer.

Five additional members shall together with the Officers form the Organising Committee.

The Officers and the Organising Committee will have the authority to co-opt any person onto the Committee as they see fit to assist in the running of the Tournament.

#### **Section B.**

##### **Period of Office**

There shall be no limit to the number of years an individual can stand for office but all persons standing for office must indicate to the Secretary their willingness to stand for office prior to the Annual General Meeting.

#### **Section C.**

The Chairman will preside over the meetings of the Tournament Committee and the Annual General Meeting and act as an official representative of the Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament.



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The Secretary will be responsible for all administrative matters concerning the Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament. He will also be responsible, with the other members of the Organising Committee, for making the necessary arrangements for staging the Tournament.

The secretary will be the principal point of contact for the Tournament and be responsible for the day to day decisions necessary to progress the event.

The Treasurer will be responsible for handling all funds of the Worthing Unified Open Bowls Tournament as well as maintain accurate records of all transactions. He will also be responsible for ensuring the annual audit of accounts for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.

### Article IV.

#### Elections.

**Section A.** Elections of new Officers shall take place at the Annual General Meeting. Where more than one nomination is received for the same position a ballot will take place of all members present. The format of the ballot will be at the discretion of the Secretary. In the event of a tied count the Chairman will cast the deciding vote.

**Section B.** Any person who wishes to become an Officer or Committee member must submit an application in writing to be received by the Secretary seven (7) days before the AGM.

Any person who is a member of a designated Worthing area club or has competed in the Worthing Unified Open Bowls tournament in the last five (5) years is eligible to be elected to the organising committee. All Committee members have the right to vote.

**Section C.** Officers will be elected by a simple majority of the Committee members present at the AGM. A ballot will be held if more than one nominee is running for the same position. The nature of the ballot will be at the discretion of the Secretary and will be by secret ballot paper or show of hands if necessary.

### Article V.

#### Removal of Officers and Committee Members.

**Section A.** Any Officer or Committee member shall be removed from office for gross negligence, theft, or any other reason that brings the Tournament into disrepute.

**Section B.** An Officer or Committee member can only be removed from office after all the evidence has been recounted to the remaining Officer and Committee members and a thorough investigation has taken place. Written and oral evidence will be taken into account.



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The Officer or Committee member involved shall have the right to contest the evidence at a formal hearing with the other Officers and Committee members. After considering all the evidence and all extenuating factors the Officer or Committee shall receive a decision in writing within seven (7) days of the hearing. The decision will be binding.

## Article VI.

**Vacancies.** A vacancy shall be declared when an officer or Committee member dies, resigns or is removed from office.

A vacancy may be temporarily filled by any person being co-opted into the organisation by its existing Officers and Members. The appointment can be substantiated at the AGM.

## Article VII.

### Amendments.

Any member of the Association of the Worthing Unified Bowls Tournament Committee may suggest amendments to this Constitution by writing to the Secretary at least 28 days prior to the AGM. The proposed amendment shall be presented to the membership at the AGM and voted on by a show of hands. A simple majority shall decide the vote.

## Article VIII.

### DISSOLUTION.

A motion for the dissolution of the Worthing Unified open Bowls Tournament can be made to the Committee at any time. If such a motion is proposed by any Committee Member, the Chairman shall convene a meeting to discuss the motion. All Officers and Committee members will be able to voice their opinion and will be entitled to vote on the motion. A simple majority will be sufficient to carry the motion. In the event of a tied vote the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

If the motion is carried the Chairman shall proceed to realise the assets of the Association and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Association.

After payment of all debts and liabilities, the remaining assets shall NOT be distributed amongst the Officers or Committee members but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation or charity as designated at the meeting.