

WORLD SHORT MAT BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

RULES (2014)

1. The Council shall fix the dates for the Championships which shall take place biennially and in accordance with the agreed rota.
2. The Country due to host the next Championships will submit to the Council at its General meeting details of the event and the Council is empowered to take whatever steps it thinks fit if, in its opinion, the venue, or any other details, are considered unsuitable.
3. The Council shall set the Rules and format for the event and deal with any dispute which may arise.
4. The Council shall have the right to alter any rules should it be found necessary to meet any unforeseen circumstance.

FORMAT

5. The Championships will be held for Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours.
6. Each Country in Full Membership (countries in full membership must have 20 players) shall be entitled to enter up to two representatives in each of the events. Countries not in full memberships may enter up to two representatives but may only enter in one category, and be placed in section A or B at the discretion of the host organisers. Part teams of 3 must start with triples, and four players to be in fours. Countries may not enter in both sections until they have more than ten players, subject to the agreement of the Council. Entries to be sent in within eight weeks and names lodged within 4 weeks of the championships date. Players must be nationals of the Country they represent, or must be full-time residents of that Country for at least one year prior to the Championships.
7. The players will be split into such groups so that no player from a Country shall play against each other in the preliminary rounds. **A player may not play in two disciplines.**
8. If a player is taken ill, or has to leave the Mat for any reason a substitute may be used. If, however, the original player recovers they shall be allowed to re-join.
9. The preliminary rounds in each group will be played on a round robin basis, the winner(s) to be decided on a points basis. Two points for a win; one point for a draw. If at the conclusion of a group, players, or teams, are equal on points then the winner(s) will be the one with the greatest shot-difference, or if that is equal the highest aggregate score, if that to is equal the highest no of ends won if that is equal an extra end will be played to determine the result of the game between the individuals or team.
10. If only two groups are involved the winners of each group shall play the runner up of the other group, the winners will play for first and second place, second placed players will play each other for third place. If more than two groups are involved the winners of each group will play either on a round-robin basis, or on a knock-out basis as appropriate to decide the placings.
11. In Singles 12 ends will be played; in Pairs 10 ends; in Triples 10 ends; and in Fours 10 ends. Extra ends may be played in the final stages at the discretion of the council. (Suggested – Singles 15; Pairs 15; Triples 15; Fours 12.)
12. An Appeals Committee consisting of one member of each Country in Full Membership of the Council shall deal with any dispute and its decision will be final and binding.
13. All games will be played under Rules of World Short Mat Bowls Council.
14. **Only Black or Brown Woods may be used by Players in The World Short Mat Bowls Championships. Coloured Bowls are also allowed.**

GENERAL

15. Accredited Umpires i.e. those officially appointed by their National Associations should be used.
16. As far as is possible there should be a minimum distance of 3ft (1 metre) between mats and a distance of 6ft (2metre) to the nearest spectator accommodation.
17. Competitors shall be properly dressed in grey/white trousers/skirt or in a uniform colour of their Country; white, or coloured shirts/slipovers and bowling-shoes. Distinctive coloured discs must be used on all bowls as follows:- BELGIUM Light Blue; ENGLAND White; IRELAND Green; I.O.M. Yellow; SCOTLAND Blue, SWEDEN Purple. WALES Red. New countries to provide their designs.
18. An entry fee for each Player shall be payable to the host Country; this figure set by the Council at the B.G.M.

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19. Each participating National Association in memberships shall make a biennial contribution to the Council, payable to the Treasurer on the date of the World Bowls General Meeting, this amount to be determined at the General Meeting.