

ROSSMOOR TOURNAMENT RULES

1. These tournaments are open only to Rossmoor Lawn Bowling Club Active members.
2. RLBC and Bowls USA rules will apply. In case of conflict, Rossmoor rules will take precedence.
3. Unlimited burned ends are permitted.
4. Trial ends, two bowls in each direction, are permitted at the beginning of each game.
5. Tournaments are planned for three (3) consecutive days with a minimum of two (2) games per day. An allowance of one extra day for delay due to weather may be made when required. The exception will be the "FOUR SCORE" and tournaments which will be played on three consecutive days in two consecutive weeks, with one 15-point game each day. Sign-in time is 8:30 a.m. on the first day. Morning start time is 9:00 a.m. when an afternoon game is scheduled, starting time will be 1:00 p.m. Exceptions may be considered during extreme weather conditions. At the start of a tournament, a late arrival may be penalized two (2) score points for each ten (10) minutes or fraction thereof, with a maximum of the six (6) penalty points. Each 10 minutes of delay will be counted as one end played. Thirty minutes of delay will constitute a forfeit. The announced time on the sing-up sheet, or as revised and announced by the Tournament Director due to special circumstances (such as weather), will be used to determine the degree of tardiness.

LENGTH OF GAMES

TYPE OF GAME	QUALIFYING ROUNDS	FINAL ROUNDS
FOURS	14 ENDS	16 ENDS
TRIPLES	14 ENDS	16 ENDS
PAIRS	14 ENDS	16 ENDS
SINGLES	16 POINTS	18 POINTS
NOVICE SINGLES	16 POINTS	18 POINTS

6. TIME LIMITATIONS

Time limitations should not be imposed on Singles, Round Robins, or games in finals round. If special circumstances (e.g., weather) dictate, the Tournament Director, after consulting with the Games and Rules Committee, may place a limit on playing time on qualifying games. That decision must be announced prior to the start of play. The announcement will include the exact time play will be stopped and the manner in which the notice will be given. When time has expired, teams may finish an end that is already started. An end is considered to have started once the team first to bowl has delivered the jack.

7. TOURNAMENT FORMATS

Formats shall be set by the number of players made up from those qualified entries that have signed up within the prescribed time period. Minimum teams for any tournament, including singles, shall be four (4). 4 to 6 Teams – Round Robin, in which each team will bowl one game against each of the other teams. 7 or more teams – an Open Draw qualifying round of four games is played. The top four scorers return for play in the final round elimination. #1 to play #4, #2 to play #3; winners to play for 1st and 2nd place only.

8. WITHDRAWAL

Withdrawal from a tournament prior to its closing date is permitted. Members withdrawing should blackout their names on the sign-up sheet, not erase them. Withdrawal prior to starting time is also permitted, but a member of the Tournament Committee must be informed immediately. Once play has started in the tournament, members must play all games for which they are scheduled. They may be excused only due to circumstances beyond their control, i.e., illness, injury, or legal obligations. If, after investigation, the Tournament Committee concludes that the proffered reason is not acceptable, they may send a warning letter to the member(s) who committed the infraction. If that isn't sufficient, the Tournament Committee shall request that the Board of Directors censure the bowler(s) for dropping out. The Tournament Committee's recommended censure shall be to exclude the bowler(s) from the next three (3) Intra-Club Prize Tournaments for which they would otherwise be eligible.

9. SUBSTITUTES

All substitutes must be specifically approved by the **Tournament Director / Committee**.

I – CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

In **Championship** events, a substitute may be an eligible bowler of any rating, but may not bowl the position of SKIP.

II – TOURNAMENTS

TRIPLES

- a. A substitute for a LEAD must be someone who normally bowls as a LEAD.
- b. A substitute for a SECOND must be someone who normally bowls as a SECOND or LEAD.
- c. A substitute for a SKIP can be any bowler; however, that person cannot bowl as a SKIP.

PAIRS

- a. SKIP or LEAD. A substitute for a LEAD must be someone who normally bowls as a VICE
- b. A substitute for a SKIP may be any bowler; however, that person must bowl as a LEAD.

Once the tournament has started, no team shall forfeit unless Rule 8 is met, and a qualified and approved substitute is not available.

III – DURATION OF SUBSTITUTIONS

1. Physical Disability - a substitute shall continue for the duration of the tournament.
2. Any other reason - a substitute will be allowed for that day's play only.

IV – SINGLES TOURNAMENTS

Substitutes will not be allowed once tournament play has commenced. If a bowler withdraws after the tournament has begun, the provisions of Rule 9 will apply. If the reason for withdrawal is deemed acceptable by the Tournament Committee, the bowler may return to the competition for a subsequent game. If the reason is not found to be acceptable, the bowler may not compete any further and will forfeit all games they are unable to complete.

10. MEN'S AND WOMEN'S NOVICE TOURNAMENTS

All new bowlers are urged to participate in novice tournaments. To be eligible for these tournaments, a player must have been a certified bowler for two years or less from the date of certification to the scheduled start date of the tournament. An exception is that any novices certified within two months prior to the novice singles tournaments are not eligible to play that year. However, they are eligible to play in that tournament the following two years. A player who wins the tournament in his/her first year is not eligible for that tournament the following year.

11. RULES OF SCORING

GAME POINTS	WIN = 2 POINTS LOSS = 0 POINTS TIE = 1 POINT
FORFEIT OR BYE	2 GAME POINTS + 5 SCORE POINTS
SCORE POINTS	A maximum of +10 or -10 score points can be earned in a game
ROUND ROBIN FORMAT	Only GAME POINTS will be scored
OPEN DRAW FORMAT	GAME POINTS and plus/minus SCORE POINTS will be scored

12. TIES

ROUND ROBIN FORMAT:

If there is a tie for the first or second place, the tied player, or teams, shall have a playoff of five (5) ends. A coin toss will determine which team shall have the right to choose who shall play first. Control of the jack shall alternate between players or teams, following each end. During this playoff, only one (1) point shall be awarded to the player or team that wins each end. In case of a 3-way-tie, the player or team with the best plus SCORE POINTS record shall receive the bye.

OPEN DRAW FORMAT:

if at the end of the four qualifying games, GAME POINTS and SCORE POINTS are tied, total all the points the opponents scored **against** each team in contention. The

team with the least points scored **against** them shall move to the final rounds. If still tied, the PIMD formula shall be used. A **finals** game ending in a tie will be decided by playing one more end. A coin toss will determine which team shall have the right to choose who shall play first.

13. FORFEITED GAMES or BYE GAMES

When a game is forfeited, or if a team draws a bye in tournament, the non-forfeiting team and the team drawing the bye each received 2 GAME POINTS and 5 SCORE POINTS.

14. CONCEDED GAMES

RLBC bowlers are encouraged to bowl all games to completion regardless of score. In Qualifying Rounds of tournaments, the Tournament Director must be consulted before a game is conceded because of the potential impact on Score Points and eligibility to move to the Finals Round. In Finals Rounds of tournaments, a team may concede once there is no mathematical chance to win or tie. A team wishing to concede a game must insure that all team members are advised of and support the decision. The opposing team must be properly notified. The Skip must also allow the Tournament Director to review the decision prior to abandoning the game. The game score at the point the game is conceded shall be the officially recorded score.

15. Participants in any RLBC Intra-Club Prize Tournament agree to abide by the above rules. Any questions in regard to any of these rules must be resolved well before play begins by contacting a member of the **Tournament Committee**. Once play has begun, the decision of the **Tournament Director/Committee** shall be final.

16. SPECTATORS

Only bowlers participating in a game, markers, score flippers, and umpires in the process of making a measurement or a ruling are allowed on the greens or aprons. All other are to remain on the upper sidewalk and observe an attitude of strict neutrality. An exception may be in RLBC tournaments where the Tournament Director and the players agree that the spectators may sit elsewhere.

17. An up-to-date copy of these rules shall be posted on the RLBC Tournament Bulletin Board at all times.

RULES AND PRACTICES APPROVED BY RLBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 11-22-07. REVISED 3-8-10