

MCBA FIXTURES

2026

Please note dress code for playing:

County Bowling Colours including trousers/shorts

1	Wed	24/06/2026	14:00	Away	Whites
	Worcestershire	St Dunstans BC			WR5 2AF
Contact	Alan Lerry			07538 678023	
2	Thu	16/07/2026	14:00	Home	Whites
	IMPS	Nuneaton BC			CV11 6AX
Contact	Howard Taylor			07702 977650	
3	Thu	23/07/2026	13:00	Home	Whites
	Eastern Counties	Irchester BC			NN29 7AB
Contact	Trevor Hackett			07445 437437	
4	Tue	04/08/2026	14:00	Home	Whites
	Home Counties	Brackley BC			NN13 7EB
Contact	John Lonergan			07802 177296	
5	Mon	31/08/2026	14:00	Away	Whites
	Leicestershire	Wycliffe BC			LE17 4LN
Contact	Alan Bray			07432 522220	

MIDLAND COUNTIES BOWLS ASSOCIATION



Founded 23 January 1895

President

Alan Bray

Leicestershire BA

Vice President

TBA

YEARBOOK

2026

and

**Midland Counties
Championships**

**MIDLAND COUNTIES
BOWLS ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT 2026**



Alan Bray
Leicestershire BA

FRANCIS BURTON TROPHY

FIXTURES 2026

GROUP A – 3 COUNTIES

MAY 2026

Sat 23 MAY	LEICS	v	WARCS	Leicester BC	14:00
Sat 30 MAY	WARCS	v	LINCS	R Leamington Spa BC	14:00

JUNE 2026

Sat 27 JUN	LINCS	v	LEICS	Blackstones BC	14:00
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GROUP B – 3 COUNTIES

MAY 2026

Sat 16 MAY	NOTTS	v	WORCS	Newark Northern BC	14:00
Sat 23 MAY	NOTTS	v	NHANTS	Newark Northern BC	14:00

JUNE 2026

Sat 06 JUN	NHANTS	v	WORCS	N'hampton West End BC	14:00
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2026 CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY OFF - FINAL

Sat 01 AUG	GROUP A WINNER	V	GROUP B WINNER	R. Leamington Spa BC	14:00
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MCBA OFFICERS 2026

PRESIDENT:	Alan Bray
4 Beck Close, Glen Parva, Leicestershire. LE2 9NQ	
Email:	bray.alan@hotmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT:	
Email:	

IMM. PAST PRESIDENT:	Graham O'Donohue
19 Hamilton Road, Coventry. CV24FG	
07491 664382	Email: geraldinedonohue@hotmail.com

HON SECRETARY:	Sid Barkas
Pen-Garth, 1 The Ridgeway, Stourport on Severn, Worcestershire. DY13 8XT	
07989 280955	Email: sid.barkas@btinternet.com

HON TREASURER:	Harry Bowles
36 Mountbatten Way, Chilwell, Nottingham. NG9 6NG - 0115 8087468	
07719 470369	Email: hjbowles@hotmail.com

HON COMPETITION SECRETARY:	Chris H Smith
19 Bentley Avenue, Nottingham. NG 3 7AX	
0115 987 3407	Email: chsinvestigation@aol.com

ASSISTANT TO SECRETARY:	
Email:	

MCBA EXECUTIVE MEMBERS 2026

DERBYSHIRE:	Sabbatical
Email:	
LEICESTERSHIRE:	Alan Bray
07432 522220	Email: bray.alan@hotmail.com
LINCOLNSHIRE:	Terry Turner
07989 984246	Email: turnerterry49@gmail.com
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE:	Richard Somerton
07976 483612	Email: Richardsomerton46@icloud.com
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE:	Mick Leafe
07748 628402	Email: mick.leafe55@gmail.com
WARWICKSHIRE:	Michael Jackson
07913 092096	Email: mjacks1812@googlemail.com
WORCESTERSHIRE:	Alan Lerry
07538 678023	Email: bigal281264leeds@gmail.com

MCBA MEMBER COUNTIES 2026

DERBYSHIRE:		www.derbyshirebowls.com	
President:		County on a Sabbatical	
Secretary:	Kirsty Atkin		
	Email:	kirstyatkin@gmail.com	
LEICESTERSHIRE:		www.bowlsleicestershire.com	
President:	Richard Brewin		07767 384977
Secretary:	Clare Bray		01455 636451
	Email:	mens.sec@bowlsleicestershire.com	
LINCOLNSHIRE:			
Chairperson:	Phil Willerton		07716 536931
	Email:	pipo121@ntlworld.com	
Administrator:	Lesley Holmes		07761379448
	Email:	lesley45.holmes@gmail.com	
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE:		www.bowlsnorthamptonshire.co.uk	
President:	John Gunning		
Administrator:	Alison Dring		
	Email:		
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE:		www.nottinghamshirebowls.com	
President:			
Match Sec:	Russ Chamberlain		07980 464032
	Email:	russell_chamberlain@hotmail.co.uk	
WARWICKSHIRE:		www.warwickshirebowls.org.uk	
President:	Graham O'Donohue		07941 664382
Secretary:	Michael Jackson		07913 092096
	Email:	mjacks1812@googlemail.com	
WORCESTERSHIRE:		www.worcestershireba.co.uk	
President:	Rob Stanley		07793 564458
Secretary:	Andy Wills		07464 851325
	Email:	awills70@live.com	

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS DRAW 2026

4 WOOD SINGLES

1	Worcestershire	v	Lincolnshire		
2	Leicestershire	v	Northamptonshire	1	v 4
3	Warwickshire	v	Bye		
4	Nottinghamshire	v	Bye	2	v 3

PAIRS

1	Northamptonshire	v	Leicestershire		
2	Worcestershire	v	Nottinghamshire	1	v 4
3	Lincolnshire	v	Bye		
4	Warwickshire	v	Bye	3	v 2

TRIPLES

1	Nottinghamshire	v	Leicestershire		
2	Worcestershire	v	Warwickshire	4	v 1
3	Northamptonshire	v	Bye		
4	Lincolnshire	v	Bye	3	v 2

FOURS

1	Worcestershire	v	Nottinghamshire		
2	Northamptonshire	v	Warwickshire	4	v 1
	Leicestershire	v	Bye		
4	Lincolnshire	v	Bye	2	v 3

2 WOOD SINGLES

1	Lincolnshire	v	Nottinghamshire		
2	Worcestershire	v	Warwickshire	1	v 3
3	Northamptonshire	v	Bye		
4	Leicestershire	v	Bye	2	v 4

UNDER 25s SINGLES

1	Warwickshire	v	Northamptonshire		
2	Leicestershire	v	Lincolnshire	3	v 2
3	Nottinghamshire	v	Bye		
4	Worcestershire	v	Bye	1	v 4

Prelim Rounds to be completed prior to: Mon 31st August 2026
Semi-Finals and Finals: Sun 13th September 2026
Venue: Countesthorpe BC, 46 Station Rd, Countesthorpe, Leicester LE8 5TA

Sponsorship: Cash prizes will be presented to the winners and runners-up in all competitions (providing at the least, a final is played). Losing semi-finalists will receive a cash donation towards travelling expenses.

CHAMPIONSHIP RULES and REGULATIONS

Relating to each of the Championships for all the Rounds

SINGLES

- a Each game shall consist of 21 up, 4 bowls each player.
- b The Champion will hold the 'T. Pownell Cup' for one year.
- c The Runner-up will hold the 'Derbyshire Cup' for one year
- d The Association will provide Medals for the Winner and Runner-up.

PAIRS

- a Each game shall consist of 21 ends, 4 bowls for each player, and the Leads to play their 4 bowls before the Skips. If the scores are equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a decision is reached.
- b See Rule 2, Re-placement Players.
- c The Winning Pair shall hold the 'J. Matthew's Cup' for one year
- d The Runners-up shall hold the 'Northamptonshire Cup' for one year.
- e The Association will provide Medals for the Winners and Runners-up.

TRIPLES

- a Each game shall consist of 18 ends, 3 bowls for each player, the Leads to play their 3 bowls, the number 2 to play before the Skips. If the scores are equal when all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a decision is reached.
- b See Rule 2, Re-placement Players
- c The Winning Triple will hold the 'Nottinghamshire Cup' for one year
- d The Runners-up will hold the 'Lincolnshire Cup' for one year.
- e The Association will provide Medals for the Winners and Runners-up.

FOURS

- a Each game shall consist of 21 ends, 2 bowls for each player. The Leads shall play their 2 bowls before the number 2, the number 3 to play their bowls before the Skips. If the scores are equal after all the ends have been played, an extra end or ends must be played until a decision is reached.
- b See Rule 2, Re-placement Players.
- c The Winner Rink will hold the 'J. Blower Cup' for one year.
- d The Runners-up will hold the 'Leicestershire Cup' for one year.
- e The Association will provide Medals for the Winners and Runners-up.

UNDER 25's SINGLES

- a Each game shall consist of 21 shots, 4 bowls for each player.
- b The Champion will hold the 'Lincolnshire Cup' for one year.
- c The Runner-up will hold the 'John Hewitt Cup' for one year.
- d The Association will provide Medals for the Winner and Runner-up.

PAST PRESIDENTS

1895-1915	E. Pickard	Leicestershire	1988	T. Danby	Lincolnshire
1916	A. Lewis	Northamptonshire	1989	C. Colton	Nottinghamshire
1951	F. Burton J.P.	Leicestershire	1990	S.C. Summers	Derbyshire
1952	A. Fletcher	Northamptonshire	1991	J. Moore	Leicestershire
1953	E. Powell	Warwickshire	1992	K.B. Court	Northamptonshire
1954	E. Pitcher	Lincolnshire	1993	J.M.S. Ades	Warwickshire
1955	E. Pownall	Nottinghamshire	1994	D. Balnaves	Worcestershire
1956	T.J. Large	Derbyshire	1995	J. Scholey	Lincolnshire
1957	F.W. Harvey	Leicestershire	1996	R.G. Dixon	Nottinghamshire
1958	J. Ward	Warwickshire	1997	D.G. Waggett	Derbyshire
1959	C. Chown J.P.	Northamptonshire	1998	J. Nimmo	Leicestershire
1960	T. Brown	Lincolnshire	1999	G.T. Wills	Northamptonshire
1961	H.W. Bower	Leicestershire	2000	D A Paton	Warwickshire
1962	A.B. Inglis	Derbyshire	2001	J.G. Tolley	Worcestershire
1963	C.W. Attenborough	Leicestershire	2002	R. Cupit	Nottinghamshire
1964	W.H. Lewis	Warwickshire	2003	W.R. Jones	Derbyshire
1965	A.V. Wintersgill	Northamptonshire	2004	J. Ashton	Leicestershire
1966	V.W. Turner	Worcestershire	2005	M. King	Northamptonshire
1967	I.J. Locke	Lincolnshire	2006	G. Sweet	Warwickshire
1968	R.E. Cameron	Nottinghamshire	2007	G. Hill	Worcestershire
1969	S. Spray	Derbyshire	2008	J. Fulcher	Lincolnshire
1970	J. Wilcox	Leicestershire	2009	G. Tabraham	Nottinghamshire
1971	G.F. Wright	Northamptonshire	2010	R.B. Kirkpatrick	Leicestershire
1972	F.L. Owen	Warwickshire	2011	G. Hunt	Northamptonshire
1973	J. Baldwin	Worcestershire	2012	P.M. Green	Warwickshire
1974	J. Jarvis	Lincolnshire	2013	S.V. Barkas	Worcestershire
1975	A.E. Meredith	Nottinghamshire	2014	L. Mills	Lincolnshire
1976	L. Biancoli	Derbyshire	2015	C.H. Smith	Nottinghamshire
1977	R. Burton	Leicestershire	2016	D. Tanna	Leicestershire
1978	R. Stapleton	Northamptonshire	2017	G. Willmott	Northamptonshire
1979	F.R. Chandley	Warwickshire	2018	A. Brookhouse	Warwickshire
1980	A. Colquhoun	Worcestershire	2019	J.F. Weston	Worcestershire
1981	M.F. Bates	Lincolnshire	2020	T. Searby	Lincolnshire
1982	D.W. Henstock	Nottinghamshire	2021	T. Searby	Lincolnshire
1983	P. Donoher	Derbyshire	2022	M. Leafe	Nottinghamshire
1984	J.W. Bowler	Leicestershire	2023	M. Leafe	Nottinghamshire
1985	J. Forster	Northamptonshire	2024	P. Green	Northamptonshire
1986	W.H. Hyde	Warwickshire	2025	G. O'Donohue	Warwickshire
1987	H.J. Hall	Worcestershire			

HON SECRETARIES

1895-1916	F.W. Liburn	Leicestershire
1917-	E.U. Bowes	Leicestershire
1927-1956	F.W. Harvey	Leicestershire
1956-1973	R.B. Lawford	Nottinghamshire
1974-1980	K. Clark	Derbyshire
1981-1986	R. Stapleton	Northamptonshire
1987-1991	P. Donoher	Derbyshire
1992-1997	K. Shadbolt	Northamptonshire
1998-2007	I.H. Flynn	Warwickshire
2008-2021	S.J. Orton	Warwickshire
2021-2022	D King-Taylor	Nottinghamshire
2023-	S.V. Barkas	Worcestershire

HON TREASURERS

1996-2002	B. J. Wheeler	Warwickshire
2003-2011	S. Lake	Northamptonshire
2011-2023	H. Taylor	Leicestershire
2023-	H.J. Bowles	Derbyshire

HON. LIFE MEMBERS

2012	S. Lake	Northamptonshire
2015	A.S. Goad	Warwickshire
2022	S. Orton	Warwickshire
2022	H. Taylor	Leicestershire

RULES and CONSTITUTION

1. TITLE

The Association shall be called the 'Midland Counties Bowls Association', hereafter called the 'Association'.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association shall be: -

- a) to promote, safeguard and foster the level of green game amongst the County Associations in Membership.
- b) to hold Annually a Midland Counties League Championship and a Midland Counties Champion of Championships.
- c) to hold Annually any other Inter-County Competitions as the Council of the Association shall be determined.
- d) to hold Annually Inter-County Matches, Inter-Association Matches and President's Matches as the Council of the Association shall be determined.
- e) to hold Annually President's Matches with Clubs affiliated to the Member County Associations, where such Clubs, are celebrating Special events.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association shall be open to the County Associations of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

An Annual Subscription payable by the County Associations in Membership shall be due before the 31st March, each year or such other sum as may be agreed by the Executive Committee.

5. ADMINISTRATION

The affairs of the association shall be administered by a Council consisting of the President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Competition Secretary, Honorary Assistant Secretary, all Past presidents together with three representatives appointed by each County association in Membership, all of whom shall be entitled to vote. Twelve members of the Council shall form a Quorum.

6. ELECTION of OFFICERS

At the Annual General Meeting, each year the following Officers shall be elected:

- a) President, Vice-President, who shall be elected to serve two years
Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Competition Secretary, Honorary Assistant Secretary who shall be elected to serve for one year

When all the matches have been played, the winner shall be the County with the most points.

In the event of two or more Counties having the same number of points scored then, the shots difference will decide the winner.

In the event of two or more Counties having the same shots difference, then the County with the greatest number of winning rinks over the six matches shall be declared the winner.

Only in the Final - Extra ends: If the match is tied after 21 ends, all six rinks play extra ends until there is a winner.

- (5) It shall be the responsibility of any County failing to fulfil a match, without enough notice (two weeks) to bear any costs involved in the cancellation.
- (6) The starting time for ALL GAMES shall be 2.00 pm, including trial ends, except by mutual agreement of the Counties concerned.
If within a period of thirty (30) minutes from the fixed time for the commencement of the game, a side fails to appear then, the side will be disqualified unless, in the opinion of the Umpire there is a reasonable explanation for the non-appearance of the side in which case, the matter shall be referred to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall rule whether the game be re-arranged or awarded to the aggrieved County.
- (7) After the game, the Representative of each competing County must agree on the result and communicate (by telephone, text or e-mail) the result to the Midland Counties Competition Secretary, within 48 hours of the finish of the match.
- (8) The winning County shall hold the 'Francis Burton Trophy' and the runners-up 'Warwickshire Cup'. The Association shall provide thirty (30) medals to the winning County, for distribution to their players.
- (9) INCLEMENT WEATHER
In the event of the Umpire and / or Green Keeper deciding that no play or further play is possible, matches in which the number of ends played equals or exceeds 72, will be deemed completed and the scores will stand. In matches where the total number of ends played is less than 72, the tie will be declared void and the game will be re-played, at a later date.
- (10) DRESS – PLAYING
Brown or white shoes, white or county trousers/shorts, white socks, county or white shirts.

REVISED FOR COMPS FROM 2024

FRANCIS BURTON
INTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP
RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Competition shall be open to all Counties affiliated to the Midland Counties Bowls Association and played under the W.B.B Laws of the Game and in accordance with the byelaws currently laid down by Bowls England and/or the Midland Counties Bowls Association.
2. Each County shall be represented by six rinks of four players, all of whom shall be members of clubs affiliated to their County. Matches are six rinks, failure to fulfil the six rinks will result in the offended County receiving 22 points. All financial commitments shall be the responsibility of the offending County.

IN DEFAULT:

- (1) The minimum number of players per team per rink shall be 3 (Three).
- (2) If any Team has a player short on a rink then that team shall play with six bowls against eight. The order of play is, Lead, Lead, Two. Lead, Lead, Two, Three, Skip. The total number of shots scored by each team at the completion of the game will count.

No player shall play for more than one County in any one year.

All games are to be played on full-size greens with banks and ditches.

- (3) The Counties be split into two areas geographically, Lincolnshire to be in Group 1 and Worcestershire in Group 2. One of the remaining 5 Counties to be drawn to represent Group 1 for the first two years and Group 2 for the second two years.

Group 1 (First two year period) to have 4 Counties each County shall play each other County once per season, on a home and away basis, fixtures reversed for second year of play.

Group 2 (First two year period) to have 3 Counties each County shall play each other County once per season, on a home and away basis, fixtures reversed for second year of play.

For the second two year period Group 1 will have 3 Counties and Group 2 will have 4 Counties.

Following this a new draw will take place for the "floating" County and it shall not be the same County as drawn in the previous four year cycle.

The winners of each Group to meet and play at a Neutral venue to decide the Champion.

- (4) **All games shall be of 21 ends.** In each game, a win for an individual four shall count as two points, a tie one point and a loss nothing. For the County, a win shall count ten points, a tie five points and a loss nothing.

- b) A candidate for the office of Vice-President must be nominated by the County Association of which he is a Member and his nomination submitted in writing to reach the Honorary Secretary of the Association, not later than 31st December.
- c) Each County Association in Membership shall, in turn, be entitled to nominate one of its members as a candidate for the office of Vice-President and commencing in 1974, the sequence of nominations shall be as follows:- Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Lincolnshire.
- d) An Honorary Auditor, who shall not be an Officer of the Association, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Competition Secretary and Honorary Assistant Secretary, shall be the only Officers eligible for re-election.
- e) The President-Elect and the Vice-President will take office at the end of the Annual Luncheon formalities when the Chain of Office will be handed over. The Annual Meeting will be chaired by the President of the year.
- f) If an Officer has to retire for whatever reason, the Executive Committee have the power to co-opt a Member to fill the vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

At the Annual General Meeting, the Association shall appoint an Executive Committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Competition Secretary, Honorary Assistant Secretary, and with Honorary Assistant Secretary one Member from each County Association in Membership nominated as their elected representative. **Each Affiliated County will have only ONE Vote.**

- a) The Members of the Executive Committee of the Association will be responsible for conducting all the affairs and upholding the Rules and Constitution and the objectives of the Association.
- b) The functions of the Executive Committee shall be: -
 - i) To meet not less than twice per annum.
 - ii) To receive at each Meeting reports from Officers of the Association and to consider and deal with all administrative matters.
 - iii) To make recommendations or nominations as it thinks fit to the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of the Association.
 - iv) To safeguard the stability of the Associations Finances.
 - v) To co-opt any person who may assist in these functions
 - vi) Six members shall form a Quorum of the Executive Committee.

8. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Officers and Executive Members may be honoured with Life Membership on the recommendation of the Executive Committee and will be entitled to wear an Honorary Life Members Flash on their Midland Counties Blazer.

9. ANNUAL MEETING

- a) The Annual Meeting of the Council shall be held in March each year. Any Member of an Affiliated County Association may attend but shall not have voting powers.
- b) Not less than 21 days notice of the meeting shall be given to each County Association and to each Past President, together with a Notice of Matters to be transacted at the Meeting.
- c) Notices of Motion(s) shall be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary, 28 days before the date fixed for the Meeting.
- d) Amendments to Notices of Motion(s) shall be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. Such Notices of Amendments are to be sent to Member County Associations and Past -Presidents, 7 days before the Meeting.

10. SPECIAL MEETINGS

A Special Meeting of the Council shall be called: -

- a) In pursuance of a resolution passed by the Executive Committee.
- b) Or at 21 days of receipt by the Honorary Secretary of the Association, of a requisition in writing, signed by the Honorary Secretary of the Member Association, stating fully the reason for the Meeting. No less than 7 days' notice of the Meeting shall be given to each Member County Association and each Past- President and the Notice shall state the purpose for which the Meeting has been summoned.

11. LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

An Annual League Championship shall be held in which Member County Associations shall play as per the FRANCIS BURTON INTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS

12. CHAMPIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Annual Championships shall be held for which the Competitions shall consist of the Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours and Under 25's Singles Champions of each of the Member County Associations for that year. All Matches shall be played by the current Laws of the game. (Refer to Rules for the Champion of Championships).

The Draw for order of play shall be made by the Executive Committee Meeting held in the last quarter of the year preceding the Championships. The President and Officers shall have the privilege of deciding the venue. All Trophies shall be held for one year.

13. HONORARY SECRETARY

The Honorary Secretary shall keep a record of all the business transacted at the Council and Committee Meetings and carry out all the secretarial duties by decisions of the Council and its Committees.

14. HONORARY ASSISTANT SECRETARY

The Honorary Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary with the arrangement for friendly matches and any other duty specified either by the Hon Secretary or the Council.

15. HONORARY TREASURER

The Honorary Treasurer shall act by the decisions of the Council and its Committees and shall keep and render to the Annual General Meeting of the Council, a precise account of the Income and Expenditure for the past year, duly Audited by the Honorary Auditor. Copies of the Audited Statement of Accounts shall be sent to each Member of the Council, together with the Notice convening the Meeting.

16. ALTERATION of RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded except with the consent of the least two-thirds of the members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting of the Association or a Special Meeting convened under Rule 10 and the Notice of the Meeting shall set forth the terms of the proposed alterations.

Updated 07.03.2023