



# NYLBC LEAGUE PLAY

## Guidelines & Rules

### **Vision Statement**

To provide an inclusive and competitive environment for NYLBC members of both genders and of all levels of experience and ability that combines opportunities for competition and skills refinement.

### **Singles Division Match Play**

For the 2021 Season, League Play shall consist of a 'Singles' Division. Based on member interest, we will evaluate adding a 'Pairs Division' for future seasons.

All NYLBC members are encouraged to apply for entry in League Play. Applications for entry must be submitted by the Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. The League Committee will determine the maximum level of participating entrants ("players"). In the player selection process, the League Committee may consider interested Member's skill and participation level in Club or Division games.

#### "Singles Partners"

Players must commit to playing a Divisional Play schedule comprises one match every two weeks, except for three-week intervals where specifically noted. To minimize potential schedule conflicts and maximize League participation, Players can team with another club member as exclusive "Singles Partners" to play one or more scheduled matches on each other's behalf. Single Partner selections must be made pre-season prior to the deadline established by the League Committee and cannot be changed once the season has begun.

#### The Schedule

No accommodations will be made for player unavailability (illness or injury, vacations, etc.) or Green unavailability (red flag, croquet use, etc.), except that players may agree to reschedule Qualifying Round Games to another day or time that the Green is available. Any matches not completed prior to the designated completion date noted below shall result in a default for both players.

### **Qualifying Play**

ROUNDS #	MUST BE COMPLETED BY:
1 thru 4	Sunday 5/23
Make-up Matches	Sunday 5/30

## Match Assignments

The League Committee will assign each player a listing of 8 match opponents. This listing will be published as a tab in the password-protected member section of the club website (www.nybowls.com). Modifications may be published throughout the season as needed.

## Rink Availability

The League Committee has reserved for League Play the availability of two (2) rinks on Wednesday & Thursday afternoons and evenings as well as from 10am to 12pm on weekend days when Club Games are scheduled. Players who play League matches on the weekend are encouraged to remain and participate in the Club Games that follow. In addition, with the exclusion of Monday's Open House hours, players may play their League matches at any time on any available rink.

## **Qualifying Play Rules**

### Scheduling Matches

Players shall be responsible to contact their match opponent and arrange a mutually convenient available match date. Member's contact details are available in the members' section on the club website. In the event of player unavailability (illness or injury, vacations, etc.), players should reschedule their match to another day or arrange that the Single Partner play as substitute. In the event of rink unavailability (red flag, croquet use, etc.), players shall reschedule their match for a time that a rink is available. All matches must be completed prior to deadlines designated in the table above. Failure to play your match within the designated timeframe shall result in a default for both players. Three (3) defaults will result in player elimination from League Play.

### Format & Scoring

Each match consists of 2 sets of 6 ends each. Flip of coin will decide who has the Jack in the first set. The Jack in the second set will go to the opposing player. Each set is worth 3 points awarded to the player that scores the most points in that set. Should a set be tied in the number of points scored, each player will receive 1.5 points. The player with the most set points wins the match. Should the players tie in set points, the players must then play a tiebreaker set. To win the tiebreaker, a player must outscore his opponent and have scored at least 2 tiebreaker points. The match winner is awarded 4 points. A total of 10 points is allocated per match (6 set points and 4 match points). When a player forfeits a set, that player forfeits that entire match.

Due to the importance of the tiebreaker in overall scoring, the player with the higher aggregate scoring through the 2 sets earns the right to choose the 'mat' (bowl first) or the 'hammer' (bowl last). For example, if Player A wins the first set 7-2 and Player B wins the second set 5-4, Player A has the higher aggregate score (11 to 7). A coin flip will be used where both players have equal aggregate scores.

### Make-up Matches

Your un-played matches are recorded as a "Default". Remove your defaults by playing a 'Make-up Match' with any other player with a default match to cure. Your Make-up Match result will extinguish your previous default and the points you earn will be added to your standings point total. You are not required to play your originally scheduled opponent and your Make-up Match opponent can be someone you previously played. **All Make-up Matches must be completed prior to the conclusion of Qualifying Round play.**

### Player Standings

Throughout the season, the League Committee shall maintain and publish a Player Standings ranking each Player by accumulated point totals.

## **Elimination Round**

### Qualification

At the conclusion of Qualifying Play, the top finishers will advance to the Elimination Round.

### Pairings

Advancing players will be ranked based on the results of Qualifying Play and an Elimination Round Schedule will be devised and published. Should there be a tie, seeding will be based on the following tie breakers:

1. Wins earned during the season.
2. Head to Head results vs the Player(s) you are tied with.
3. Coin flip

### Scheduling Matches

As in Qualifying Play, players competing in the Elimination Round shall be responsible to contact their scheduled opponent and arrange a mutually convenient available match date. All Elimination Round matches must be completed by Sunday 8/29.

### Format & Scoring

Semifinals and Final Matches each consists of a single Game. The first player to achieve a 14 score shall be deemed the winner of that match.

## **League Championship**

### Pairings

Elimination Round winners will compete in the League Championship. The winners of the Semi-Final matches will advance to the Finals and compete to determine the League Champion. The losers of the Semi-Final matches will compete in a consolation match for third place.

### The Date

The League Championship will be held on Sunday, September 5 or an alternative date to be determined by the League Commissioner.

### Format & Scoring

Semifinals and Final Matches each consists of a single Game. The first player to achieve a 14 score shall be deemed the winner of that Game.

### Prize

The League Champion will receive a personalized NYLBC keepsake and have their name memorialized on a perpetual trophy maintained by the Club and displayed at the Clubhouse. There shall be no prize money awarded.

## General Rules

### Entry Fee

Players will pay an up-front \$20 entry fee to participate throughout the season. Singles Partners are not required to pay an entry fee.

### Dress

The wearing of whites is not required for League Play.

### Attendance, Weather, Courtesies

- Players should arrive within 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time and arriving over 30 minutes late will result in a default.
- Players are responsible for their own food/refreshments. Hospitality is not provided.
- Players should exercise courtesy by contacting their opponent no later than the morning of the match to confirm that the match is on.
- If rain is forecasted, please re-schedule a makeup date with the opposing Player and send an email to [nylbcleague@gmail.com](mailto:nylbcleague@gmail.com) to advise about the change. Always make up the Match as quickly as possible so the league can remain on schedule.

### Manner of Play

- 4 Bowls per Player.
- Trial Ends: Optional 2 bowls up and back at the start of play
- Flip of coin will decide who has the Jack at the start of the match.
- No Burnt Ends: Jack re-spotted center-rink 2 meters out from the ditch.
- Trips to the Head: Permitted **only** after 2 bowls have been tossed by each player.
- Enter scores on the League Scorecards.
- Complete all ends.
- Participant Players or Single Partners sign completed Scorecard.

### League Referees

Players should consult a League Referee to address match-related questions or disputes. The following persons have agreed to serve as League Referees:

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| • Barry Kessler | • Ron Forlenza |
| • Ryan Hastu    | • Mark Regan   |
| • Joe Kelly     |                |

### Reporting Results

Winning Player shall submit the signed scorecard to the League Committee. Submit scorecards preferably by email to [nylbcleague@gmail.com](mailto:nylbcleague@gmail.com) no later than 12 noon on the Monday following play with a copy circulated to the opponent. Clearly transcribe the score on the bottom of the scorecard accompanied by the initials or signature of each player. Failure to submit a Scorecard risks a Default for both players.

*Miscellaneous*

In the event of any unforeseen circumstances, the League Chairperson will have final ruling as to any modifications of start times, format changes or rule interpretations.

*Administration*

Please email your questions/issues relating to League Play structure, rules or guidelines to [nylbcleague@gmail.com](mailto:nylbcleague@gmail.com).

Revised: 5/5/2021