

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The National Championships** shall comprise: **Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours, Men's Junior Singles, Mens Junior Pairs, Two Wood Singles, Senior Fours and Women's Junior Pairs, and Women's Junior Singles.** Rounds played in the County are the preliminary rounds of the National Championships leading to an appearance at the National Championships. **All others are National Competitions and managed by Bowls England.**
- 1.2 Rounds of the National Championships, that are administered and/or controlled by the Association, shall be conducted in accordance by the rules laid down by the Governing Body.
- 1.3 Championship/competition entry shall be confined to members of Affiliated Clubs whose fees for the current year have been paid.
- 1.4 Clubs shall be grouped into Divisions as determined by the Executive Committee.

*The following Rules are supplemental to any Rules of the Governing Body and shall apply to all National Championships and County Competitions except where otherwise specified.*

## 2 Conditions

- 2.1 All Championships and competitions shall be administered via the appropriate Competition Manager.
- 2.2 Bowls used in National Championships/competitions must bear a 'Test' stamp as defined in the Laws of the Sport or English Variations thereof.
- 2.3 The preliminary rounds of the National Championships and Competitions shall only be played on greens and/or rinks that have been starred.
- 2.4 A player:
- 2.4.1 May enter more than one National Championship/National Competition.
  - 2.4.2 May only register once for any National Championship/National Competition in any one year.
  - 2.4.3 May not represent more than one Club or County in any one year for National Championships/National Competitions.
  - 2.4.4 May enter Association Domestic Competitions at another club if affiliated to that Club.
- 2.5 Should a team withdraw from a championship/competition, the reason for withdrawal must be sent in writing to the appropriate Competition Manager within forty-eight hours of withdrawal.
- 2.6 Should a game be cancelled or abandoned, it shall be played before the date of the next round.
- 2.7 'Condition of Entry' – all players/teams, if successful, will be expected to play in the National and County final of the competition entered.
- 2.8 Named entrants are excluded from being a substitute in the same discipline, even when a walkover in the first round has taken place.

### 3 Questions, Issues and/or Disputes

- 3.1 In the rounds up to, but not including the Q/Fs, Competition Managers are authorized, subject to the overriding authority of the Executive Committee, to answer questions and deal with issues and/or disputes raised appertaining to the administration and playing of the games.
- 3.2 From the Q/Fs onwards, the Competition Manager shall be responsible for dealing with such matters, subject to the overriding authority of the Executive Committee, and which do not come within the remit of the Umpires.
- 3.3 If the conduct of players and/or officials, or outcome of the game is in dispute, an appeal must be made by the affected team at least three days before the playing of a game, or not more than two days after the game has been played.
- 3.4 A team affected by a decision may appeal as defined in Association Regulations.
- 3.5 Players on international duty shall contact the relevant Competitions Manager to make alternative arrangements for play.
- 3.6 In singles play, entrants who are unavailable for any round, as specified in the Association diary, should withdraw prior to the commencement of that competition, or as soon as they are aware of an issue and before playing in the next round. Their opponent will be given a walkover. Failure to do so will result in them being ineligible to enter the following year.

### 4 The Championships

- 4.1 The draw for each championship shall be published.
- 4.2 The first name shown shall be the challenger, on whose green the game shall be played, and the second name shown is the opponent.
- 4.3 Where the green of a challenger is not starred the challenger shall have the opportunity of playing on a neutral green. If a neutral green cannot be found the game shall be played on the opponents green.
- 4.4 If neither green is starred, the challenger shall have the opportunity of playing on a neutral green. If a neutral green cannot be found, the game shall be played on the challenger's green.
- 4.5 It shall be the responsibility of the opponent to ascertain whether or not the match green or rink is starred before the start of the game.
- 4.6 Where more teams are drawn to play on the same green than green space allows, teams from the same Club playing each other must bring their match forward. Should the number of teams at a Club still exceed the green space available, it shall be the responsibility of the Divisional Secretary to decide which games are brought forward

### 5 Choice of Rinks

- 5.1 National championships and competitions shall take precedence over other competitions.
- 5.2 Clubs shall make available a minimum of two rinks, but when more than two games are to be played, the Club shall make sufficient rinks available and the opponent shall draw for a rink from the rinks made available, irrespective of gender.

### 6 Periods of Rounds

- 6.1 Competitors should play their games on the dates specified. Games may be played before

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the date specified by mutual agreement and the Competition Manager must be notified of any such arrangement before the game is played. The agreed date becomes the specified date. Failing such agreement, the team desiring the alteration must give the other team a walkover.

- 6.2 Unless otherwise agreed, play shall commence at 6.00pm. A walk-over may be claimed by the opponent of any team not ready to play within 30 minutes of the specified/agreed time.
- 6.3 In the event of extenuating circumstances, weather, green closure, International Duty, etc, the appropriate Competition Manager, may extend the specified dates.

### 7 Notification of Results

- 7.1 The appropriate Competition Manager must be informed of the result of the game electronically via the Bucks competitions portal within 24 hours of the game being completed.
- 7.2 The winner shall retain the scorecards for all rounds played and must bring them all to the Q/Fs for verification.
- 7.3 The scorecards must:
  - 7.3.1 Identify the particular competition.
  - 7.3.2 State the first name and surname of the participating players.
  - 7.3.3 Be signed by a member of both teams.Ensuring compliance with this rule is the responsibility of the winner of the game.

### 8 Final Stages

- 8.1 The quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals shall be played on a day and on a green, determined by the appropriate Competition Manager.
- 8.2 Should a team or individual not play in the final of any Championship competition, they will forfeit their right to be entered for the National Finals. Furthermore, they would not be eligible to enter that event the following year.
- 8.3 As from the quarter-final stages onwards, the appropriate time-limits on games (set by Bowls England) will be adhered to.

## **1 General**

- 1.1 These Rules are in addition to the Championship Rules.

## **2 The Junior Singles Championships – Men and Women**

- 2.1 The format of the game will be as defined by Bowls England
- 2.2 These Championships are open to all male and female members of Affiliated Clubs, who have not attained their 24<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the championship, and on payment of an entry fee, as determined at a General Meeting.
- 2.3 This entry must be forwarded directly to the appropriate Competition Manager through the Club Secretary on the form provided by the Association.

## **3 The Singles Championships – Men and Women**

- 3.1 The format of the game will be as defined by Bowls England
- 3.2 These Championships are open to all male or female members of Affiliated Clubs on payment of an entry fee, as determined at a General Meeting, and which must be forwarded directly to the appropriate Competition Manager through the Club Secretary on the form provided by the Association.

## **4 The Two-Wood Singles Championships - Men and Women**

- 4.1 The format of the game will be as defined by Bowls England
- 4.2 This Championship is open to all female members of Affiliated Clubs on payment of an entry fee and green fee, as determined at a General Meeting, and which must be forwarded directly to the appropriate Competition Manager through the Club Secretary on the form provided by the Association.

## **5 The Pairs Championships - Men and Women**

- 5.1 The format of the game will be as defined by Bowls England
- 5.2 These Championships are open to all male or female members of Affiliated Clubs on payment of an entry fee, as determined at a General Meeting, and which must be forwarded directly to the appropriate Competition Manager through the Club Secretary on the form provided by the Association.
- 5.3 The named player in the draw and one other player shall constitute the Pair and should normally play together throughout the championship.
- 5.4 One additional, and the same, player may be used as a substitute at any time, provided that player has not already played in the current championship.

## **6 Women's U24 Pairs**

- 6.1 The format of the game will be as defined by Bowls England
- 6.2 This Championship shall be open to all female Members of affiliated Clubs who have not attained their 24<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the Championship.
- 6.3 The two players may belong to separate clubs within the same county, so long as both clubs are affiliated.
- 6.4 The named player in the draw and one other player shall constitute the Pair and should normally play together throughout the championship.
- 6.5 One additional, and the same, player may be used as a substitute at any time, provided that player has not already played in the current championship.

### **7 The Mens' U24 Pairs**

- 7.1 The format of the game will be as defined by Bowls England
- 7.2 This Championship shall be open to all male Members of affiliated Clubs who have not attained their 24<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the Championship.
- 7.3 The two players may belong to separate clubs within the same county, so long as both clubs are affiliated.
- 7.4 The named player in the draw and one other player shall constitute the Pair and should normally play together throughout the championship.
- 7.5 One additional, and the same, player may be used as a substitute at any time, provided that player has not already played in the current championship.

### **8 The Triples Championships – Men and Women**

- 8.1 The format of the game will be as defined by Bowls England
- 8.2 These championships are open to all male or female members of Affiliated Clubs on payment of an entry fee, as determined at a General Meeting, and which must be forwarded directly to the appropriate Competition Manager through the Club Secretary on the form provided by the Association.
- 8.3 The named player in the draw and two other players shall constitute the Triple and should normally play together throughout the championship.
- 8.4 One additional, and the same, player may be used as a substitute at any time provided that the player has not already played in the current championship.

### **9 The Fours Championships – Men and Women**

- 9.1 The format of the game will be as defined by Bowls England
- 9.2 These championships are open to all male and female members of Affiliated Clubs on payment of an entry fee, as determined at a General Meeting, and which must be forwarded directly to the appropriate Competition Manager through the Club Secretary on the form provided by the Association.
- 9.3 The named player in the draw and three other players shall constitute the Four and should normally play together throughout the championship.
- 9.4 One additional, and the same, player may be used as a substitute at any time provided that the player has not already played in the current championship.

### **9 The Senior Fours Championships – Men and Women**

- 9.1 The format of the game will be as defined by Bowls England
- 9.2 These championships are open to all male and female members of Affiliated Clubs on payment of an entry fee, as determined at a General Meeting, and which must be forwarded directly to the appropriate Competition Manager through the Club Secretary on the form provided by the Association.
- 9.3 The named player in the draw and three other players shall constitute the Four and should normally play together throughout the championship.
- 9.4 One additional, and the same, player may be used as a substitute at any time provided that the player has not already played in the current championship.

**1 General**

- 1.1 These Rules are in addition to the Competition Rules.
- 1.2 The 'Starred-Green' rule detailed in Association Regulations shall not apply to this Competition.
- 1.3 Players reaching the Q/Fs and S/Fs of the competitions listed in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 below, shall qualify towards a full badge.
- 1.4 Named entrants to be excluded from being a substitute in the same discipline, even when a walkover in the first round has taken place

**2 Challenge singles rules - Men and Women**

*(Formerly known as the Unbadged Singles)*

- 2.1 Competition is open to any individuals who are members of a BBA club who have not reached at county semi final in either singles, two wood, pairs, triples or fours, during the last 5 years, or reached Leamington in one of the BE Competitions i.e Senior singles, senior pairs, Champion of Champions etc during the same period, but excluding junior competitions, the Middleton Cup, John's Trophy, Double rink, Top Club, Walker or Balcomb.
- 2.2 If appropriate, the winner will be awarded their county badge.
- 2.3 All games are first to 21
- 2.4 The first named person in the draw is the home player and must make all arrangements. Games will be played on fixed dates as set by the BBA.
- 2.5 Semi finals will take place on an evening during semi finals week, and the final will be played on finals weekend.

**3 Challenge pairs (new 2026)**

- 3.1 Competition is open to any individuals who are members of a BBA club who have not reached at county semi final in either singles, two wood, pairs, triples or fours, during the last 5 years, or reached Leamington in one of the BE Competitions i.e Senior singles, Senior pairs, Champion of Champions etc during the same period, but excluding junior competitions, Middleton Cup, John's Trophy, Double rink, Top Club, Walker and Balcomb. Teams may be single-sex or mixed.
- 3.2 If appropriate, the winners will be awarded their county badges.
- 3.3 All games are 18 ends, 4 bowls each.
- 3.4 The first named person in the draw is the home player and must make all arrangements. Games will be played on fixed dates as set by the BBA.
- 3.5 Semi finals will take place on an evening during semi finals week, and the final will be played on finals weekend.

**4 The County Benevolent Triples Competition - Men**

- 4.1 This competition is open to all male members of Affiliated Clubs on payment of an entry fee, as determined at a General Meeting, and which must be forwarded directly to the Competition Manager through the Club Secretary on the form provided by the Association.
- 4.2 The game shall consist of 18 ends and three bowls each player.
- 4.3 The named player in the draw and two other players shall constitute the Triple and should normally play together throughout the competition.
- 4.4 One additional, and the same, player may be used as a substitute at any time provided that the player has not already played in the current competition.

**5 The County Benevolent Triples Competition - Women**

- 5.1 This competition is open to all female members of Affiliated Clubs on payment of an entry fee, as determined at a General Meeting, and which must be forwarded directly to the Competition Manager through the Club Secretary. Entry will be made via the Bucks Competitions portal.
- 5.2 The game shall consist of 18 ends and three bowls each player.
- 5.3 One additional, and the same player, may be used as a substitute at any time, provided that the player has not already played in the current competition.
- 5.4 This competition is played on the dates fixed by the BBA Women's Competition Manager and as shown in the diary. The semi-finals and finals will be played in September.

**6 Open pairs**

- 6.1 Competition is open to any individuals who are members of a BBA club.
- 6.2 Competitors can come from two different club but must designate at the start of the competition which club will be their 'home' club and this must not change for the duration of the competition.
- 6.3 The competitions is open to all players of whatever gender and can be mixed or single sex
- 6.4 The draw for the competitions will be taken in two divisions where the dividing line is will be dependent on number of entries.
- 6.5 The players will each have 3 bowls and play two sets of 9 ends, if at the end of the second set both teams have won 1 set each they will play a 1 end shoot out to decide the result
- 6.6 The first named team is the home side and will make all the arrangements, with the games being played on the dates fixed by the BBA.
- 6.7 The semi finals and finals of this competition will be played on the same day in September.

**7 Mary Price Mixed Double Rink**

- 7.1 The competition is open to all clubs in the BBA
- 7.2 Clubs can only have 1 entry
- 7.3 The teams shall consist of 2 rinks of men and ladies combined, with 2 of each gender on each rink.
- 7.4 The games will be 18 ends and 2 bowls each.
- 7.5 The result will be decided by the combined total of shots over both rinks, in the event of a draw both rinks will play an extra end.
- 7.6 The first name club in the draw is the home team and will make all the arrangements, both rinks will play at the same venue, on the dates designated by the BBA.
- 7.7 The semi finals and finals will take place in September

## **Bucks Cup Rules (amended 2025)**

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1. The format of the competition will change to combine the group stages of the Cup & Plate into 6 groups of up to 6 teams in each group. The groups will remain split by area and will be drawn soon after competition entry closing date, with the previous season's Cup semi-finalists receiving a bye through to the knockout stages (except in 2025 where all clubs entering will play in group stages).
2. Group matches will continue to be played with 2 triples at home and 2 away with points allocated as per the existing competition with 2 points per rink won and 6 points for match winner or 3 points each for a draw.
3. Once the group games have been completed the top 2 teams from each group plus the 4 best 3<sup>rd</sup> placed teams, based on average points per games if different number of games played, will qualify for the knockout stages.

### **Later stages**

4. The knockout stage will then become an open draw, although teams from the same group may not play each other, with matches played at the green of the "Home" side in the draw.
5. The winners of the 1<sup>st</sup> knockout round will proceed to the quarter finals of the Bucks Cup and the losers will then proceed to the Quarter Finals of the Bucks Plate, with all quarter finals being played at the "home" club. The semi-finals will be played on neutral venues as determined by the BBA and the 4 semi-finalists of the Bucks Cup competition will then be exempt from having to play in the group stages the following season and will receive a bye to the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the knockout stage.
6. The draw for the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the knockout stages, quarter-finals and semi-finals will be performed as soon as the group stage has been completed and will then be published.

**1. General**

- 1.1 The Trundell Trophy is a Double Triples Competition for all Clubs in Buckinghamshire.
- 1.2 The competition shall be open to all affiliated Clubs in the County and one entry per club.
- 1.3 The competition is open to full playing female members.
- 1.4 No player may represent more than one Club in the competition in any one-year.
- 1.5 Refer to Regulation 125 for eligibility to play in this competition.
- 1.6 The Fee for entry to be fixed annually by the Executive Committee.

**2. The Competition**

- 2.1 The Competition will be divided into two stages:
  - a. The League – up to the Q/Fs.
  - b. The Knockout – for the Q/Fs, S/Fs and Finals.
- 2.2 In the League Stage, the Clubs will be organised geographically. A maximum of 5 league games may be played, where there are more than 6 entries from an Area sub-groups shall be drawn and the winners and runners-up shall play off as per the Q/F's to decide the Area winners and runner-up.
- 2.3 A draw will take place for the Q/Fs. The Winners of each Area will play at home against the Runner-up of another Area.
- 2.4 The Q/Fs will be played on a weekend date in August and the S/Fs & Finals will be played on a weekend date in September.
- 2.5 Players shall not be interchangeable between the Burnham Plate competition and the Trundell Trophy competition.

**3. All games shall be played in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.**

**4. Time**

- 4.1 In all league games up to the Q/Fs, trial ends should be started by 6.00pm, although a delayed start, in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, may be allowed.
- 4.2 Both triples to commence play at the same time, except for the above in paragraph 4.1.
- 4.3 An earlier start can be arranged by mutual agreement.

**5. Format**

- 5.1 Games shall be of 18 ends and a game cannot be conceded.
- 5.2 At the League stage, one triple shall play at home and the other triple shall play away.
- 5.3 At the Q/F stage both triples will play on the Area Winners' greens.
- 5.4 The Home Team shall have the choice of Rinks.

**6. Weather**

- 6.1 Should any game be abandoned through inclement weather it should be re-arranged or resumed as soon as possible. All games must be completed at least one week before the Q/Fs.
- 6.2 With regard to abandonment because of the weather, player's safety is paramount, and if only one team wishes to leave the green then both teams must do so.
- 6.3 In the event of the original players not being available at the re-arranged time, other players should be played as substitutes.

**7. Scoring – League Section.**

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- 7.1 Each triple shall receive 2 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and no points for a loss. The winning team shall be awarded 2 further points. Maximum of 6 points available.
- 7.2 The two Clubs gaining the most points in each Area will go forward to the Q/Fs.
- 7.3 Should two or more Clubs be equal on points the Club having the greatest shot difference will be the winner.
- 7.4 Should they be equal on both points and shot difference, the winner shall be decided by the result of the match played between the Clubs.

### 8. Knockout Section – the Q/Fs onwards.

- 8.1 In the event of a tie after 18 ends, an extra end(s) shall be played by both triples until a winner is established.

### 9. Failure to Complete

- 9.1 Failure to complete the League Section of the competition may result in the defaulting clubs being barred from the competition the following year.
- 9.2 In the event of illness or accident during the game, a reserve may be used in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.
- 9.3 If no reserve is available then the game shall be forfeited.

### 10. Dress

- 10.1 Greys with white or club tops up to and including the Q/Fs.
- 10.2 Whites with club tops (where worn) for the S/Fs and final.

### 11. Dates

- 11.1 All dates for play to be arranged by the Trundell Trophy Secretary on available Thursdays. If no Thursday is available another day shall be used.
- 11.2 Set dates shall be adhered to unless an alternative date can be agreed by both parties. In the event no alternative date can be agreed the original date must be used.

### 12. Score Cards

- 12.1 Both teams shall notify the result to the Trundell Trophy Secretary by electronic means within 24 hours of the match being completed.
- 12.2 Each Club shall retain their cards from **all** games. These shall be passed to the Trundell Trophy Secretary at the Q/Fs should the Club reach that stage.

### 14. Semi-finals and Finals

- 14.1 The S/Fs and Finals to be arranged by the Trundell Trophy Secretary at an available venue.
- 14.2 A celebratory meal will follow the Final with all teams and one reserve taking part. The second reserve may partake of the meal upon payment.

### 15. Lapel Badges

- 15.1 The winning Club may request a maximum of 2 extra badges for players who have played in earlier rounds of the competition.
- 15.2 The Club shall identify the names of these players to the Association.
- 15.3 The extra badges will only be made available to the Club when the Association has received payment.

**1. General**

- 1.1 The Burnham Plate is a Single Rink Competition for all Clubs in Buckinghamshire.
- 1.2 The competition shall be open to all affiliated Clubs in the County and one entry per Club.
- 1.3 The competition is open to full playing female members.
- 1.4 No player may represent more than one Club in the competition in any one year.
- 1.5 Refer to Regulation 125 for eligibility to play in this competition.
- 1.6 The Fee for entry to be fixed annually by the Executive Committee.

**2. The Competition**

- 2.1 The Competition will be divided into two stages:
  - a. The League – up to the Q/Fs.
  - b. The Knockout – for the Q/Fs, S/Fs and Finals.
- 2.2 In the League Stage, the Clubs will be organised geographically. Clubs will play on a Home and Away basis. A maximum of 6 league games may be played. Where there are more than 4 entries from an area sub-groups shall be drawn and the winners and runners-up shall play off as per the Q/F's to decide the area winners and runner-up.
- 2.3 A draw will take place for the Q/Fs. The Winners of each Area will play at home against the Runner-up of another Area.
- 2.4 The Q/Fs will be played on a weekend date in August and the S/Fs & Finals will be played on a weekend date in September.
- 2.5 Players shall not be interchangeable between the Burnham Plate competition and the Trundell Trophy

**3. All games shall be played in accordance with the current Laws of the Sport of Bowls.**

**4. Time**

- 4.1 In all league games up to the Q/Fs, trial ends should be started by 6.00pm, although a delayed start, in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, may be allowed.
- 4.2 An earlier start can be arranged by mutual agreement.

**5. Format**

- 5.1 Games shall be of 21 ends and a game cannot be conceded.
- 5.2 The Home Team shall have the choice of Rink.

**6. Weather**

- 6.1 Should any game be abandoned through inclement weather it should be re-arranged or resumed as soon as possible. All games must be completed at least one week before the Q/Fs.
- 6.2 With regard to abandonment because of the weather, players' safety is paramount, and if only one team wishes to leave the green then both teams must do so.
- 6.3 In the event of the original players not being available at the re-arranged time, other players should be played as substitutes.

**7. Scoring – League Section.**

- 7.1 2 points awarded for a win, 1 point each for a draw and no points for a loss.
- 7.2 The two Clubs gaining the most points in each Area will go forward to the Q/Fs.
- 7.3 Should two or more Clubs be equal on points the Club having the greatest shot difference will be the winner.

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7.4 Should they be equal on both points and shot difference, the winner shall be decided by the combined results of the matches played between the Clubs

### 8. Knockout Section – the Q/Fs onwards.

8.1 In the event of a tie after 21 ends, an extra end(s) shall be played until a winner is established.

### 9. Failure to Complete

9.1 Failure to complete the League Section of the competition may result in the defaulting clubs being barred from the competition the following year.

9.2 In the event of illness or accident during the game, a reserve may be used in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

9.3 If no reserve is available then the game shall be forfeited.

### 10. Dress

10.1 Greys/club colours with white or club tops up to and including the Q/Fs.

10.2 Whites with club tops (where worn) for S/Fs and final.

### 11. Dates

11.1 All dates for play to be arranged by the Burnham Plate Secretary.

11.2 Set dates shall be adhered to unless an alternative date can be agreed by both parties. In the event no alternative date can be agreed the original date must be used.

### 12. Score Cards

12.1 Both teams shall notify the result to the Burnham Plate Secretary by electronic means within 24 hours of the match being completed.

12.2 Each Club shall retain their cards from **all** games. These shall be passed to the Burnham Plate Secretary at the Q/Fs should the Club reach that stage.

### 14. Semi-finals and Finals

14.1 The S/Fs and Finals to be arranged by the Burnham Plate Secretary at an available venue.

14.2 A celebratory meal will follow the Final with all teams and one reserve taking part. The second reserve may partake of the meal upon payment.

### 15 Lapel Badges

15.1 The winning Club may request a maximum of 2 extra badges for players who have played in earlier rounds of the competition.

15.2 The Club shall identify the names of these players to the Association.

15.3 The extra badges will only be made available to the Club when the Association has received payment.