## **UPDATED for 2022/2023 onwards** - "Playing a Joker"

If a team has only **FIVE players** available for a league/knockout game, then they will be allowed to play a 'Joker' to fully complete the match.

The names of the players who have **PLAYED AND LOST** in the first 4 frames will be available for selection to play again in the 6<sup>th</sup> frame. The opposing captain will choose a player from those available for selection to play again.

The player selected will have their handicap **REDUCED by 10 (TEN) points** before the start of the frame (i.e., A player chosen to play with a handicap of 30 will play the frame off 20 instead). However, handicaps <u>cannot</u> go lower than **MINUS 40 (-40)** regardless of change.

The Extra frame will count for **ONE** point as normal. However, the frame score **WILL** count towards the aggregate score extra point. Scores of the frame <u>must</u> be marked on the scorecard.

If losing players leave the venue after playing and none are available to be considered to play, then the 'Joker' CANNOT be used, and the frame must be forfeited 100-0

This can only happen if a team genuinely has only 5 players available on the night of the match. If a team has 6 or more available, and either in attendance or been in attendance and left before playing, then this CANNOT be used.

We ask out of courtesy to the opposition that they are informed at the start of the evening that a 'Joker' may be required. This is so that both teams are aware.

The 'Joker' **CAN** be used for **Knockout games**, but <u>NOT</u> for any SEMI-FINAL and FINAL matches. For those games, a full team MUST be played.

This "Joker" can be used **FOUR times in any season** without any penalties. Teams must NOT use the "Joker" once all have been used, <u>unless League Management discretion has been granted</u>.

For any further and unauthorised uses, for each occurrence the point(s) won will be revoked AND a possible points deduction may also be applied.

The use of the "Joker" MUST be clearly marked on the Scorecard for recording purposes.

This is for occasions when teams have **5 players ONLY**.

<u>Turning up with 4 or less will mean the standard forfeit of remaining frames.</u>

The result of the extra frame will count towards player handicap adjustments at the midpoint review and end of season, and a full list of teams who have used "Jokers" will be posted periodically on the league website for reference.